



In action

**HELPING HANDS LOYOLA(HHL) -
JESUIT MIGRANTS SERVICE (JMS)**

Directors Speak...



Play

Fr Francis P Xavier SJ
Rector
Loyola College, Chennai



Play

Fr Thomas Amirtham SJ
Principal
Loyola College, Chennai



Play

Fr Joe Arun SJ
Director
LIBA, Chennai



Play

Fr Maria Wenisch SJ
Director
LICET, Chennai

Rapid Response of Loyola

To respond to the need of the hour, Fr Francis P Xavier SJ, the Rector, directed all the Campus Directors to come up with some strategic plans to help the people affected by Covid-19 pandemic. Meanwhile, Jesuit Migrants Service (JMS) which operates from Loyola Campus approached the Directors to help the stranded migrants. Taking into consideration of the request, Fr Rector called for an emergency meeting to discuss on the same on 31 March 2020. All the Jesuit Directors of the Campus took a decision to support the stranded migrants and Fr Rector said that the work would be taken up on behalf of Loyola Campus.



Loyola's decision to support the migrants

Appeal Letter

On 1 April 2020, Fr Rector sent the '*appeal letter*' to all the Directors to be posted to the Alumni, Staff, Students, Parents and Collaborators. This was done by all the Directors with allotment of responsible people from each institution in the Campus. Accordingly Fr Thomas Amirtham SJ, the Principal, asked Mr Balamurugan, Mr Karthick and Mr Porress to provide their support to Mr Thomas, the PRO. While Fr Joe Arun SJ, the Director of LIBA, named Dr Vandana Zacharia to contact the Alumni, Fr Maria Wensch SJ, the Director of LICET, asked Mr Prabhu Shankar and Mr Don Bosco to provide their support. As a result, we started receiving funds from 4 April 2020.



Loyola Alumni exhibit their generosity to work with their Alma Mater

Generosity of Loyola Alumni and Collaborators

Funds and materials came from the Alumni of Loyola Institutions, from World Vision India, ActionAid India, Dr Renuka David, Berchmans Illam, Satya Nilayam, Sisters of St Joseph of Lyons, St Dominic's School at St Thomas Mount, Evangelical Church of Methodists, Mr Justish and his friends, Jayachandran Textiles - Chennai, Srinivasa Sweets - Perambur, Trash Troopers - Chennai and other collaborators. Prof Vandana of LIBA, Profs Prabhu Shankar and Don Bosco of LICET and the members of Loyola Alumni Association's Executive Committee regularly briefed the PRO with the support assured by the Alumni of the institutions of the campus.



**Mr Justish of World Vision India
with his friend Mr Gabriel**

Procurement of Materials

Dry food products were procured from different vendors, right from 4 April 2020. The support provided by Saravana's Super Market at Shenoy Nagar is noteworthy for its quality of materials and accuracy in supplying the materials in time.



Materials procured



Volunteers and their mighty service

Scholastics: Three Jesuit Scholastics namely Praveen Kumar, Arockia Anand and Karthickraj volunteered to support the programme with the maintenance of the stock and coordinating the volunteers to load, unload and pack the materials.

Loyola Hostel (LOHO): Ten stranded students from Loyola Hostel led by Mr John Magesh, the AD of Loyola Hostel provided their support on a daily basis to load, unload and pack the materials. A note of thanks to Fr Samuel Jeyaseelan SJ, the Director of Loyola Hostel.

Trash Troopers: A team of 5 members led by Mr Annamalai and Mr Paul Pradeep, an alumni of Loyola supported in the distribution work right from the first day till the last day, with their own vehicle (Suzuki Wagon) using their own money for fuelling the vehicle.

Staff Team: Professors led by Captain Simon, Prof Xavier of Chemistry Dept., Mr Eugene from the Vice Principal's office and Dr Dinesh, the PD of LICET were present to provide their support whenever needed, especially for loading, transporting, distributing and maintaining the crowd.

Alumni Association: Mr Porres, Mr Kern, Mr Karthikeyan, Mr Balamurugan, Mr Masiullah Mohammed K and Mr Amit Kothari from the Alumni Association were of great support as and when we needed them for purchase of materials and for other logistical needs.



Trash Troopers



Team of volunteers



At the distribution spot

Cooperation from Civil Authorities

Corporation officials provided the needed permissions in writing, right from the first day of distribution, i.e. 4 April 2020. Permissions were renewed till 31 May 2020, thanks to the support of Dr Gladston of Social Work Department and Mr Kern Agarwal of Carbon Loops.

At Thiruvallur, Mr Kern Agarwal and Dr Thomas, the PRO, procured the needed permissions from the Thasildar of Thiruvallur with the direction of the Collector for all the needed work.

HHL – JMS get ready for distribution



Blessing by Fr Rector



Loading by LOHO students



Srinivasa - Perambur
vehicle with loaded materials



From leading to loading



Packing of materials

Phase I : Distribution of Dry Ration Provisions

The states of migrants which JMS serves are: Assam, Odisha, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra, West Bengal, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, the North East and Tamil Nadu.

Stranded migrants at 18 different places in and around Chennai, Kanchipuram, Chengalpattu and Thiruvallur were provided with dry food provisions. From 4 April till 23 April 2020, 1641 migrant families were provided with dry food provisions for minimum 15 days.

Statistical information of the people and places where the materials were supplied:

Date of distribution	Place of migrants	Number of families
4 April 2020	Patravakkam	5
11 April 2020	Perambur, Ambattur & Patravakkam	87
12 April 2020	Chemmanjeri	63
13 April 2020	Porur Region	72
14 April 2020	Kottur	160
15 April 2020	Oragadam, Melrosapuram, Gudalur, Maraimalai Nagar & Keerapakam	127
16 April 2020	Kadambathur – 7 Villages	269
17 April 2020	Kadambathur – 10 villages	227
18 April 2020	Perambakkam & Sriperumputhur	58
20 April 2020	Gummidipoondi	179
21 April 2020	Brick Kilns at Mettupalayam	173
22 April 2020	Brick Kilns at Periyapalayam	216
	Volunteers	5
	Total	1,641

Phase I : Distribution of Dry Ration Provisions



A migrant family with dry ration



Distribution by Loyola Academy, Vadampakkam



A migrant mother carrying the provisions



Social distance being maintained



A Tamil migrant receiving dry ration



A migrant couple at Brick Kiln

Survey on the position after first distribution

From 26 April to 3 May, a study was done with the support of the Scholastics of Berchmans Illam and students of Loyola Hostel to get to know the pulse of the stranded migrants - the usefulness of the materials provided, the need of the same for further lockdown period and their plans to return to their respective states. The study revealed that the migrants were extremely happy with the materials supplied. While around 52% of them wanted the materials for the second time, 48% of them expressed their satisfaction with the first-time supply. Hence, we decided to supply the materials only for those who needed.

Based on the results of the survey, the second phase of relief work started with new directions from 11 May.

Phase II : Distribution of Dry Ration Provisions

Statistical information of the people and places where the materials were supplied:

Date of distribution	Place of migrants	Number of families
11 May 2020	Kadambathur – 6 Villages	123
12 May 2020	Pattravakkam, Ambattur & Porur Region	71
13 May 2020	Chemmanjeri	28
14 May 2020	Oragadam, Melrosapuram & Maraimalai Nagar	104
15 May 2020	Perambur	32
19 May 2020	Brick Kilns at Periyapalayam	221
21 May 2020	Brick Kilns at Mettupalayam	100
22 May 2020	Keerapakkam & Sriperumputhur	11
26 May 2020	Gummidipoondi	148
30 May 2020	Loyola Shelter Homes	100
31 May 2020	Brick Kiln at Kalmedu	38
	Volunteers	5
	Total	981

Phase II : Distribution of Dry Ration Provisions



Migrants at the construction site



Tamil migrants at Kadambathur



HHL - JMS at distribution



Stranded migrants with the provisions



Name list, being verified
at the construction site



HHL - JMS at the Tamil migrants' settlement



A group of young migrants at their work place



A long queue of Tamil migrants at Brick Kiln

The hands that joined together on this yeoman task

All these activities of Jesuit Migrants Service during the Covid-19 pandemic would not have been possible but for the generous support of the Treasurer's office, Alumni officials, Departmental Coordinators of the Alumni Associations and the generosity of the individual donors.

* Helping Hands Loyola - Jesuit Migrants Service is deeply thankful to Fr Andrew Francis, the Campus Treasurer, Mr Dominic Xavio, the CFO and Mr Arun Joseph, the accountant for supporting with the release of funds as and when required.

* We are deeply grateful to Mr J Balamurugan, Major Porres Soosai, Mr Masiullah Mohammed K, Mr Amit Kothari, Mr Karthikeyan and Mr Kern Agarwal of Loyola Alumni Association, Prof Vandana Zachariah, the Alumni Chair of LIBA, Profs Prabhu Shankar and Don Bosco, the supporters from LICET.

* Dr Renuka David for her individual generous contribution by providing materials worth Rs 8,00,000/-

* Our sincere thanks are due to World Vision India and ActionAid India which came forward to provide their support with materials for more than 1000 families.

* Satya Nilayam, Berchmans Illam, Loyola Academy of Vadamelpakkam, Sisters of St Joseph of Lyons, St Dominic's School at St Thomas Mount, Jeyachandran Textiles - Chennai, Srinivasa Sweets - Perambur, Evangelical Church of Methodists and Trash Troopers provided financial and material support for the distribution.



Our volunteers with the provisions of ActionAid

Our Beneficiaries Talk

(Click on the image below to watch video)



Ms Mageswari

Tamil migrant
Thirupachur



Ms Kalyani

Brick Kiln
Periyapalayam



A Migrant

From Bihar
Porur Region

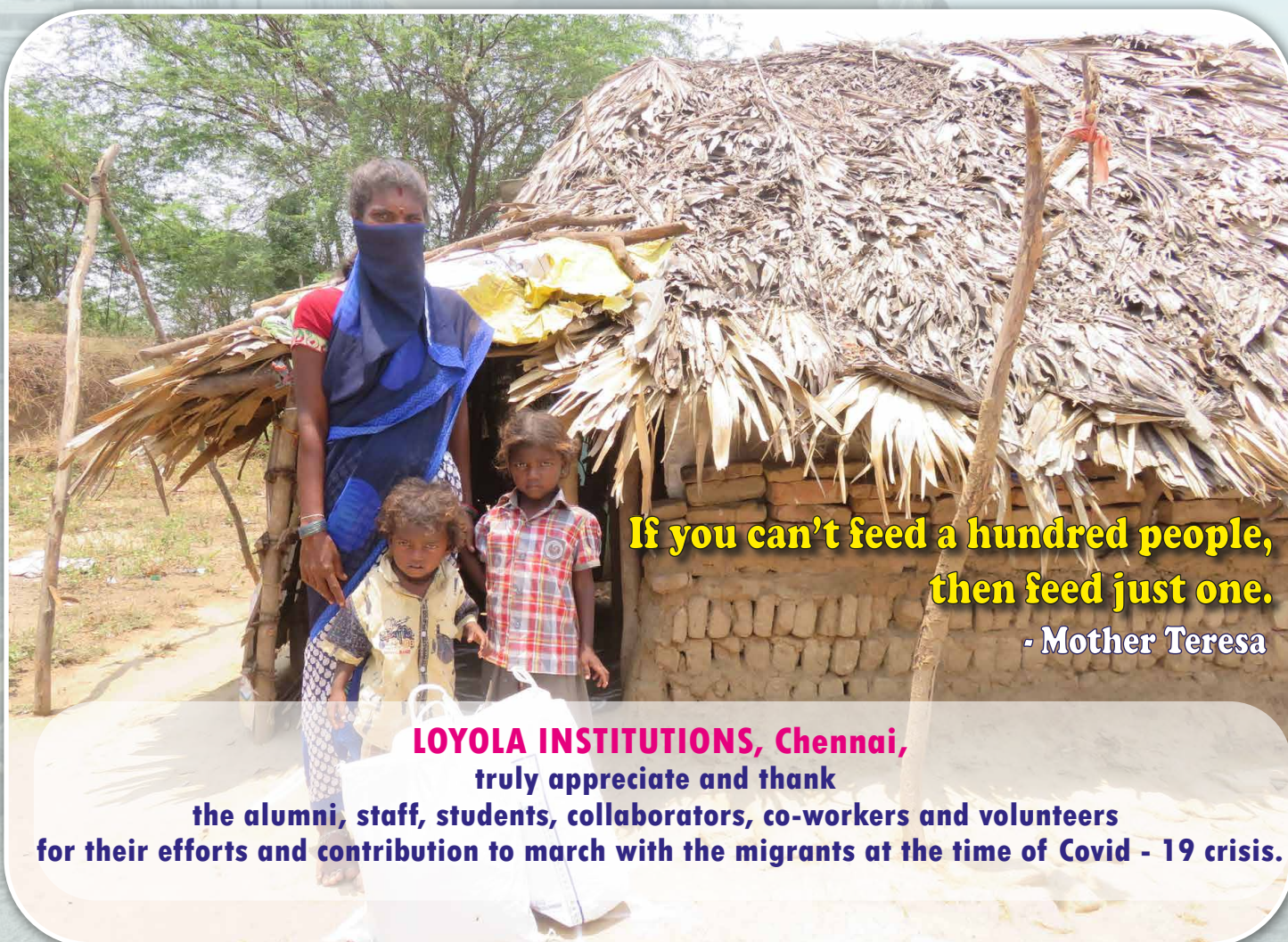


A Migrant

From Jharkand
Kanchipuram

Continued March

As on 31 May 2020, HHL-JMS has supported a good number of stranded migrant families with a dedicated service from Frs William SJ, Henry SJ, Sr Alosiya SJL, Mr Karlus Dhan, Mr Albert and Dr Thomas, the PRO of Loyola Campus. All along, the team felt the encouragement and support of Fr Provincial and it was blessed with the directions, support and permissions of Fr Rector, Loyola College and all the Directors of Loyola campus throughout the last two months. We are grateful to all of them.



**If you can't feed a hundred people,
then feed just one.**

- Mother Teresa

LOYOLA INSTITUTIONS, Chennai,
truly appreciate and thank
the alumni, staff, students, collaborators, co-workers and volunteers
for their efforts and contribution to march with the migrants at the time of Covid - 19 crisis.

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