



Centre of Excellence (COE)

All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), Jodhpur
(A Collaborating Centre for Indigenous health, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, GoI)

Brief Report

COE Project (Ref. No.: CoE/7/21052020194413)

“Study of knowledge, attitude, practice of tribal healers of prevalent diseases in the tribal community of district Sirohi, Rajasthan.”





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PROJECT TITLE: *“Study of knowledge, attitude, practice of tribal healers of prevalent diseases in the tribal community of district Sirohi, Rajasthan.”*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

This report is based on work done under “Centre of Excellence” AIIMS Jodhpur **from 2nd June to 15th November 2020**. The project started on ground from 15th June 2020 and till date, team COE, AIIMS Jodhpur managed to meet more than 513 tribal/traditional healers (commonly called as bhopa in the state of Rajasthan) across 153 villages in three blocks (TSP Zones) of district Sirohi, uncovering their traditional medicinal knowledge for scientific documentation and analysis for its scientific application and also recorded tribal healer’s knowledge attitude and practices for corona virus disease (COVID-19).

Team COE is involved in conducting various survey among tribal population and collecting their demographic and socioeconomic data to record, analyse, understand and make future road map for taking this work to other seven tribal districts of the state of Rajasthan. Under this project, till date survey of 989 tribal people has been done. Apart, team COE also spread awareness about COVID-19 on multiple occasion. Team COE also spread awareness among tribal girls and women about importance of menstrual hygiene and reproductive health and conducting pre and post-test among them. Till date 4 activity has been successfully conducted and under this we have covered more than 400 beneficiaries and distributing more than 1000 cotton mask (two mask for each one, so that they can reuse easily and maintaining personal hygiene) and 250 sanitary pads and 500 soaps among beneficiary.

In district Sirohi there is 5 blocks and total number of villages is 507, in which 3 blocks is dominated by tribal population and in these blocks number of villages are 301, till date we have covered 153 villages among TSP zone.



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INTRODUCTION:

In tribal community the role of traditional/local/tribal healers (commonly called as Bhopa) cannot be ignored. They have substantial influence on the lives of tribal community. People respect bhopa and consult them in all kind of health or otherwise problems. They also play an important role in the success of any program run by central & state government. Considering this fact, we at AIIMS Jodhpur started working with bhopa with an objective of influencing them (bhopa) to become an instrument/facilitator in various government (central/state) run programs. This will help to know the areas which needs active intervention. Understanding the knowledge, attitude, practice of tribal healers of prevalent diseases in the tribal community will help in future endeavour of engaging & empowering the native local healers by creating awareness of health & disease in a partnered/participatory ecosystem. It will facilitate their inclusion in main stream healthcare delivery system for successful universal health coverage. There could be some good practices by these healers which will be scientifically validated and incorporated in health & nutrition practices portal of Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India.

VISION:

A collaborative Project of AIIMS Jodhpur & Ministry of Tribal Affair (MoTA), GOI is to improve the health status of tribal people of district Sirohi (Raj.) through engaging & empowering the native by creating awareness of health & disease in a partnered/participatory ecosystem.

OBJECTIVE:

To study the knowledge, attitude, practice of tribal healers of prevalent diseases in the tribal community of district Sirohi.



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ACTIVITY DONE (2ND JUNE -15 NOV):

Month	Activity	Description
2 nd June – 15 th June 2020	Joining of project staff, due to delay in release of result of interview (due to COVID-19).	Joining of one Research Officer Three Block Coordinator Eight MSW (Field worker) One Telemedicine support staff One Data Entry Operator. One MSW & one Block coordinator has resigned and next recruitment is in process.
15 th June 2020 onwards	Field Activity.	Project started on ground with rapport building with government officials such as District Magistrate, CM&HO, CHC in-charge at district level and village Sarpanch, Asha, ANM, Community volunteers at village level. Data collection regarding knowledge, attitude, practice of tribal healers of prevalent diseases in the tribal community started on initially manually later shifted to online data collection app such as Epicollect5 (started from 7 th July 2020.
19 th June 2020	Monthly COVID-19 Awareness Activity.	Health Education and Promotion Activity Done in village Ker, Pindwara among Tribal Community.



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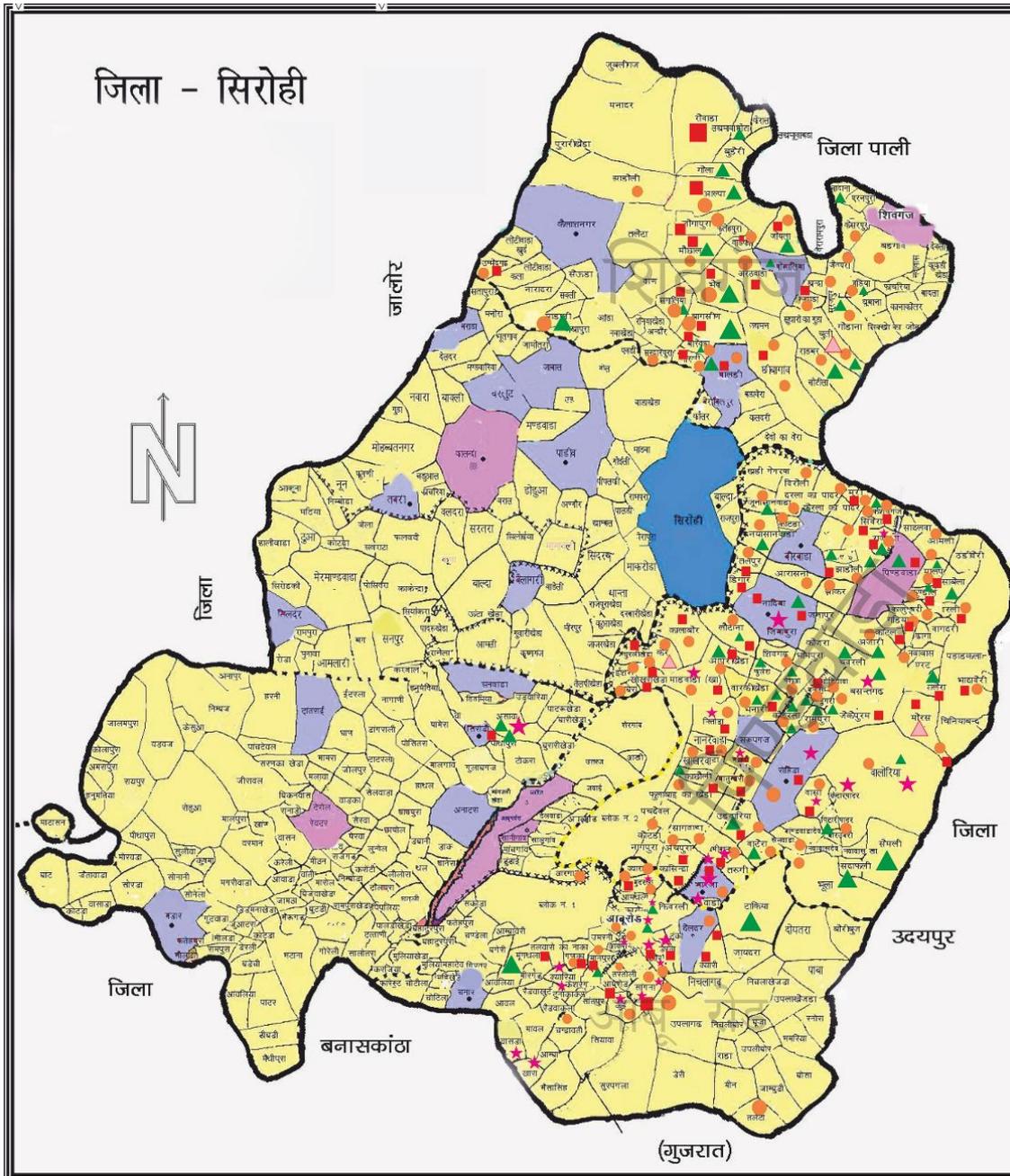
22 nd July 2020 onwards	Field Activity.	Data Collection for knowledge, attitude, practice of tribal healers regarding Covid-19 in the tribal community.
25 th July 2020	Monthly COVID-19 Awareness Activity.	Health Education and Promotion activity done in village Moras, Pindwara among Adolescent girls.
6 th August 2020 onwards	Field Activity.	Data Collection for - A survey of socioeconomic and demographic structure & its relation to access health services by tribal.
2 nd September 2020	Monthly COVID-19 Awareness Activity.	Health Education and Promotion activity done in village Chuli, Shivganj among Adolescent girls.
9 th September 2020 onwards	Field Activity.	Data Collection of Need assessment regarding telemedicine among indigenous population of district Sirohi.
11 th November 2020	Monthly COVID-19 and Telemedicine Awareness Activity	Health Education and Promotion activity regarding COVID-19 and Telemedicine awareness and Telemedicine Trial from TAD Bhavan, Abu Road, Sirohi.



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Progress so far:



DESCRIPTION	SIGN	ABU ROAD	PINDWARA	SHEGANJ
Telemedicine Survey Covered Village	★	14	13	0
Traditional healers KAP Study Covered Village	●	20	63	28
Survey regarding tribal health status and demographic with socio	▲	6	32	19
Monthly activity in Village	▲	0	2	1
TH Knowledge for COVID 19 Covered Village	■	11	46	17



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ACTIVITY :1

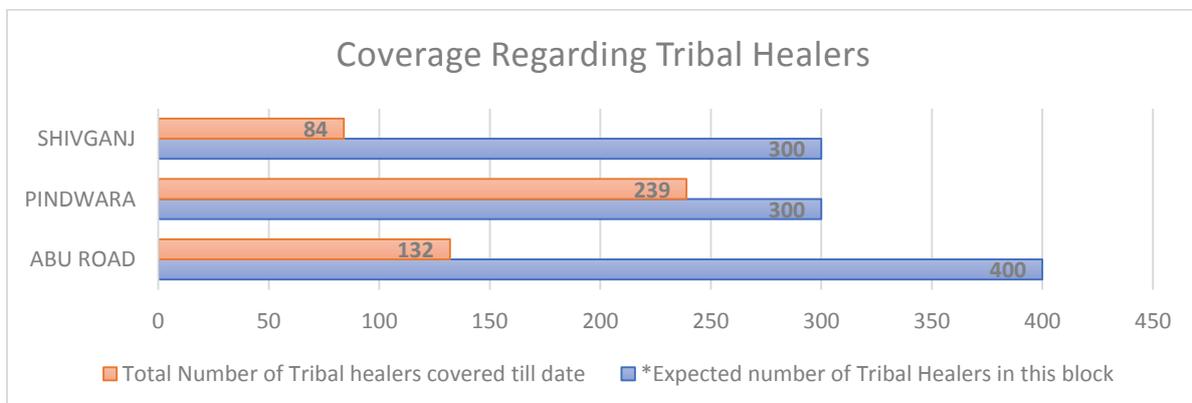
Title: Knowledge, Attitude, Practice of tribal healers of prevalent diseases in the tribal community of district Sirohi.



Table-1

S. No.	Description	Abu Road	Pindwara	Sheoganj
1.	Total number of villages	97	123	81
2.	Total Number of Covered Villages	32	87	34
3.	*Expected number of Tribal Healers in this block	400	300	300
4.	Total Number of Tribal healers covered till date	132	239	84

Graph -1





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Table-2: Identify practices of tribal/traditional healers among common reported conditions

S.No.	Therapeutic indication and associated plants	Local Name	Plant Parts Used	Medicinal Preparation
1	Jaundice Adhatoda Vasica	Adusha	Leaves	Leaves powder taken orally
2	Flu (Cough, Cold, Fever) Azadirachta indica Ocimum tenuiflorum	Neem Tulsi	Leaves	Take out juice of leaves and drink it.
3	Stones, Asthma Capparis decidua	Ker	Flower	The flower is soaked in the evening and is given to patients in the morning.
4	Typhoid Citrus limon	Neembu	Juice	Put lemon water in a bottle and put a stone cod in it until it comes up and after that drink it 5 to 5 times a day.
5	Any chronic disease (Diabetes, Hypertension etc.), Dalbergia sissoo Coriandrum sativum	Shisham Dhaniya	juice leaves	Make powder of leaves and drink it in hot water empty stomach in the morning, drink green coriander juice starves it.
6	Constipation Chlorophytum borivilianum Withania somnifera	Ashwagandha Saped musli	Bark	Prepare its powder, then feed it on a hungry stomach in the morning, boil the bark of the boiled tree in 2 liters of water, 250 grams of water is fed.
7	Piles Trachyspermum ammi Trigonella foenum-graecum Foeniculum vulgare	Ajwain Methi Saunf	Seed	Mix black salt and make powder and give it in the Moring and evening.
8	Sunstroke Allium cepa	Pyaj	Membrane	Kesula flowers are mixed in onions and applied on the body.



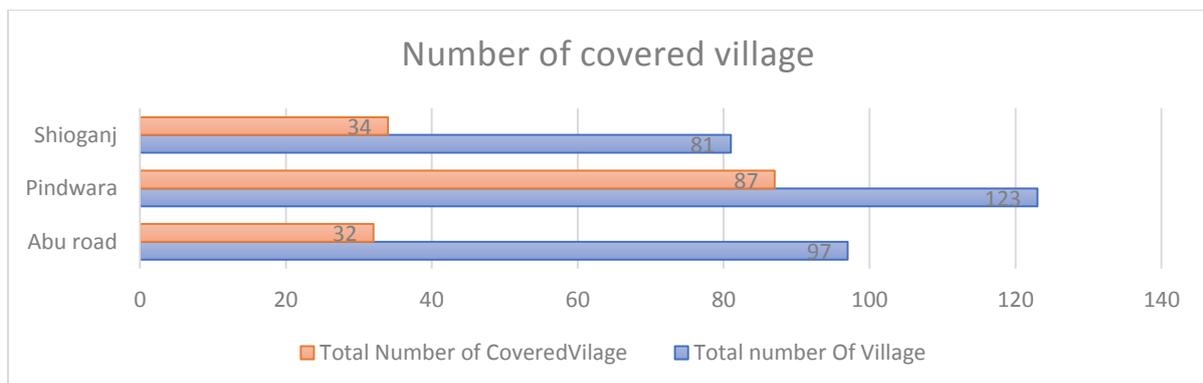
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9	Scorpion bite Calotropis gigantea	Aakh	Root	The root is grinded and applied.
10	Snake bite, Scorpion bite Azadirachta indica	Neem	Leaves	Neem leaves are fed.
11	Skin disease Tecomella undulata	Rohida	Stem	Oil of Rohida and Upa oil made by special method, put a sack soaked with water on the mat and add light soil and apply to the patient.
12	Rabies (Dog bite) wild plants	Jangli podha	Leaves	Boiling a glass of hot water containing leaf and drinking it by the patient.
13	Any mental disorder Mantra	Jhada (Local Word)	Tantric method	Chanting of the Mantras

Graph-2



According to table -2 we identified 13 most prevalent diseases and their treatments among TSP zone during interaction with tribal healers and now we are in phase of shortlisting and documenting good and bad practices on the basis of literature review, department of AYUSH, AIIMS Jodhpur and experts are invited to review and comment on herbs being used for a particular condition. In Phase-2, based on shortlisting, an awareness module will be developed



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regarding useful & harmful practices.

ACTIVITY : 1.1 (COVID-19 Pandemic Awareness)

Title: Knowledge, Attitude, Practice of tribal healers regarding COVID-19 in the tribal community.



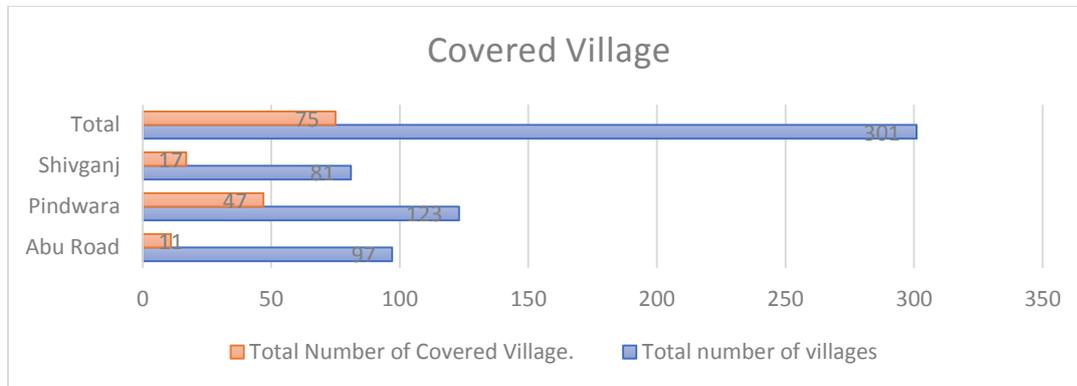
Table: 3

S. No.	Description	Abu Road	Pindwara	Sheoganj	Total
1	Total number of villages	97	123	81	301
2.	Total Number of Covered Village.	11	47	17	75
3.	*Expected number of Tribal Healers in this block	400	300	300	1000
4.	Total Number of Coverage regarding Tribal healers on KAP Study COVID-19	129	229	45	403

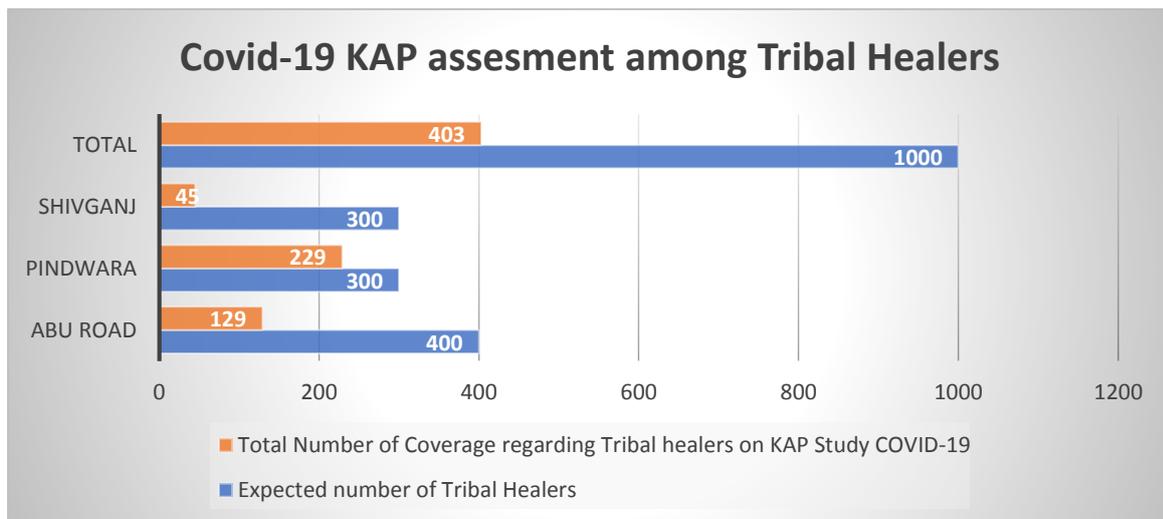


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Graph-3



Graph-4



Data collection is in progress and till date (15th Nov. 2020) we had interacted 403 tribal Healers regarding COVID-19 KAP assessment. After end of November data will be analysed.



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ACTIVITY :1.2

Title: A survey of socioeconomic and demographic structure & its relation to access health services by tribal.



Table: 4

S.No.	Description	Abu Road	Pindwara	Sheoganj	Total
1.	Total number of villages	97	123	81	301
2.	Total Number of covered villages in Survey regarding tribal health status and demographic with socio economic structure	9	39	19	67
3.	Number of Survey regarding tribal health services and demographic with socio economic structure	163	549	277	989

Data collection is in progress and till date (15th Nov. 2020) we had interacted 989 tribal population (Bheel, Meena & Garasia) regarding COVID-19 KAP assessment. After 30th November 2020 data will be analysed.



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ACTIVITY :1.3

Title: Need assessment regarding telemedicine among indigenous population of district Sirohi.



Table: 5

S.No.	Description	Abu Road	Pindwara	Sheoganj
1.	Total number of villages	97	123	81
2.	Total Number of Covered Village	14	13	0
3.	Total Number of Covered Population under Survey regarding Telemedicine	345	265	0



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Table 6: MONTHLY ACTIVITY

Date /Month (2020)	Activity	Village/ Block	Total No. of Target Population	Health Promotion	Health Education
19 th June	COVID -19 Awareness Activity	Ker Pindwara	200 Target Tribal Population	- 500 Cotton Mask - 250 Soaps - snacks	-What is COVID-19 - Symptoms - Precautions - Measures to prevention
25 th July	COVID-19 Awareness Adolescent health Awareness	Moras Pindwara	78 Tribal Adolescent Girls	- 100 Sanitary Pads - 200 Soaps - Snacks	-What is Covid-19 - Symptoms - Precautions -Menstrual Hygiene -Anaemia
*August	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
2 nd September	COVID-19 Awareness Adolescent health Awareness	Chuli Shivganj	80 Tribal Adolescent Girls	- 100 Mask - 100 Sanitary Pads - 200 Soaps - Snacks	-What is Covid-19 - Symptoms - Precautions -Menstrual Hygiene -Anaemia
*October	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
November	COVID-19 Awareness Adolescence health Telemedicine Awareness Activity	TAD Bhavan Abu road	50 Tribal Population	- 100 Mask - Snacks	- What is COVID-19 - Symptoms - Precautions - What Is Telemedicine



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	General Medical Check-up and Piloting regarding Telemedicine				- Need of Telemedicine
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*August- Activity was not conducted due to un-supporting weather

*October-Activity was not conducted because many implementation and administrative staff were COVID-19 positive.





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CHALLENGES:

- Difficult to break the hitch among tribal population
- Difficult to Identify Tribal Healers
- Non-Cooperation among Tribal Healers
- Due to hilly areas difficulty in accessibility
- Limited access due to contentment zone in Pandemic

MEDIA COVERAGE:

The media coverage section contains several articles and headlines. Key headlines include:

- AIIMS Jodhpur ties up with tribal healers to address health issues** (Hindustan Times, 22 Aug 2020)
- कोरोना से डरें नहीं, बचाव के उपाय अपनायें** (Hindustan Times, 22 Aug 2020)
- एम्स के चिकित्सकों ने कोरोना से बचाव की जानकारी दी** (Hindustan Times, 22 Aug 2020)
- आदिवासियों को कोरोना के प्रति किया जागरूक** (Hindustan Times, 22 Aug 2020)
- 200 मेमोअर्स से संर्क का बुराई आदिवासियों को संवेदी जनजाती** (Hindustan Times, 22 Aug 2020)
- एम्स भोजपुर के साथ मिल सुधारगा आदिवासियों का स्वास्थ्य** (Hindustan Times, 22 Aug 2020)
- Creating awareness** (Hindustan Times, 22 Aug 2020)