



An overview of LFL special measures taken in response to COVID-19 Lockdown

In the light of novel COVID-19 and with the consequent lockdown imposed in India, as in many other countries, Learn for Life had to face new and big challenges in order to guarantee safety and livelihood of employees and beneficiaries of our work.

In India, such a lockdown comes with serious socio-economic implications. In a country where most people are involved in the informal work sector – millions of day labourers have to work every day to provide food for their families - the lockdown represents a potential death sentence from starvation for thousands of families. That is why at this point LFL started to implement a *Free Food Distribution Initiative* through various channels.

In Varanasi, LFL has been distributing food for free to the families of Badhi Asha School students and to families from the slum area. Moreover, LFL is collaborating with other NGOs specialised in food distribution in Varanasi and nearby villages. In partnership with Rama Krishna Mission, our bakery started the production of nutritious cookies and protein bars, as well as the tailoring project women started producing masks, commissioned by RKM who started with our support a huge distribution of food rations, soaps and masks for 4000 people of the rural areas near Varanasi, weekly.

In Delhi, LFL keeps providing financial support to different associations engaged in *Free Food Distribution Initiative* in and around Delhi. As per 15th May 2020, LFL financed in Delhi about 15000 meals and counting.

Moreover, in both Varanasi and Delhi, we have been able to continue our own home-delivery service to private customers for bread, cheese and bakery products with long shelf-life. This is now the only source of revenue in India for our project and gives us the opportunity to pay monthly salary to all the staff. In the same way, the tailoring project started the production of cotton masks both for donation and for sale.

Teacher Training (for Badi Asha School teachers), Online English Classes (for our employees) and Online Classes for the eldest students started just after the beginning of the lockdown, and are still ongoing to date.

