

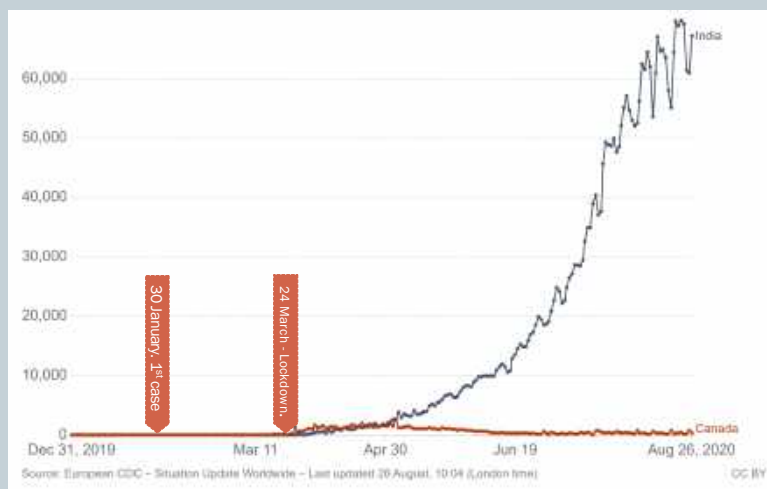
COVID-19 IN INDIA: ACCOMPANYING MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES



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COVID-19 curve in India - confirmed daily cases



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Lockdown. Strict and immediate.

- * Reverse migration from cities to villages after lockdown



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- * Reverse migration from cities to villages after lockdown
- * No access to food or transportation



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More than half of India's 175 to 300 million migrant workers could not find or could not pay a bus or train to return home.




Source: <https://thejeshgn.com/projects/covid19-india/non-virus-deaths/>

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Deaths due to the lockdown

It was the largest exodus of poor people the world has ever witnessed, even bigger than the exodus due to partition of the Indian sub-continent in 1947.



132	Starvation and Financial distress (combined)	59	Lack of denial of medical care
46	Exhaustion	209	road or train accidents
50	Alcohol withdrawal-related	25	Death in Shramik trains
12	Police Brutality	126	Suicides
17	Lockdown associated crimes (non-communal)	66	Unclassified (unable to categorize, need details)
कुल *		676	
*Total including Unclassified		742	

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Petitions at the Supreme Court to facilitate free and orderly transportation were too late.




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○ Lockdown impact



60% of migrants are women who look after children and manage homes

Pandemic will worsen poverty, food security and human trafficking.

Young girls are most vulnerable




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70% of children will be out of school if online classes become the norm.

School and college dropout rate is already increasing.



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NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, church and faith-base organizations have extended help

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Indigenous/Adivasi people

- * Maintained social distance
- * Practiced temporary self-isolation
- * Made decisions as a community



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COVID – 19 Figures (19 August)

	National figures	West Bengal	Tea gardens
Total number of positive cases:	2,701,501	119,578	□ 3,827
Total Number of recoveries:	1,976,200	89,703	□ 2,687
Total Number of deaths:	52,226	2,473	□ 36
Mortality rate:	2.70%	2.08%	Data not yet available
Tests conducted per million:	20,820	14,609	Data not yet available

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Tea plants grew wild during lockdown
(March 24 - June 30)
Caused huge crisis in tea industry

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Fear of more closure of tea gardens
labour crisis leading to famine, starvation and death



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Fish farming creates income to address food shortages through women's SHGs.

12 Fishponds supported by CJI and HLDRC



Sustainable Livelihood Program(SLP)

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Child Study Centres at tea gardens

A project of HLDRC

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Learnings from COVID-19 and migrant workers

1. The value of income security or social security for migrant workers;
2. Labour laws must be inclusive and should adhere to decent work standards set by the International Labour Organization (ILO)
3. A greater emphasis on sustainable agriculture and rural development
4. Advocate for universal access to food security, free education, health insurance, unemployment benefits and financial institutions.



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Thank You

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COVID-19 in India:
Accompanying
marginalized
communities

*Please support the people of India by
donating to CJI's
COVID-19 emergency appeal*



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