

**GOVERNMENT KOLASIB COLLEGE,  
KOLASIB, MIZORAM.**

**Report on the study of 5 villages in relation to COVID-19**

Five villages adjoining the college have been studied in relation to their efforts to prevent spread of COVID-19. Each of these villages has a Village Level Task Force (VLTF). The VLTF is constituted by members of the Village Council (VC) and leaders of the Branch YMA. The VLTF works tirelessly.

Names of the 5 villages studied are:

- 1) Venglai, 2) Diakkawn, 3) Vengthar, 4)Tumpui, 5) Hmarveng,

**Report on the study:-**

**1. Awareness level:-** (Common in all VLTFs)

- Thanks to social media awareness level in all the VLTFs is satisfactory.
- No instances of serious violations of lockdown rules.
- Fixed Loudspeaker Systems (FLS) are instrumental in enforcing lockdown rules and disseminating information.
- People wore face masks and gloves when out of homes during the initial week of the lockdown. However, as days and weeks went by gloves became less and less used.
- VLTFs schedule marketing-time and physical distancing is maintained at the market under supervision of the VLTFs.
- Churches and other places of worship are closed.
- VLTFs prohibit large gathering at funeral rites.
- VLTFs issue passes to run essential errands.
- VLTFs see to it that there is no hoarding.
- Since volunteers of the VLTFs are on the vigil there are no cases of theft or crime.
- No mental health issues due to lockdown.

**2. Resources of the VLTFs:-** The VLTFs receive resources needed to work with from the state government and from donations of individuals and organizations. Their resource position as on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May,2020:-

	<u>From Government</u>	<u>From individuals and organizations</u>
1) <u>Venglai</u> -	Rs. 60,000/-, Face Mask – 30 number Rice – 6 qtls.	Rs. 3,06,713 Rice – 1 qtl. Fish – 10 Kg Vegetables.
2) <u>Diakkawn</u> -	Rs. 45,000/-	Rs. 2,25,700/-
3) <u>Vengthar</u> -	Rs. 71,500/-	Rs. 87,600/-

	Rice – 12 qtls	Petrol – 50 ltrs, Rice – 2 qtls., Dal – 25 Kg. and 4 Kg of chicken.
4) <u>Tumpui</u> -	Rs. 55,000/-	Rs. 2,00,000/-
5) <u>Hmarveng</u> -	Rs. 40,000/-	Rs. 2,41,500/-

### 3. How the VLTFs withstood challenges posed by COVID-19:-

#### 1) Venglai VLTF:-

- As per instruction from the state government the VLTF allows to engage workers, not more than five, on a day.
- The VLTF is on the lookout for families on the verge of starvation.
- As on 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 2020 the VLTF has spent Rs. 2,56,787/- for purchase of rice, dal, onion, cooking oil, potatoes and other vegetables provided to 225 needy families irrespective of caste or religion in 3 installments.
- As supplies of essential commodities declined shopkeepers increased prices but within the limit set by the VLTF from time to time.
- The VLTF and the YMA in joint operation have placed alcoholics and drug abusers at De-addiction centres, etc.
- A boy of 7, by the name of Rommel Lalmuansanga in the village broke his saving box and donated all his savings, Rs. 333/- to the VLTF. His name and his deed has gone viral on the Internet.

#### 2) Diakkawn VLTF:-

- No scarcity of essential commodities. Shops sell under supervision of the VLTF.
- Daily wage earners are allowed to go to work as per government instructions.
- Members of the Branch YMA on duty look out for and identify needy families.
- The VLTF has provided 130 families (irrespective of caste and religion), with rice, dal, potatoes and cooking oil. The amount spent for relief is Rs. 70,015/-
- The outbreak of COVID-19 in some parts of the country initially caused discomfiture to some sections of the society. But, as they learned of the state's status and the efforts of the VLTF they are now comfortable.
- The VLTF has placed some alcohol & illicit drug sellers and users at quarantine facility.

#### 3) Vengthar VLTF:-

- Some items of essential commodities are scarce, but they cause no difficulties.
- The VLTF reminds shopkeepers from time to time not to sell their commodities at exorbitant prices.
- The VLTF has provided 126 families with rice (25 qtls.), Dal (90 kg), potatoes (220 kg) and cash amounting to Rs. 19,300/-
- The VLTF placed 5 illicit drug sellers at TNT Home (a sort of correction home).

4) Tumpui VLTF:-

- No dearth of essential commodities. Shops sell them at prices within the limit set by the VLTF.
- The VLTF has distributed relief to 186 families in kind, mostly rice and vegetables. The relief amounts to Rs. 1,03,000/- in cash.
- Drug-abusers have been placed at quarantine facility.

5) Hmarveng VLTF:-

- After the first week of the lockdown grocery stores in the village had depleted their stocks. So, the VLTF procured groceries from outside and gave them to the shopkeepers for sale.
- As per instructions received from the state government the VLTF permits to engage workers not more than five on a day.
- Volunteers of the VLTF identified needy families.
- The identified families numbering 140 have been given relief in kind amounting to Rs. 80,000/-

4. Best work done in the villages:- (*according to them* ~~as expressed by them~~)

- 1) Venglai:- Working in close cooperation with the Branch YMA Subcommittee for eradication of alcohol and drug abuse.
- 2) Diakkawn:- To have the cooperation of the public and to have brought them under control/discipline as a result of implementing the carefully drawn strategy.
- 3) Vengthar:- Having made a call for donations. With the announcement of lockdown residents of the village have come forward to donate towards relief fund.
- 4) Tumpui:- Working closely with the Branch YMA has enabled the VLTF in all its efforts to prevent spread of COVID-19.
- 5) Hmarveng:- Having reached out to families on the verge of starvation and having provided them with their needs.

5. Post-COVID-19 scenario:- The new "normal" would not be vastly different from what had been before. However, the trends we are seeing now could shape post-pandemic scenario:

- Family time would be considered quality time as never done before.
- The willingness to help others inherent in Mizo hearts will grow bigger thereby making Mizo society better and stronger.
- Hygienic living becomes more important.
- To produce more so as to be self-reliant would become the mantra.

It must, however, be noted that post-pandemic scenario largely depends on motivation to move beyond "recovering" from the crisis and towards "thriving" in the long run.

**ONLINE EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN BY GOVERNMENT KOLASIB COLLEGE, KOLASIB. (March - May, 2020)**

Online Educational Activities undertaken	Number of students benefitted	Number of students unable to join classes due to any reasons	Other beneficiaries, if any ( like parents)	Outcome of the online educational activities	Major challenges (in points only)	Suggestions for improvement, if any	Remarks
<b>1.</b> Providing lecture notes, Lists of suggested readings, giving and evaluating Assignments via <b>Departmental WhatsApp groups.</b>	540	9 Due to unavailability of Internet connectivity in their villages.	NIL	Courses are fully covered despite Lockdown.	Inadequate Internet connectivity	Wider Internet connectivity across the state	WhatsApp is used by all deptts. - the most viable medium.
<b>2.</b> Interacting with students via <b>Google Classroom</b> which is segregated year/batch-wise (Zoology Department).	27	NIL	NIL	More interaction than in actual classroom.	Internet and Broadband issues	Finding solutions to internet issues for remote areas.	
<b>3.</b> Uploaded <b>lecture videos</b> on You Tube for Core students of Economics Deptt. as well as Botany Deptt. on some topics.	13 + 21 = 34	NIL	Not known	Highly beneficial in topics which call for thorough explanation and illustration.	Internet and Broadband issues.	Finding solutions to internet issues for remote areas.	
<b>4.</b> Geography Deptt. used <b>Zoom</b> for GIS Practical papers.	21	NIL	NIL	Good comprehension by students facilitated by screen-sharing/slide shows.	Internet and Broadband issues.	Finding solutions to internet issues for remote areas.	



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GKC reached out to the 12 Village Level Task Forces (VLTF) on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2020. Each VLTF was given Rs. 5000/- (?)



Banglakawn VLTF



Electric veng VLTF



Hmarveng VLTF



Saidan VLTF



Rengtekawn VLTF



Diakkawn VLTF



Vengthar VLTF



Khuangpuilam VLTF



**New Diakkawn VLTF**



**College veng VLTF**



**Project veng VLTF**



**Venglai VLTF**