



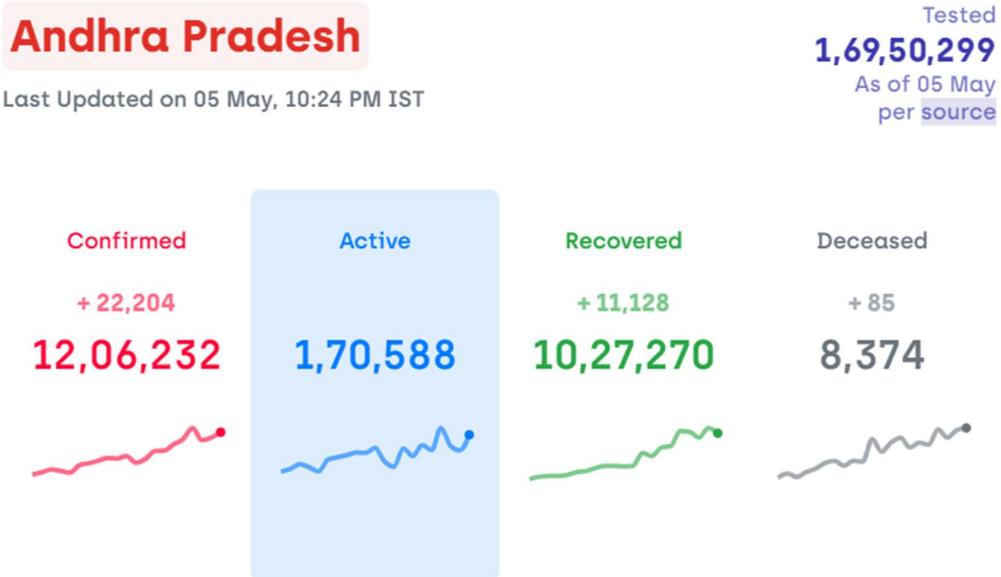
life, we celebrate you

## COVID-19 Relief Work – A Concept Note

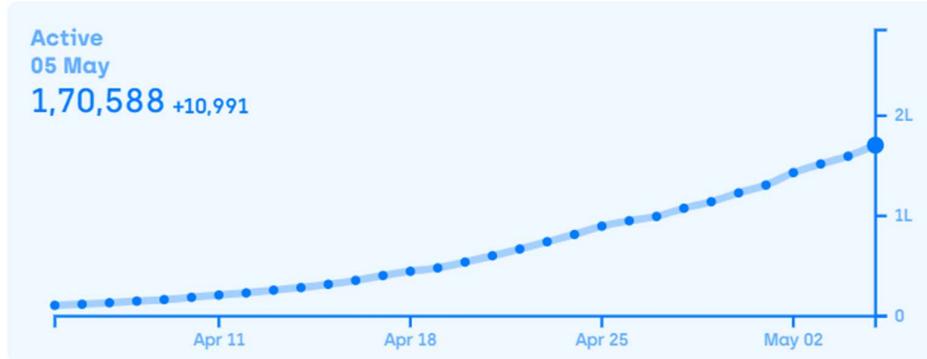
### Context

The second wave of Covid-19 pandemic has taken the country by surprise. Apparently, there was no official preparedness. And with a complete lack of awareness, there was no public preparedness as well. The country instead got into religious and democratic festivals at a time when scientists were warning about a possible second wave in 2021.

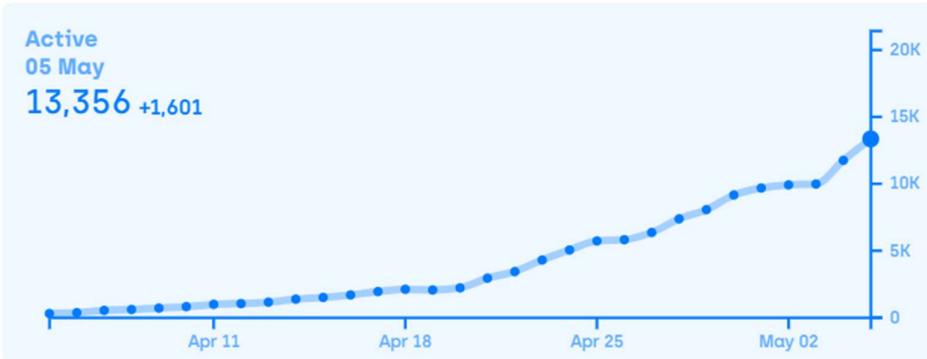
The result is quite overwhelming with a complete collapse of health infrastructure, where many have been left gasping for oxygen. Though this was initially visible only in major cities, news is now pouring in from smaller towns and rural areas that the virus' reach is much more than what was thought. From a mere 8,142 active cases as of April 1, the total active cases have shot up in the state of Andhra Pradesh to 1,70,588 as of May 5. In Anantapur District, where we work, the active cases were as minimum as 337 as of April 1 and by May 1 the active cases stand at 13,356. (<https://www.covid19india.org/>)



### Andhra Pradesh Active Cases



### Anantapur District Active Cases



The district has administered 519,628 doses of first round vaccine against the 40 lakhs plus population. The second dose of vaccination has just started and will take a long while to complete due to the countrywide vaccine shortage. The country total of fully vaccinated population stands at 2.1% as of now.

While, this seems to be a long-haul, we notice a lot of people struggle with access to basic provisions once someone in the family tests positive. Though the projected death rate across the country is lower than the first wave, a grave fear has gripped most of the population as they see many in the closer circles succumb to Covid-19. This has also increased the forced isolation of families with positive cases. This combined with the already existing societal inequalities in rural areas means that the underprivileged are not having proper access to food and basic provisions to sail through the mandatory quarantine period.

### **The Timbaktu Collective's response**

Ananthapuramu is infamous for the existence of rural distress due to the continuous drought situation. We expect that the severity of the same to increase manifold due to the upcoming lockdown (the state is already under strict time-bound curfew). The state government, like many other states in the country, is still figuring out a proper response to the situation. However, they will not be able to meet the food requirements of these populace. The Collective was approached by the District Authorities to support them in providing food and basic supplies during the first wave. We expect the same situation as there is still not enough disaster preparedness to overcome this kind of a situation.

The Timbaktu Collective has formed a small group of volunteers from among the team members in this connection. They were all given necessary training during the first wave on all the COVID-19 prevention protocols while being in the public spaces. The main focus currently is to identify the families that are quarantined due to Covid-19 and assess their food supplies situation. Identification will be then followed up with procuring necessary basic food supplies from the markets and distributing the same where required.

Our relief team has come up with a comprehensive list of essentials to support a given family. A family will need to be supported for a period of maximum three weeks in the current situation. It costs approximately INR 2,000/- to support a family for three weeks with the basic supplies. We also plan to diversify the relief work into few more areas in view of reviving the local economy and to support the marginalised rural communities. They are as follows:

- Economic support to the regular wage labourers who work at different spaces that are maintained / promoted by the Collective. This includes partial payment of wages for the lockdown period as well as providing basic relief material for the extended lockdown period;
- Provision of seeds to the farmer members for the upcoming Kharif Season;
- Provision of nutritious grains (mainly millets) and organic products to the sangha (village level group) members belonging to various programmes of the Collective. These members include women, children, people with disabilities, tree growers, landless labourers and smallholder farmers;
- Taking up safety and hygiene measures including distribution of masks & sanitisers, spraying of disinfectants and clearance of garbage if required;
- Making oximeters and oxygen concentrators accessible as an interim arrangement till one gets into proper health system; and
- Creating awareness on pandemics like COVID-19, its spread as well as prevention measures.

### Requisition

Through this concept note, the Collective would like to request Asha for Education's London chapter the following costs:

S.No	Particulars	Amount in INR
1	Provisions to quarantined families (125 families at Rs.2,000 each)	2,50,000
2	N95 Masks (300 masks at Rs.100 each)	30,000
3	Oximeters (10 nos at Rs.2,000 each)	20,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3,00,000</b>

(Total Rupees Three Lakhs Only)

The Collective will ensure all the reporting requirements and legal requirements (including statutory audit) in this regard are met in time.