

E-NEWSLETTER

COVID-19 RESPONSE FORM UNDER FCRA

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E-Mail: ashis@ngoenable.com

Contact No: 9038966010

The Ministry of Home Affairs have taken up the initiative to collaborate with the FCRA Registered organizations (NGOs) in order to mobilise their support for Covid-19 related activities. On 1st April, 2020, a letter was forwarded to all FCRA associations wherein the the department has called for their support and complement Government's endeavours. A list of 8 important areas has been mentioned where the organizations can aid and supplement the efforts of Government and local administration. A format seeking details of the support so provided or to be provided in this matter was annexed to the notice. Initially the format was to be filled and mailed to the designated email ids but on 07.04.2020, another letter was circulated where in such response was to be now filed online on FCRA Portal. Moreover, such form has to be updated by 15th of every month with the latest figures and details i.e. cumulative amount till the date of updation.

SUPPORT AREAS LISTED IN THE LETTER

1. Supporting the local administration in providing space for community kitchens for migrants and homeless population.
2. Providing shelter to homeless, daily workers and poor families without jobs.
3. Aid in distributing the PPE, sanitizers, soaps, masks, gloves etc.. to health & community workers and volunteers.
4. Identifying hotspots and deputing volunteers and care givers to deliver services to vulnerable groups of people such as elderly persons, children etc..
5. Creating social awareness about crucial aspects like prevention , hygiene, social distancing , isolation etc..
6. Partnering with Local administration in promoting social and behavioural changes.
7. Offering existing infrastructure facilities such as hospital, school building, any other large space for converting to temporary quarantine centre
8. Awareness generation programmes on Covid-19 especially in local languages and full assistance by making available their establishments, facilities and services of their staff to fight this pandemic.

KEY TAKEAWAYS & OUR VIEWS

KEY TAKEAWAYS FROM THE LETTER

1. The Government wants the **NGOs to come forward in this hour of need** by making valuable contributions for the benefit of the society as a whole.
2. **Collaboration is the key to increase the outreach** and Government therefore wants the NGOs to **extend support and assistance** in collaboration with **local administration**.

OUR VIEWS

1. As many NGOs are already supporting locally to homeless and poor families through distribution of food, PPEs, and other protective provisions such as masks, soaps, etc., they can now **earmark certain amount towards Covid – 19 Relief Fund and keep separate records of expenditure for accountability & transparency.**
2. The NGOs should **prepare a unit-wise or area-wise detailed activity report** with supporting evidences **for future correspondence or enquiry** by the local or central government authorities.
3. File the **online response** on the **basis** of such **records and activity report** .
4. **A small donation can also be given towards the PM Cares Fund** from FCRA Account as a mark of your support to the society in this pandemic.