

Azim Premji University COVID-19 Livelihoods Survey



Madhya Pradesh (Rural)

Azim Premji University along with Pradan and Srijan conducted a detailed phone survey of 525 respondents to gauge the impact of the COVID19 lockdown on employment, livelihoods, and access to government relief schemes.

The respondents were selected through a purposive sampling method to ensure diversity in location and type of work done. The sample is not representative of the state.

Respondents across more than 18 districts in the state were interviewed.

The data presented here was collected between 14th April, 2020 and 23rd May, 2020. This brief is part of a series of state-level briefs prepared based on the survey findings. A dashboard with detailed information is available at cse.azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in



Key Findings

48%

reported that they had **lost their employment**.

25%

households **did not have enough money** to buy even a week's worth of essentials.

36%

of vulnerable households received **no cash transfer**.

7 in 10

reported **consuming less food** than before.

66%

of vulnerable households **received ration**.

Relief measures announced

Relief measure information was sent out to survey respondents via text messages.

Central Level

- Between April to June 2020, each PHH and AAY family to get free of cost 5 kg food grains per person per month and 1 kg of dal per family per month. This is in addition to regular ration which they will continue to get.
- Women Jan Dhan account holders to get Rs 500 per month between April to June, 2020.
- First instalment of PM-KISAN (Rs 2000) to be paid during 1st week of April.

State Level

- Families in need, who are not registered with the NFSA but are registered with the State Samagra Samajik Suraksha portal to get one time ration of 4kg wheat and 1 kg rice per member of the household free of cost.
 - Registered construction workers to get one time payment of Rs 1000.
 - Mid day meal beneficiaries to get cash transfer of amount equivalent to midday meal.
 - Baiga, Sahariya and Bhariya families to get advance payment of monthly transfer of April and May in one go."
 - Advance payment of two months pension to state pensioners.
 - Baiga, Sahariya and Bhariya families to get advance payment of monthly
- Source : covid19socialsecurity.wordpress.com/relief-measures



Recommendations

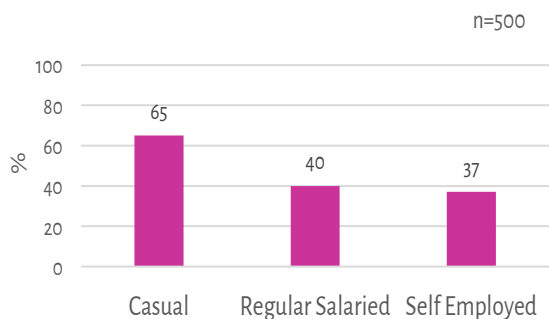
- **Universalise PDS** to expand its reach and provide the promised expanded rations for at **least the next six months**.
- Give **cash transfers equal to at least Rs 7000 per month** for two months.
- Use information from **MGNREGA, PM Ujjwala, PDS and local registrations** to expand the reach of cash transfers.
- Urgent need to focus on **programmes for the urban poor**.
- Over the medium term, proactive steps like **expansion of MGNREGA, introduction of urban employment guarantee, and investment in universal basic services** are needed.



Impact on livelihoods

This section deals with the impact that the lockdown has had on work and earnings. We measured levels of employment and income since the lockdown was imposed, and compared them to the situation prevailing in February.

Figure 1 : Workers who lost employment by activity status reported in February (%)



48% reported that they had **lost their employment** during the lockdown.

Casual workers were the worst hit with **65%** losing their jobs.

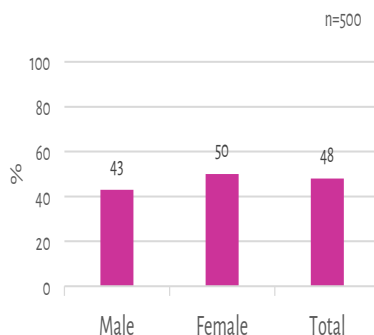
More than **7 in 10 farmers** reported that they were unable to **sell their produce at full prices**.

44% of salaried wage workers reported that they **had not been paid their salaries** or they had **received reduced salaries during the lockdown**.

"Whatever the government is doing, is not reaching the poor and working class".

(Male, 26, Casual worker)

Figure 2: Workers who lost employment by sex (%)

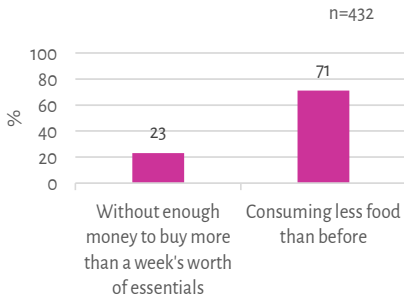




Impact on households

This section looks at how households were faring under the lockdown particularly with respect to food intake and access to savings and credit.

Figure 3 : State of vulnerable households with respect to food intake and savings(%)



One-fourth of households surveyed had to **take a loan** as a result of this lockdown

More than half of the households (**52%**) said that they **cannot pay next month's rent**.

7 in 10 households reported **consuming less food** than before during the lockdown.

One-fourth households were without **enough money** to buy even a **week's worth of essentials**

Compared to **General (19%) and OBC (25%) households**, a relatively higher number of **SC/ST households (25%)** were without enough money to buy more **than a week's worth of essential items**.

Figure 4: Share of households consuming less food than before by main source of livelihood income (%)

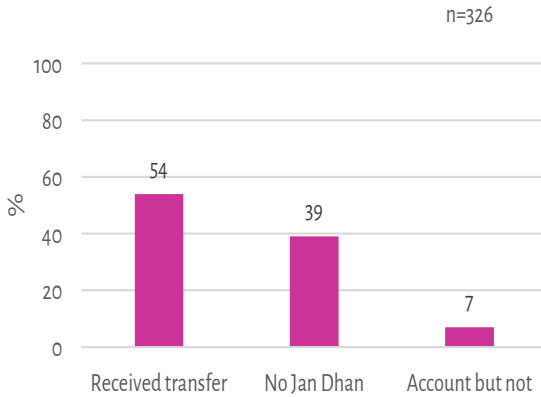




Access to relief measures

This section studies the reach and impact of relief measures announced by the Government. We focus on availability of food rations, cash transfers to beneficiaries and benefits accruing to vulnerable households.

Figure 5: Vulnerable households that received Jan dhan account transfer the lockdown (%)



Two-thirds of vulnerable households **received ration**.

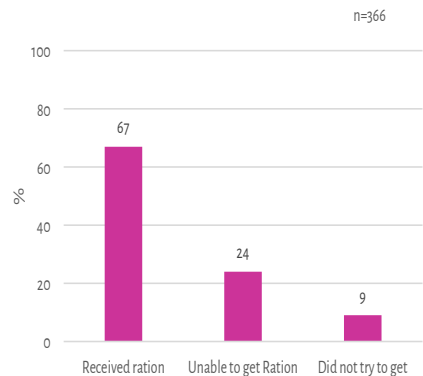
39% of vulnerable households did not have a **Jan Dhan account**, **89%** of account holders received a **cash transfer**

36% of vulnerable households did **not receive any cash transfer**.

Only **one-fourth** of farmers received a **PM-KISAN transfer**

38% of pensioners received their **pension cash transfer**

Figure 6: Vulnerable households who received ration (%)





Survey Coverage

Figure 7: Share of Respondents by Activity Status in February (%)

37% of the respondents were **males** and **63%** were **females**

Hindus comprised **86%** of the respondents, the '**Others**' **12%**.

58% respondents hailed from the **SC/ST community**



Results from other surveys happening in the state

According to a survey conducted by **Jan Sahas** only a **fraction of construction workers have received their cash transfers** as **most of them are not registered** with the Board of Construction Workers (BoCW) in Madhya Pradesh

COVID-19 impact studies conducted by Indus Action, IIT-Delhi, Foundation for Agrarian Studies and Road Scholarz also feature Madhya Pradesh in their sample drawn from a number of states.

For a compilation of the various Covid-19 surveys and studies conducted across the country please visit : cse.azimpremjiuniversity.edu.in/covid19-analysis-of-imu-pactand-relief-measures/#other_surveys

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