



# FAsCE India

Fransalian Agency for Social Care and Education

## FAsCE India Newsletter

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### IN THIS ISSUE

#### Covid Care 2021

- \* 100 Episode of Covid Care 2021
- \* Survival Kit with Dry Ration to Vulnerable People
- \* Distribution of Immunity Booster Kit
- \* Oxygen Concentrators
- \* Covid Relief at Mawrenking
- \* Relief Service at Galsi
- \* Covid Care at Bahalpur
- \* Relief Service at Panishali
- \* Gadgets for Online Classes
- \* Livelihood Promotion during the Covid-19 Pandemic
- \* Distribution of Livelihood Support
- \* Inauguration of Muri Factory
- \* Livelihood Business During the Time of Covid-19

#### Promotion of Health

- \* Preventive Medicines to 10,000 Beneficiaries
- \* Awareness Programme on Prevention of Covid-19
- \* Ayush 64 to Covid Patients

#### Flood Relief at Koilamoila

#### First Anniversary of Mother's Meal

#### Furniture for School at Purul

#### Special Days Observed

- \* Independence Day
- \* Teacher's Day Celebration

#### Community Practicum by MSW Students from TISS

## From the Director's Desk .....

For all of us, the year 2021 has been extraordinary. In most nations, Covid-19 is still wreaking havoc. As India has significantly fewer resources and facilities to deal with the pandemic, it has been a difficult and trying period for all of us. The effect of the crisis is profound for the people from all walks of life, especially the marginalized and the vulnerable living in the poorest condition.



It is alarming to hear that millions of children in India are currently out of school. These children already struggled to access or afford the education needed to build a better future. However, going to school is so much more than just an education for these children and families. Going to school is also about better nutrition through a guaranteed daily meal, social protection and support for orphaned and abandoned children, and economic opportunities for parents when their children are in school.

Keeping it in mind, Fransalian Agency for Social Care and Education (FAsCE India) worked tirelessly during the testing times to help families improve their livelihood, so that their children could have a better future. In the third quarter of the year, FAsCE India continued its journey of reaching out to the pandemic affected people through distribution of dry rations and immunity booster kit, medicines for COVID patients and preventive medicines for more than 10000 people and organized health awareness campaign and programmes in various villages. Besides, we extended livelihood support to the Self-Help Groups to improve their economic opportunity. Thus, the third quarter of the year was focused more on COVID Relief Service, livelihood mission, and education of the children through supplementary education centres.

I place before you this issue of the FAsCE India Newsletter, with hope that you can help us support our Partners who are working with and for the poorest of the poor especially in this time of pandemic. "A Journey of a Thousand Miles Begins with a Single Step," said Lao Tzu. Looking forward to your collaboration in transforming people, communities, society and the world. God Bless You!

### FAsCE India

MSFS Provincialate  
Satgaon – Narengi, Udayan Vihar P.O.  
Guwahati – 781 171, Assam, India  
Tel.: 0361-2647867

**Fr (Dr) Saji George Puthiyakulangara MSFS**  
Executive Director, FAsCE India

# COVID CARE 2021

## 100 Episode of COVID Care 2021 @FAsCEIndia

COVID Care 2021 @ FAsCE is a project initiated by the Fransalian Agency for Social Care and Education in collaboration with MSFS Guwahati Province to fight against the second wave of Covid 19 pandemic and to reach out to the affected people. This project aims to bring solace to the people in need, especially the vulnerable and underprivileged sections of the society affected by the pandemic, by reaching out with immunity booster kits, dry rations, medicines for patients, preventive medicines for vulnerable people etc. Besides, helpline desks were set up at various centres with the motto "get vaccinated" and initiated awareness campaigns and sanitization drives.



On the 100th Episode of the Covid Care Service on 24.08.2021 at 10th Mile Amsing Jorabat area Shri Debojit Mahanta, Prosecuting Inspector of Kamrup Metro graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and initiated the distribution of relief packets to 110 needy families in the presence of Dr Sabu Francis, Provincial of MSFS Guwahati Province. Dr Saji George, Director of FAsCE India appreciated the tireless efforts and hard work of all collaborators, volunteers and staff in reaching out to the affected people.



## Survival Kit with Dry Ration to Vulnerable People

As part of the COVID Care 2021, the FAsCE India team distributed survival kits consisting of dry rations to the sick, senior citizens, single mothers, differently-abled persons and rickshaw personnel as an immediate response to mitigate their hardship in different localities.



### Distribution of Immunity Booster Kit

Boosting our immune system and appropriate hygiene practices are key measures that individuals can take to fight against this pandemic. FAsCE India continued its journey of distributing immunity booster kits to vulnerable people, especially children at various localities and places: Amsing Jorabat, Geetamandir etc. We have reached out to another 500 needy and poor families with immunity booster kits that have health drinks, vitamin c tablets, N 97 masks, sanitiser, menthol for hot steam inhalation and soaps for hygiene.



### Oxygen Concentrators

One of the ways to fight against the COVID 19-second wave was by equipping and strengthening the health facilitation centres with sufficient oxygen through oxygen concentrators as dropping oxygen levels is one of the consequences of COVID 19. FAsCE India made an earnest effort to make available oxygen concentrators in different centres to strengthen the health system. Oxygen concentrators were made available at Bahalpur, Assam and Umwhalang, Meghalaya. Through the medium of the oxygen concentrators, we could save the lives of patients with low oxygen counts.



*“One of the realities we’re all called to go through is to move from repulsion to compassion and from compassion to wonderment.”*



## Covid Relief at Mawynrenking, Meghalaya

FAsCE India facilitated the distribution of relief material namely Survival kit to the 72 families of Mawynrenking, Meghalaya on July 10, 2021. The second wave of COVID-19 has proven to be not only a health crisis but also a livelihood crisis affecting vulnerable households with worsening food insecurity.



## Relief Service at Galsi, West Bengal

FAsCE India extended its relief service to Galsi, West Bengal. Survival kits were distributed to sick persons, single mothers, senior citizens and needy families on July 30, 2021. SFS community, Galsi facilitated the distribution of relief.



## COVIDCare at Bahalpur

On July 29, 2021, FAsCE India in collaboration with the SFS Community at Bahalpur, the facilitated distribution of Survival Kits containing dry rations to sick persons and senior citizens of 30 needy families and we also distributed Immunity Booster Kits to children from the tea garden.



## Relief Service at Panishali

The community at Panishali once again expressed its solidarity with the poor and needy by reaching out to 250 families with essential food items. The survival kit brought a lot of relief and renewed hope in the lives of the people as many of them could not secure the necessities of life.



## Gadgets for Online Classes

To ensure uninterrupted learning and equal participation in the online classroom, FAsCE India provided gadgets and internet packages to needy children for online classes during the COVID-19 lockdown this year.



# LIVELIHOOD PROMOTION DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

## Distribution of Livelihood Support 10 SHGs

FAsCE India on September 27, 2021, distributed livelihood support to SHGs of Amsing Jorabat. These SHGs facilitated by FAsCE India are active groups engaged in community development activities and income-generating activities as well. During the distribution ceremony Fr. Saji George, Executive Director of FAsCE India handed over the livelihood support cheque to the deserving 10 SHGs to ramp up their income-generating activities.



## Inauguration of Muri Factory

A cottage industry business venture was taken up by Mrs Deepali Murari, a woman leader of Amsing Jorabat. She is the President of the village organisation and an active SHG member. With the zeal of earning and supporting her family



financially especially in this challenging time, Mrs Dipali Murari with two more persons in her team bought a Muri making factory at 10th Mile with small capital investment. The factory was inaugurated on September 06, 2021, by Fr. Saji George, Executive Director of FAsCE India. It is indeed a way forward for many of her counterparts to take up small scale livelihood activities.



### Livelihood Business During the time of Covid-19

The impact of the pandemic had devastating effects on SHGs and their livelihood activities due to disruption in the supply chain and job loss of male members in their families. The women of Geetamandir SHGs took an innovative idea to revive their household and group income. They had started making traditional, nutritious snacks and selling them in their locality. Some of the groups have put up stalls to sell their products. The hygienically prepared nutritious traditional snacks are gradually gaining market and income for the Geetamandir SHGs.



## PROMOTION OF HEALTH

### Preventive Medicines to 10,000 Beneficiaries under 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

FAsCE India in collaboration with the Regional Research Institute of Homoeopathy (RRIH), under Central Council of Research in Homoeopathy, Ministry of AYUSH distributed Arsenic Album 30 to 10000 beneficiaries, as mass prophylaxis as a part of 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' under India @ 75, as per the Standard Operating Procedures given by the Ministry of AYUSH from August 30 to September 5, 2021. Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav is a series of events being organized by the government to commemorate the 75th Anniversary of India's independence. The project locations were Guwahati, Telam, Bahalpur, Manikbond in Assam and Somapara in Meghalaya.



## Awareness Programme on Prevention of COVID-19 by Ayush Team

As a part of this National Campaign, the Regional Research Institute of Homoeopathy (RRIH), under the Central Council of Research in Homoeopathy, Ministry of AYUSH, partnering with FAsCE India conducted Health awareness programmes in Amsing Jorbat and Geetamandir. Dr Liyi Karso, Nodal officer and the team reached out to the general population, with a special focus on the geriatric people, with preventive health messages, talks on healthy diet and lifestyle and distributed preventive medicines and leaflets with instructions for daily healthy living. The beneficiaries made use of the time through active interaction, questions and clarifications.



## Ayush 64 to COVID Patients

The impact of the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic has been severe in Assam, more so in the Kamrup Metro district with a higher caseload in this quarter of the year. FAsCE India in collaboration with the Regional Research Institute of Homoeopathy, Guwahati continued the distribution of AYUSH 64 medicines in asymptomatic and mild to moderate Covid-19 patients in home isolation and Arsenic Album 30 for mass prophylaxis as per the Standard Operating Procedure given by the Ministry of AYUSH. The effort was highly appreciated by the beneficiaries, as it was difficult for many to access the medicines.



## Health Awareness Programme

**Bahalpur:** During this time of pandemic one key challenge is to ensure prevention, good health practices and adequate hygiene. A community-level health awareness programme was conducted to equip people with information on prevention and healthy practices. On July 29, 2021 awareness programme was held at Bahalpur in the Dhubri district of Assam. Mr Wahid, the resource person, enlightened the people of the tea garden community about the basic health tips. He encouraged people to frequently wash their hands, eat healthy food, observe physical distance and avoid crowded places.



**Gobardhan:** On September 09, 2021 awareness programme on the prevention of COVID-19 was held at Bongaon and Gobardhan village. Miss Chaya Kalita, the resource person emphasized self-care guidelines for preventive health measures and immunity-boosting food and medications.



## FLOOD RELIEF AT KOILAMOILA

This year, the Chirang district of Assam was badly hit by a flood that affected the lives of the people, damaged agricultural land, crops and river embankments. Displaced people took shelter in relief camps. FASCE India facilitated the distribution of relief materials in collaboration with St. Peter Parish to 102 flood-affected families in Koilamoila village, Chirang district. Sincere thanks to Fr Peter Wary and SH Sisters.



*"Great opportunities to help others seldom come, but small ones surround us every day." - - Sally Koch*

## FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF MOTHER'S MEAL



Mother's Meal, a hunger-relief movement that was started on August 15, 2020, by Bangalore-based Project Vision, completed its one year of service in August 2021. FAsCE India collaborated with the movement by reaching out to the neediest people in the interior villages of Mizoram and Tripura. This project has identified 25 deserving families each in Sateek in the state of Mizoram, and Sindhukpathar, in the state Tripura, and provided a Survival Food Kit, containing essential items worth 500 Rupees each month. Sincere thanks to Project Vision for the financial support and collaboration.



## FURNITURE FOR HOLY ROSARY SCHOOL, PURUL



To create a better learning environment, to provide fundamental, underlying structure in the classrooms and for the school, FAsCE facilitated the furnishing of the class and office room with necessary furniture. This will improve classroom ambience and add better teaching and learning experience.

## SPECIAL DAYS OBSERVED

### Independence Day

The 75th Independence Day was celebrated on August 15, 2021, by FAsCE India at its Supplementary Education Centres in Narengi, Ekrahari, Bongaon, Sampathar, Suwaliluka and Amsing Jorabat community. The day was marked by the unfurling of the national flag by the guest on the occasion in each of the respective centres hosting the celebration, followed by the singing of the national anthem. And thematic cultural performances by the children added colour and meaning to the celebration.

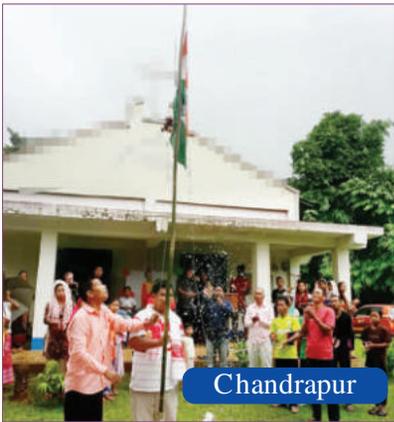




Amsing Jorabat



Amsing Jorabat



Chandrapur



Chandrapur



Ekrabari



Ekrabari



Sampathar



Swaliluka

## Teacher's Day Celebration

Like every this year too, the children of FAsCE Supplementary Education Centre, Narengi celebrated Teacher's Day. Due to the pandemic children took to the social media platform, FAsCE India youtube channel to express their love and gratitude for their teachers with beautiful cultural dance performances and a note of appreciation was delivered by the students to their teachers. This was facilitated and organised by the FAsCE India office.



## COMMUNITY PRATICUM BY MSW STUDENTS FROM TISS

A team of 5 MSW Students Nandinee Sikdar, Safwan T., Saurav Batchas, Kunwar Singh and Simi Saikia (Public Health, 3rd Semester), from Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) Guwahati were placed at FAsCE India for their Community Practicum with the Hathkhola Suburi, Adivasi Tea plantation community from September 20-30, 2021. The aim of this intervention is to work in close connection with the community and understand the underlying problems, identify their need and future need. The methods employed were Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA), household interview, social mapping, identification of resources, FGDs etc. At the end of the intervention the team submitted a consolidated report to the organization.





For private circulation only: Published by Managing Editor Fr Saji George MSFS  
Associate Editors : Ms Regina Sereng, Miss Chaya Kalita & Justine S.  
Contact us: 0361-2647867; fasceindia@hotmail.com; directorfasceindia@hotmail.com  
<https://www.facebook.com/fasceindianortheast>; Website: [www.fasceindia.com](http://www.fasceindia.com)