MOBILE DISPENSARY SEVA

An initiative of Bharatiya Jain Sanghatna
About Bharatiya Jain Sanghatna

Bharatiya Jain Sanghatna, founded by Shri Shantilal Muttha, is a Pune based NGO working in the area of natural disaster response for the last three decades, all over the country. BJS has vast experience in natural disaster response at country level, which includes earthquake relief response in Latur, Jabalpur, Kucch (Gujarat), Jammu Kashmir, Nepal as well as Tsunami in Andaman-Nikobar, various floods, and drought relief programs.

The Concept of Mobile Dispensary SEVA

Even at this time around, when the nation is fighting against the deadly pandemic, BJS has proactively stepped forward to contribute to national efforts. The nationwide lockdown exposed citizens to more health risks. People were unable to get out of homes, as well as local clinics and hospitals remained closed.

To comfort the needful patients and common citizens during this critical time, BJS, together with Force Motors, initiated the concept of Mobile Dispensary SEVA (Doctor at your doorstep).

In the first phase, that started on 1st April 2020, the Mobile Dispensary SEVA has screened 14 Lakh citizens nationally for common cold, cough, flu and other general health conditions, with the help of 228 dispensaries till 20th June, 2020. Free medicines are provided to needy patients. Force
Motors supported the mission in Pune and rural areas of Maharashtra. Out of these, 18,000 patients identified by us as COVID-19 suspects are referred to government hospitals. And, around 1000 suspected patients are reported Corona POSITIVE in Pune alone by municipal authorities. Many hotspots were particularly targeted for doorstep health checkups. This has tremendously helped in containing the spread of Corona cases and saving lives with the help of timely medical care.

The First Phase of Mobile Dispensary SEVA in Mumbai

BJS, Desh Apnayen & CREDAI MCHI (BDC) started mobile dispensary SEVA in Mumbai on 27th April 2020. As of June 19, a total of 61 mobile dispensaries is running all over in Ambernath, Dadar, Mulund, Mira Road, Kalyan, Ghatkopar, Thane and Andheri. So far, 4,32,043 citizens are screened, of which 7,032 identified suspects are reported to the municipality for COVID-19 tests. 18 Mobile Dispensaries are specially deployed for Dharavi, supported by MCGM and doctors of DADO.
The Initiation of Government of Maharashtra & BMC

In the mid of May 2020, Hon’ble Chief Minister Shri Uddhav Thackeray & Senior Leader of Maharashtra Shri Sharadrao Pawar held meeting with BJS Founder Shri Shantilal Muttha, along with other ministers and officials, where they suggested BJS to start this SEVA on a large scale all over in Mumbai. Accordingly, the work was started by BJS and its associates.

On 16th June 2020, Shri Shantilal Muttha and Shri Dharmesh Jain of CREDAI were invited for a meeting with Hon’ble Commissioner Shri Iqbal Chahal at his office, where he requested BJS to focus on the hotspots-Andheri, Charni Road, Malad, Borivali, Dahisar, Kandivali, Bhandup & Mulund. The new Rapid Action Plan has been prepared for the same.

Addtl. Commissioner of BMC Mrs. Ashwini Bhide is entrusted the responsibility of monitoring the Rapid Action Plan. The Government and BMC officials are working rigorously in this project and BJS is supporting them in the best possible manner for controlling COVID-19.

Launch of Phase II “Mission ZERO” – Zero COVID Cases

Mumbai at this time is in a state of turmoil and crisis and therefore needs immediate intervention. BMC has identified Andheri, Charni Road, Malad, Borivali, Dahisar, Kandivali, Bhandup, Mulund and other suburbs of Mumbai as COVID hotspots. As per BMC, the early identification of high risk people is the only way to stop the fast spread of COVID-19 and hence decided to ramp up the screening with the help of BJS-CREDAI-Desh Apnayen-Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation led mobile dispensaries in these identified localities.

The ultimate goal of this project is to reduce morbidity and mortality rate due to Coronavirus (COVID-19) and to break its transmission chain.

1. It aims to break the COVID transmission chain through early detection of suspects and high-risk patients, and thus reduce the mortality rate.

2. To increase community awareness about the prevention & spread of the COVID-19 diseases in order to reduce risk and fear. Create community awareness.

Implementation Strategies:

1. Early detection of suspected and potential high risk Covid-19 patients

The experience of providing treatment to more than 14 lakh people itself over the last 3 months has provided us a deeper understanding
of the specific issues and requirements of the people. Based on this understanding, BDC will do the following interventions:

a. Facilitate mobile dispensaries in required numbers across the identified localities where people will access health check-up facilities.

b. Identify those residents who are suffering from common cold, cough and flu, etc with the help of BMC officials and community volunteers

c. Mobilize identified patients to undergo voluntary checkups at mobile dispensaries.

d. Conduct health checkups with the help of Doctors and Health workers.

e. Work with BMC to conduct SWAB test immediately for suspected and potential high-risk COVID-19 patients, who are identified through medical checkups in mobile dispensaries with the help of senior doctors.

f. Provide medicines to low risk patients.

g. Conduct counseling sessions with the help of professional counselors to COVID+ patients to reduce the fear and stigma.

h. Hand over the identified COVID+ patients to BMC for further treatment.

2. Creating community awareness

a. Creating awareness about COVID 19 and educating them on their responsibilities and precautions to be taken to avoid potential risks and community spread such as washing hands regularly, wearing masks, social distancing, etc..

b. Promoting and creating awareness about the concept of living with Corona, through various media outlets.

c. Creating awareness material about how to take care of elderly co-morbid people having other ailments and low immunity. Short films to be created about these topics and promoted through various media.

d. Conducting community awareness campaigns for immunity building - Hygiene, Physical exercises, Diet practices etc.

e. Update on Govt. guidelines on Coronavirus from time to time

**Duration of the Project:** 22 June to 31 August 2020 (35 days)