



# WHEN THE WORLD TURNED OUTSIDE IN

PRAYAS INTERVENTION AT TIMES OF COVID-19



## About Prayas

Prayas is a response to offer legal and rehabilitation services to persons from resource poor communities, who get processed within the criminal justice system, or those at the margins of crime, victimization or destitution.

Prayas started in 1990 as a project of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Prayas has used a comprehensive approach combining legal services, counselling, networking, training, research & documentation, and policy change.

Prayas has impacted the lives of over 40,000 people who were criminalized or on the brink of it.



Reaching out the persons in need of immediate relief



## Services Provided by Prayas



Direct Cash Transfers



Distribution of Ration Kits



Distribution of Packaged Meals



Coordination with State Authorities



Networking and Fund Raising



Distribution of toiletries and handkerchiefs inside prisons



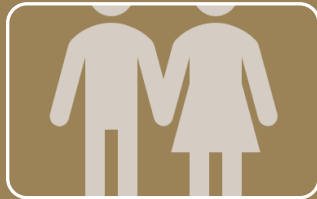
## Services Provided by Prayas



Arrangement of Temporary Shelters



Outreach work with BPL women not connected with Ujjwala Scheme.



Escorting released prisoners to their home from Prison



Distribution Digital Thermal Thermometers



Emotional support via telephone



# Some of the challenges faced

- **Personal safety versus the immediate needs of the clients.**
- **The clients, being processed through the criminal justice system already encounter a degree of stigma. It makes getting help for them even more difficult.**
- **Lack of documents to avail existing schemes and benefits**
- **Lack of support from various groups**

Continued...



# Some of the challenges faced continued...

- Initially due to public safety protocols, being out was an issue as police was not aware of our intervention.
- Lack of vehicles and public transport being shut.
- As some of the client groups do not have permanent shelters, reaching out to them or arranging shelter is a challenge.
- Some of the clients do not have bank accounts, it made direct transfers impossible for such clients.
- Lack of availability of food and water for the team.



## DIRECT CASH TRANSFER

Cash Transfer to bank accounts of clients or to the account of trusted friend or relative across Maharashtra and Gujarat	INR 10,00,000 /-
Financial Support to the families	832 families

## DISTRIBUTION OF RATION KIT

Ration support provided across Maharashtra and Gujarat since lockdown	1621 families (Maharashtra 1469 and Gujarat 152)
Arranged packed food to needy families of Prayas clients across Mumbai	440 packed food
Reached out to families with ration support at the request of prison authorities at Byculla and Thane prisons (ongoing)	250 families
Arranged ration kits to inmates getting released on parole and interim bail, Bharuch District Prison, Gujarat	51 Prisoners

## ASSISTANCE TO PRISON & JJB AFTER CARE HOSTEL

Provided toiletries and handkerchief to inmates of Bhparch District Prison	500 sets
Provided soaps and toiletries to inmates of Solapur District Prison, Maharashtra	400 Sets
Arranged masks to Inmates of Solapur Sub-Jails (Mohol, Mhada, Barshi and Karmala), Maharashtra	400 masks
Provided hand wash liquid and lemon (Source for Vitamin C) to inmates of Latur District Prison, Maharashtra	5 litres of hand wash liquid and 40 Kg Lemon
Escorted released prisoners from Latur District Prison, to their respective homes	24 Released Prisoners
Provided Thermal Thermometers and Oximeters to Kalyan, Thane and Latur Prisons, Maharashtra	7 Thermometer s and 4 Oximeters
Provided masks, sanitizers, handwash and toothpaste to Aftercare Hostel, Chembur, Mumbai	40 Masks, 5 Liters Sanitizer, 40 Colgates
Provided masks, sanitizers to Dongri Observation Home, Maharashtra	300 Masks, 5 Liters Sanitizer

# Few numbers at a glance

Due to the COVID 19 lockdown, Prayas' clients and their families are in crisis in terms of food shortage and livelihood. Prayas has been able to reach out to **1621** families and provided them with cash transfers and ration distribution in Maharashtra and Gujarat.





## ASSISTANCE TO WOMEN SHELTER HOMES

Provided sanitizer, soaps and shampoo sachets for women in shelter home at Shanti Sadan, Ulhasnagar, Maharashtra (Government Home)	5 litres of Sanitizer, 100 Soaps and 960 Shampoo Sachet
Provided sanitary napkins for the women in shelter home at Shanti Sadan, Ulhasnagar, Maharashtra (Government Home)	252 Sanitary Napkins
Provided Washable Face Masks for the women in shelter home at Shanti Sadan, Ulhasnagar, Maharashtra (Government Home)	100 Face Masks
Provided diapers for children in shelter home Shanti Sadan, Ulhasnagar, Maharashtra (Government Home)	300 diapers
Provided sanitary napkins for the women in shelter homes at to Kasturba Mahila Vastigruha, Maharashtra (Government Shelter Home)	20 packets of Sanitary Napkins
Provided nutritional diet to Kasturba Mahila Vastigruha, Maharashtra (Government Home)	350 eggs and bananas
Provided masks, sanitizer, dettols, sanitary napkins to Asharay Nivara shelter, Borivali, Maharashtra	30 Masks, 5 Liters Sanitizer, 30 Sanitary Napkins, 30 Dettols
Provided masks, sanitizer, dettols, sanitary napkins to Krupa Mahila Vastigruh, Karjat, Maharashtra (Government Home)	60 packs Sanitary pads, 5 liters Dettol, 10 Liters Phenyl, 200 Bath Soap, 1000 sachet Shampoo

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## OUR SINCERE THANKS TO:

- Law Enforcement Agencies (Police and Court)
- Prison Department
- District Women and Child Development Officer, Mumbai Suburban
- Legal Service Authorities (Maharashtra and Gujarat)
- Home Guards and Civil Defense, Maharashtra
- Prayas partners – Tata Motors, APPI and Maharashtra Foundation, who are currently supporting our ongoing programs
- Prayas clients who helped in distribution of the Aid
- YUVA, Wipro CSR, International Association for Human Values, Rotary Club, Citizens for Justice and Peace, Round Table India, CORO, Let's all Help, Sahara Charitable Society, Pratham, Purnata, Systems Plus, Chatrabharti, Bhakhar Foundation, International Justice Mission, Muthoot Finance, Ghar Bachao Ghar Banao, Kalki Project, for the support of basic ration kits
- Dhriti Foundation for Volunteers and Sanitizers
- Garima Foundation for packed lunches
- Individual donors

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Donations and support from governmental and non-governmental agencies has made a valuable difference in helping the families of prisoners, children in conflict with law and women rescued from commercial sexual exploitation during this crisis amid COVID 19 lockdown.



# FOR MORE INFORMATION:

**Website:** <https://www.tiss.edu/view/11/projects/prayas/>

**Email :** [prayas@tiss.edu](mailto:prayas@tiss.edu)

## **Social media:**

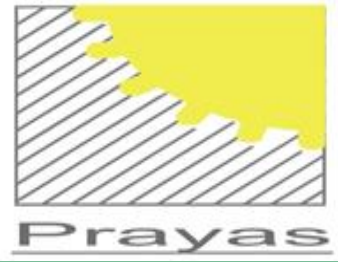
- <https://www.facebook.com/Prayas-Social-Work-in-Criminal-Justice-105221437740765/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H1NnvS9v8QM&feature=youtu>
- Instagram – prayas\_cjs

## **Our References:**

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- <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/mumbai-out-on-bail-undertrial-prisoners-have-no-means-to-reach-home-6347771/>
- <https://scroll.in/article/958334/indias-jails-are-vastly-overcrowded-here-are-some-ways-to-protect-inmates-from-covid-19>



Thank You



**Please continue to support the cause and help us reach out to more :**

[https://tiss.edu/prayas\\_donate/](https://tiss.edu/prayas_donate/)

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TRANSFER YOUR FUNDS TO THE FAMILY DIRECTLY, PLEASE WRITE TO US AT [PRAYAS@TISS.EDU](mailto:PRAYAS@TISS.EDU) . WE WILL SHARE THE BANK ACCOUNT AND OTHER DETAILS OF THE FAMILY.**