



CALL FOR EMERGENCY RESPONSE DURING COVID-19

Globally, the year 2020 was a challenging year as it made us experience Covid-19, an infection which shook the very foundation of our established patterns of living and revealed the fragile state of our being. As life was returning to normalcy, we are struck again by the 2nd wave of infection which is surging ferociously in several countries, infecting millions in next to no time, claiming lives as never heard of before, in decades.

India, as the world's second most populous country, is facing an unprecedented public health emergency at present, with 400 districts reporting positivity rate of over 10 percent and 265 districts reporting positivity rate of more than 15 percent. More than 3,00,000 new infections have been reported daily, for the last ten consecutive days, hitting another global record of over 4,00,000 new cases, on 1st May, 2021, as the total tally crossed the 19 million mark (19,164,969 to be precise). Families lost over 3,523 lives, on the same date. This is taking place against the backdrop of successful completion of two phases of vaccinations, covering 15,49,89,635 Indians. This time, the infection is lethal, giving little time to people with co-morbidities and to other vulnerable segments.

Leading medical experts believe that for every patient who is tested positive, there are about 5 to 10 people who are positive, but not tested. This potentially means that over one million Covid cases are being silently added, per day. And India has not witnessed the peak of second wave, yet.

The unfolding situation looks grim and set to deteriorate further. The rising cases are seriously cramping the already overstretched medical infrastructure in India. There have been frantic calls from hospitals all over India for arranging oxygen, ventilators, and critical life-saving drugs. So far, urban centres have accounted for 66 percent of the country's total cases and the national media has highlighted the critical gaps in medical

infrastructure in the metros and Tier I and Tier II cities. However, the data recorded thus far shows that more people are dying in rural areas. In terms of daily numbers, rural deaths now account for 22.7 percent of total deaths. Rural areas also account for 20.3 percent of country's daily caseload, and there is a strong possibility that cases in rural India may rise at a faster pace in the coming days.

Addressing the plight of district hospitals is essential as they are a key link and often, the only ray of hope for ensuring health and well-being of a large rural population. A large number of deaths are being reported from district hospitals almost due to the same set of problems faced by their peers in big cities. The fragile medical infrastructure of district hospitals is on the brink of collapse unless replenished with additional capacities at the earliest. The present requirements for critical hospital supplies are listed in the '*Call for Action*', below.

Rizwan Adatia Foundation is a private, non-denominational, not-for-profit international organization committed to improving the quality of life of the most marginalized individuals, families and communities in selected countries of Africa and Asia. In India, the foundation works in seven districts across the states of Gujarat, Rajasthan and Jharkhand. Through our Health programme, we contribute towards building healthy communities by strengthening state health systems in remote districts and blocks and supporting government interventions for the most marginalized. In order to respond to the present crisis brewing in the remote districts and rural areas, we seek your support in providing free, critical life-saving support facilities to the vulnerable and marginalized people in our areas of operation through the district level and block level hospitals.

Your donation will be exclusively used to firm up the following supplies at the district and block level hospitals in RAF's areas of operation.

- Oxygen cylinders and concentrators
- Ventilators
- Life saving prescribed drugs for treatment of Covid-19 patients
- Make-shift hospitals to accommodate swelling cases of Covid-19

- Testing kits
- PPE kits for medical staffs
- Other medical equipments
- Setting up quarantine centres in collaboration with district administration
- Providing supplementary nutrition in quarantine centres and makeshift hospitals

ABOUT RIZWAN ADATIA FOUNDATION

Rizwan Adatia Foundation (RAF) is a not for profit organisation, registered under Section 8 of Companies Act, 2013, in India. All donations to RAF are eligible for 50% tax exemption under Section 80G of the Income Tax Act. Tax Exemption is valid only in India.

Any trust or person who will extend support to us will get 80G certificate for Income Tax Exemption in India. The donations will be utilized entirely and exclusively for the project with complete transparency. No administrative costs will be incurred from the donations as RAF contributes towards the administrative expenditures. Therefore, you may rest assured that 100% of your donation will be directly reaching the affected persons in need.

To know more & donate, please write to Mr.Pratik Narsidani (RAF India), with cc to Mr.Sujeet Sarkar (RAF Global) on the emails provided below.

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