



# THE VOYAGE

THEORY TO PRACTICE  
VOLUNTEERISM TO PROFESSIONALISM

**Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP)**  
**In Special Consultative Status with Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 2019**  
**Affiliated with Department of Global Communications (DGC) of the United Nations**

PROMOTING SOCIAL WORK EDUCATION FOR  
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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APSWDP members discussing COVID-19 Solidarity Response Relief Humanitarian Campaign with Hon'ble Mayor Chandigarh and Officers of Municipal Corporation Chandigarh.

## MESSAGE FROM EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**DR. SUMIT ARORA**

It gives me immense pleasure to release the second volume of our monthly newsletter. I hope the information and content in the newsletter will provide a deep understanding about the tasks undertaken by APSWDP during COVID-19 lockdown.

This edition is dedicated to the Solidarity Response Relief campaign initiated by our association through CSR support. The self-driven operation was a motivation to our team intended to work hard amid all the challenges. I am glad that Dr. Deepika Gupta contributed her ideas on the issue of migrants witnessed during the relief operation which is a matter of great concern.

I congratulate all the team members for putting up their ideas in this edition. With these words, I take this opportunity to invite short write-ups from our esteemed members which will be published in our forthcoming issues.

## APSWDP NEWSLETTER

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## Life Associates Members of Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP)

Name	Year
Dr. Vishal Dhiman	2015
Dr. S.C. Godara	2015
Dr. Baldev Singh Negi	2016
Jitender Kumar	2016
Amit Joshi	2016
Hitesh Gulati	2017
Dr. Kumar Pushkar	2019
Ravi Praksah Solanki	2019
Bhupinder Singh	2019
Yogesh Sharma	2019
Dr. Sandeep Kumar Mehtarwal	2019
Dr. Priyanka Khanna	2019
Dr. Jagmohan Singh	2019
Mastan Singh	2019
Poonam Rawal	2019
Sunita Sharma	2019
Manoj Kumar	2019
Youdhvir Singh	2019
Rajeev Choudhary	2019

Name	Year
Imran Khan	2019
Navneet Trivedi	2019
Akash Yadav	2019
Dr. Deepika Gupta	2019
Hunbir Bhatti	2019
Nitin K Singla	2019
Rakhi Sharma	2019
Manish Mittal	2019
Kiranjit Sandhu	2020
Dr. Anshu Kumar	2020
Anupriya Singh	2020
Deepak Yadav	2020
Ishita Wadhwan	2020
Rajiv Sharma	2020
Bharti Joshi	2020
Dea Andrea Wehrli	2020
Abhandar Singh	2020
Chowdhary	2020
Ankush Rana	2020
Arun Sharma	2020

## Social Action and Community Out-reach



Dr. Sumit Arora handing over mask to  
Amar Ujala office



Volunteers during community  
thermal screening

## COVID 19 PANDEMIC: SOCIAL SOLIDARITY HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE DONORS

DONORS NAME	AMOUNT (in INR)	DONORS NAME	AMOUNT (in INR)	DONORS NAME	AMOUNT (in INR)
DR. SANDEEP MEHARWAL	50,000.00	NITIN K SINGLA	3,098.00	SH. ARUN KUMAR SINGH	2,000.00
SH. ADITYA PUNDIR	20,000.00	DR. ANSHU KUMAR	3,000.00	DR. MANOJ KUMAR	1,100.00
MS. DEA ANDREA WEHRLI	17,670.00	MS. ISHITA WADHAWAN	2,500.00	SH. NAVNEET TRIVEDI	1,000.00
DR. C.P. TRIVEDI	15,000.00	SH. BALBIR SINGH	2,100.00	SH. YOGESH SHARMA	1,000.00
DR. MOHIT PUNDIR	10,000.00	SMT. VEENA GULATI	2,100.00	SH. YODHIVIR SINGH	1,000.00
DR. AJAY KUMAR THIRUMALA	10,000.00	KIRANJEET KAUR	2,100.00	DR. RADHIKA DEV VARMA ARORA	1,000.00
DR. MONICA MUNJIAL SINGH	3,500.00	DR. SUMIT ARORA	2,000.00		
SH. RAVI SOLANKI	3,100.00	SMT. REKHA TRIVEDI	2,000.00		

**Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) support by Dabur India Ltd. Coca Cola India Ltd. and Marico Ltd. through FICCI, Chandigarh**



Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners (APSWDP) has the opportunity to explore professional network with FICCI Chandigarh for raising the support under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and to come forward for distributing food products, beverages like packed juices & coconut water bottles and glucose packets etc. along with other essential items.

Shri Arun Kumar, Sr. Assistant Director, FICCI and Dr. Baldev Singh Negi, H.P University, Shimla connected APSWDP with Marico Ltd., Coca Cola India Ltd. and Dabur India Ltd. for providing resource support for marginalized communities, migrants, Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and urban homeless.

Shri Ankush Rana, CSR Executive, Dabur India Ltd. ensured regular supply of immunity booster Dabur chawayan prash, Honey, Real juices and packed coconut water during COVID-19 relief operations for mass distribution. Mr. Vineet Singhal, Regional Director, North FBO, Coca Cola India Ltd. gave hand holding support in supply of Coke sparkle in two phases.

Dr. Prabodh Halde, Corporate Head, South Asia has made a committed and regular supply of edible ready to eat oat meal from saffola, edible oils and hair oil for children in phase wise manner from their regional distributors.

The relief material mobilized from corporate houses was distributed in Chandigarh tri-city, Ropar, Panipat and regional highways through voluntary network and organizations associated with APSWDP.

**Social Action and Community Out-reach**



**Dr. Monica Singh distributing fruits to Children in EWS colonies**



**Ms. Rekha Trivedi distributing relief to persons in slums colonies**



**Karamveer Singh distributing relief to migrants labour**

KNOW YOUR  
*Member*

**Dea Andrea Wehrli**

**ENVIRONMENTALIST**

Dea Andrea Wehrli is an Environmentalist from Switzerland. She is a Waste & Recycling Management Expert and has worked with prestigious and pioneer institutions including UN Environment at Osaka Japan & World Economic Forum at Davos, Switzerland. Presently,

She is working as Project Manager at EMPA, Switzerland and has recently started her Social Impact Startup E(co) Work in Switzerland & India.



## Plight of the unheard and their rights

- Dr. Deepika Gupta



India, a country of more than 1.3 billion people, is not among the worst affected by the pandemic. Nevertheless, the virus is exposing once again India's deep economic divide and the reality as how vulnerable groups in our society including migrants, do not benefit equally from public health guidance because of the instability of their employment or housing, their limited access to water, lack of food, health, and other basic needs.

The new coronavirus has given migrants a sudden visibility in the national discourse. But the acuteness of their plight today is a result of the fact that they are being ignored during normal times. Covid-19 has a particularly devastating impact on migrant population, people experiencing poverty and homelessness, women and children fleeing domestic violence, people with disabilities, mental health needs and addictions, older people living alone and people living in custody.

Although some relief measures have now been put in place by the authorities. Tens of thousands started heading home, and with rail and bus services shut down, some even walked hundreds of miles to reach home. Unfortunately, we are seeing similar concerns across South Asia where authorities are struggling to provide basic facilities.

As now is the time for government to work "shoulder-to-shoulder" with civil society organizations including many NGOs which are already providing relief to the most vulnerable section of society by ensuring the distribution of food services on a massive scale.

The governments all over the world should put human rights at the center of their short and longer-term management of COVID-19. This means adopting policies grounded in international human rights law, including the rights to health, life, liberty and equality. It requires taking concrete action, now and after the pandemic, to permanently address the historical and ongoing inequality of the most vulnerable groups in our society. And it requires strong human rights accountability and supervision.

Through its response to this pandemic, India has a unique opportunity to say "never again" to the social and economic inequality that has made some of us more vulnerable to this deadly illness than others. By perpetuating the full range of civil, political, economic, social, cultural and migrants rights, India can send a strong message to the world that human rights are the guiding light in times of darkness and uncertainty. Our actions during these exceptional times may very well be our legacy. Let future generations remember that we as a developing nation have put human rights at the center of our COVID-19 response.

## Extending relief to stranded persons from Kashmir



APSWDP has made strong commitment in taking a leap beyond routine social affairs. The volunteers deployed have put forth their affirmative humanitarian concern by extending support to 16 individuals following Islamic faith hailing from Jammu & Kashmir who sell their specialities of carpets, shawls and Kashmiri woollens. These individuals were stranded at Mori Gate, Manimajra due to sudden nationwide lock down amid COVID-19 which is a biological emergency.

A sudden call was received from Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh for providing immediate humanitarian intervention among 16 stranded Kashmiris reported to be upset and scared over media sensation on Tablighi Jamat in Delhi. APSWDP with voluntary support from Swarmani Youth Welfare Association outreached their temporary residence with essential items like wheat flour, oat meal, rice, tea, sugar, salt, spice and mustard oil bottles. Since it was told that they are presently not having LPG cylinder for cooking, an electric heater was made available to them during the curfew lockdown. Dr. Sumit Arora who is a trained professional counsellor offered his voluntary counselling support to the group on coping mechanism and managing stress.

Mr. Amzad Khan from Swarmani Youth Welfare Association was roped in to access their problems amicably. Thermal screening was done to know their preliminary status of body temperature too. While we were connected to Mr. Faizal H Iqbal, Secretary, State Legal Services Authority (SLSA), Jammu & Kashmir, the timely efforts laid down were highly appreciated.

A young stranded Kashmiri named Mr. Sajad expressed his heartfelt thanks to Municipal Corporation, Chandigarh, Association of Professional Social Workers and Development Practitioners and volunteers from Swarmani Youth Welfare Association for providing them with timely assistance



Team of Volunteers



Volunteers serving relief to LGBT



APSWDP Supports Sustainable Development Goals



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