

Janta Audit – A step by step guide for Saathis

Based on the work of

<https://www.maraa.in/>

in

Chinnappa layout , Mahadevpura and Doddagubbi

prepared by

Senthil, Ambedkar Community Computing Center

<https://www.gnu.org/education/edu-cases-india-ambedkar.en.html>



Corona 2020

We migrant labour are the new untouchables in modern India

We live in shanties , the roadside or just near the sewage line,

We have no ration card, We are not part of any union or sangha

We are locked down from eating food now, animals fare better, as they can move

We are orphaned in the very own land we labour

Abandoned by our government, politicians , contractors , home owners and the sanghas

we have no vote, we have no constituency

We are given some cooked food whenever the upper middle classes or the government shows mercy

While they suspect us for duplication , being corrupt, being criminal

while they forget their own corruptions

Nobody wants to look at us because we are nobodies

We are not even Dalit as we are uprooted from our own land to make a living

We are migrants, we could be dalit, we could be 1divasi

We are hungry

We may be angry too

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Janta audit of migrant labour communities for food security

While you provide immediate relief (cooked food or dry ration) the steps below provide ways to document information on the local situation of the community to whom you are providing relief.

Accurate, high quality data when transparent makes invisible people visible.

Those in denial have to act. Once the data is available it can be acted upon by media, civil liberties organizations, courts. They can be used to exert pressure on the ward level BBMP officer for survey and supply of dry rations , which is a commitment from the government .

Current gap is last mile delivery of services to migrant workers and **accountability** and **Janta audits** can be a way to ensure the same.

We are trying this out in Chinnappa layout in Mahadvepura and have had some partial success so far.

Community Saathi/activist role – a summary

- Approach community
- Geographically assess the clusters
- For each geographical cluster , collect : **Name, Phone number, Location, geo-tag, occupation, hometown** in format provided
- Write a **report** using this data
- Assess **immediate relief** needs
- Provide initial relief through personal support, ngos, govt helplines
- **Use report and discuss it with zonal bbmp officer**
- Ensure there is **ward level survey** done by BBMP
- Follow-up for **dry ration supply from BBMP**
- Check quality and quantity of ration
- **Escalate** if need be with care , to civil liberty groups, activists, media groups for gaps that are not addressed, after due diligence, from the your side with government.
- If you are a collective/team its good : somebody handles the documentation, somebody the funding , somebody the procurement and transport, somebody the accounting and reporting to donors

Skills for the process

- Is primarily commitment and sensitivity . The rest can be learnt . If you feels its too hard join somebody who feels more confident about this .
- Alternatively, you can support financially for immediate relief needs which is easier.
- You can also carry the message through social media for the need of social audits.
- You can also carry message in social media to support migrant workers during lock down

Step 1: You get an SOS call

Example:

"Yanadi tribal community members, who work as construction labourers, who are from Daulatapuram Yanadi Colony of Chennuru Mandal of Kadapa district are suffering in Bangalore due to Corona virus lockdown. They are in Bangalore in Bannnerghatta Road, Hulimavu Gate?, opposite Meenakshi Mall. Along with them are 200 other workers from different places/states. The phone numbers that are available are Gangadhar 6302689730 and Divya 6302618047 (telugu speaking). They got rations initially from someone and the mestri gave 500 rs. some days back. They are eating on days when food is available and not eating at other times. Can someone help pls?"

Step 2: You need to have a pass issued by the government to reach relief

If you don't have a pass you have to coordinate with some one local using phone. If you have been to this area and have local contacts its easy. Otherwise you need to reach to someone nearby who walk there on foot.

Step 3 : Whom are you documenting – migrant workers or BPL card holders

Its important to understand the section of the marginalized people you are documenting and providing relief. Currently most of the relief is accessed by people who have more access to NGOs, government helplines, local political parties. Migrant workers are invisible.

If somebody has a BPL ration card then they are supposed to receive 5kg rice per person per month.

Migrant workers don't have ration cards .

The documentation inputs below are more for migrant workers .

Step 4 : Time needed for documentation

Depending on the size of the community you may require time between 1-4 hours

Step 3: Resources for documentation

1. Carry a notebook, pen, smartphone/computer for geo-tagging, laptop preferable for documentation as reporting will be easy.
2. Have the excel sheet : collection-format.xls handy or in printed form to collect data quickly
3. Respect the local community, view things from their angle. Listen to them. They are hungry. They are working people. They earned their living so far. Understand there is a turnaround time when some is hungry. They need results.

4. BBMP relief works by Ward. **Hence know the ward number.** When you go to location you can ask any local community member they should tell, ward number, ward officer, corporator
5. Its good to to the Joint commissioner of the BBMP zone and get the assistant engineer in charge of the ward as well.



GROCERY KITS FOR MIGRANT LABOURERS



Labour Department and BBMP have arranged for distribution of dry ration
with food grains for the migrant construction labourers

Joint Commissioners of the zones will be incharge for distribution.
Construction labourers may Please call the control room of zone of residence.

No.	Designation	Control Room Phone No.
1	Joint Commissioner (West)	2656192/23463366
2	Joint Commissioner (East)	22975803
3	Joint Commissioner (South)	26566362
4	Joint Commissioner (Bommanahalli)	25735642/25732447
5	Joint Commissioner (R.R.Nagar)	28600954/28601851
6	Joint Commissioner (Dasarahalli)	28394909/28393688
7	Joint Commissioner (Mahadevapura)	28512300/301
8	Joint Commissioner (Yelahaka)	23636671/22975936

#IndiaFightsCorona



#breakthechain

Step 4: Methods of delivering relief

1. One way is to directly transfer funds to the grocer after verifying. People give a list. We usually provide 1-1.5 kg rice and 100 gm dal per person per day minimum.

2. People seems to **prefer dry rations of their choice to cooked food**. Cooke food is centralized, transport intensive and has no local control. People also feel the wait is frustrating. Grains at home makes on feel safe.

2. For larger distributions , distribute tokens. These are just slips of paper with a local grocer rubber stamp and a volunteer’s signature. This prevents chaos/crowding . Usually one token per family after the survey. About 5kg of rice, 1 kg dal may be enough for 5 days for one per person. Negotiate with shop owner, negotiate for doing without profit . If you have trusted source locally no need to go physically.

3. Of course the quantity we are talking is minimal coverage, many a time, saathis/volunteers provide more comprehensive relief, vegetables, oil, sugar, culture specific grains. This ranges from Rs 1600-600 per family based on our limitations. The plans we are making are usually for 5-10 days. Hopefully government supplies will provide permanent relief. Long term solution is still a question for most of us.

Unless people are able to work it seems quite challenging. With the government providing very less realistic relief, situation is quite challenging.

4. We can an account transfer to the kirana shop or google pay.

5. This may be challenging for NGOs, so work out arrangements prior. NGOs are usually having ways to transport their food.

5. We believe the community should have a bigger say in how they want to utilize the support. We can say the amount we can give. We should actively listen to community on how they want to utilise.

6. You may also need to transport if its not locally available and large quantity.

Step 5: Sample cost of providing relief – that you need to be prepared for

Example for a community of 100 members:

Item	total number of people	per day(kg)	cost per kg	Total rice (kg) per day	Total cost per day	Total cost for 5 days	Total kg/head for 5 days	Total cost/head for 5 days
rice	100	1.5	40	150	6000	30000	7.5	300
Dal	100	0.1	108	10	1080	5400	0.5	54
						35400		354
Alternatively we prioritize the most urgent number of families in the community - say 10 and then transfer 354-550 per head								

Step 5: Have a quick physical survey of the community once you arrive there.

You need to geographically understand the clusters. Sometimes more clusters may open up when you are surveying one. Be prepared for the same.

Step 6 : Now before providing relief document the needs by following step 7 and step 8.

Step 7 : Mandatory documentation fields

Area:		Location: Geo-tag	Ward number		
Sl.no:	Name	Total number of people	Occupation	Hometown	Contact number

Its mandatory to make the geo-tag, ward, **contact numbers transparent** as it will help people reach relief/cross verify duplication.

Example in next page.

Asha Township BBMP Half						
Sl.No	Name	Cross number	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.
1	Shivkumar	5th Cross		4 Construciton	Tamil Nadu	8637412252
2	Fakruddin	7th Cross		2 Construciton	Karnataka	
3	Amrishi	7th Cross		5 Construciton	Karnataka	9972731483
4		8th Cross		11 Construciton	Bihar	7019318948
5		9th Cross		1 Construciton	Bihar	has no phone
6	Dev	9th Cross		14 Construciton	UP	8217437958
7	Raju	10th Cross		8 Construciton	Bihar	9980427502
8	Kishore	10th Cross		6 Construciton	Bihar	8051309939
9	Vikram	11th Cross		10 Construciton	Bihar	7019367932
10	Hanumantha	11th Cross		3 Construciton	Karnataka	9900474373
11	Viresh	13th Cross		3 Construciton	Karnataka	9901014544
12	Krishna	13th Cross		3 Construciton		7618741320
13	Zahir	13th Cross		4 Construciton	West Bengal	8618250287
			74			
Location		https://www.google.com/maps/search/asha+township/@13.0637656,77.6719125,16.87z				

Behind AB Supermarket						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
1	Mukesh		6 Construciton	Bihar	9902954228	
2	Vijay Paswan		5 Construciton	Bihar	9113689670	
3	Devi		5 Construciton	Andhra Pradesh	7019715938	
4	Narsinha		5 Construciton	Andhra Pradesh	6374932771	
			21			
Location		https://bit.ly/3bgIDEN				

In Front of AB Supermarket						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
1	Ramadhir		6 Construciton	Bihar	7994152692	
2	Pramod		3 Construciton	Bihar	7676213286	
3	Jagdish		3 Construciton	UP	8173978081	
4	Deepak		4 Security	Nepal	7022768343	
5	Jitender		4 Construction	Bihar	6387913014	
			20			
Location		https://bit.ly/34wVAaF				

Hormavu UP Colony						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
1	Rajinder		15 Construciton	UP	9632816642	
	Ramesh (All Contact)		Construciton	UP	9118861879	
			15			
Location		https://bit.ly/3aaNzcZ				

Painter Colony near Ab Supermarket						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
1	Johnson		30 Painter	UP	8073404696	
			30			
Location		https://bit.ly/2xeaGG5				

OC/CC Project						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
1	Gokul		6 Construciton	Bihar	9625323085	
2	Upendar		6 Construciton	Bihar	9973316364	
3	Navin		6 Construciton	Bihar	9631407404	
4	Sanjay		6 Construciton	Bihar	9019473775	
5	Suresh		6 Construciton	Bihar	8747884235	
			36			
Location		https://bit.ly/3edUImx				

Willow Park Building						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
1	Surender		20 Construction	UP	8400194260	
			20			
Location		http://tiny.cc/rlnxmz				

Manisha Township						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
	Ramesh (Resident of town and contact)				9740949278	
1	Surendar kumar		10 Construciton	Bihar & UP		
2	Nagraj		5 Construciton	Karnataka		
			15			
Location		http://tiny.cc/stoxmz				

Behind Manisha Township						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
1	Basha		5 Maintenance	N.Karnataka	9964093190	
2	Mola		5 Maintenance	N.Karnataka	7406355783	
3	Adar		5 Maintenance	N.Karnataka	7829252786	
			15			
location		http://tiny.cc/stoxmz				

Vinayaka Nagar Group (Geddahalli)						
Sl.No	Name	Number	Occupation	Hometown	Contact no.	
1	Subhash		25 construction	up	8904680267	
			25			
Location		http://tiny.cc/1hpxmz				

Total 345

Step 8 : Additional documentation fields

A good report can be prepared we capture the following additional information.

Ward number
Area description
Housing: what type of house do they stay in – tin sheet, temporary settlement, refer Mahadevapura or Doddagubbi survey report
Toilet facilities
Water
Children
Women
elderly/destitute/pregnant members
daily wage/monthly wage
Cash in hand
rations in hand – food security assesment
how did they manage so far
cooked food feedback –
what support they got so far
Bbmp survey completed - yes/no
what do they need
what are their plans
rent issues if any
daily earning
salary received yes/no – wages after lockdown
employer response
police
social distancing
bbmp officer response
any social discrimination in relief from local community
physical violence / subjugation/ threats at local level
ration card – yes / no
milk/food supply
any helplines they have reached and what help they got
Language
main contact person for area
Pictures

Step 9 : Provide immediate relief

People are working with you in the hope there can be some answer to their hunger. Plan for some form of immediate relief. We need to be time bound and accountable to the people on this.

Step 10 : Plan for chaos and manage the same

In deprivation and hunger situation partial supply of food to only one section causes fights.

This can be language-based differences (usually that's how it shows up) or a claim that X already took relief or inter community squabbles. Moderate same and issue tokens well in advance.

Do not go and stand with a truck without tokens. Take support of local distribution mechanisms. Taking local volunteer support is key.

Do not get discouraged by chaos. Expect few problematic elements in rare cases. In case you need help and not sure connect with local activists who have experience.

Reassure you will come back with more relief for left out members and honour the same.

Step 11 : Come back from community and type up a detailed report and also capture the data in a excel sheet.

Step 12: Call up the joint commissioner number and give them details of what you have done and communicate that you have report and would like the ward engineer to survey
And provide relief.

Step 13: Joint commissioner should give you a number for the ward engineer incharge and instruct the ward engineer to conduct a survey

Step 14: Accompany the ward engineer during the survey and ensure proper survey is done and the engineer has all the details

Step 15: Ward engineers and the survey

Ward engineers may actually call up construction employers/contractors and deal with them very roughly if they have not paid wages. Ward engineers could be frustrated with all the responsibility thrust on them. If the workers don't want to pick up a fight as their employment is dependent we need to be sensitive to this. Saathis may need to call up the owners and mitigate.

Step 16: Follow up for dry ration relief, be there when the relief is supplied, check quantity and quality.

Step 15: When no action escalate to activist groups like 'We the people' or PUCL for legal / activist escalations/discussions with BBMP commissioners.

Contact:

Angarika, Maraa, 9880159484

Senthil, 9900262828 for clarifications.