



Delayed and Denied: Injustice in COVID-19 Relief Andhra Pradesh Factsheet



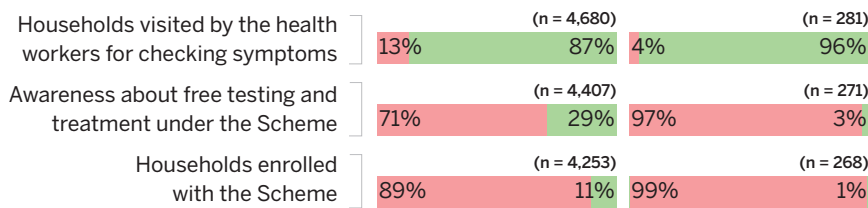
How well are COVID-19 related entitlements announced by the Central Government, under the Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyaan Yojana, reaching the poor and the marginalised? An assessment of the extent of realisation of key entitlements of the relief package across 25,032 Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe households in India, by the National Campaign on Dalit Human Rights (NCDHR).



Percentage of respondents who replied ■ No ■ Yes

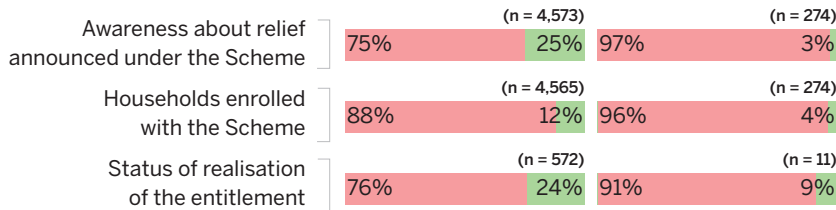
SC respondents **ST respondents**

Ayushman Bharat: Free testing and treatment for COVID19



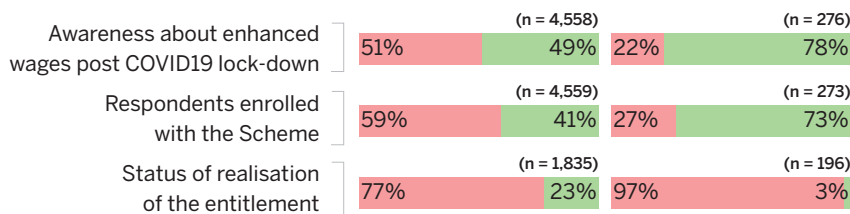
The scheme provides Rs. 5 lakh health insurance to the poor, especially those determined by the Socio-Economic Caste Census (SECC) 2011. A majority of SC and ST households were visited by healthcare workers, but a very low percentage of households were aware about provisions of free testing and treatment for COVID-19 offered under the Ayushman Bharat scheme. Scheme coverage was found to be almost non-existent among these communities.

Ujjwala Yojana: Free gas cylinders for 3-months



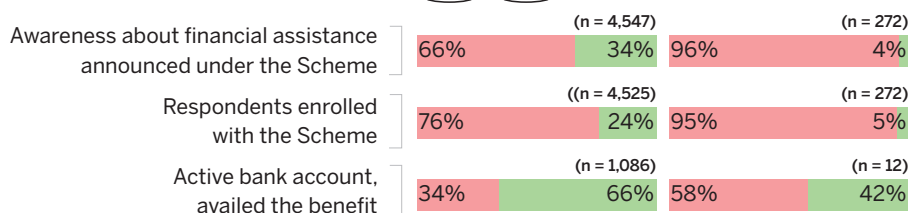
The scheme was launched in 2016 for the women of Below Poverty Line families, to safeguard their health by providing them with clean cooking fuel (LPG). The assessment upended hideously low levels of awareness, enrolment and realisation of the entitlement among the SC and ST households. This consequently ensued in the denial of entitlement in the pandemic, rendering the Scheme less meaningful for the majority of SCs and STs communities.

MGNREGS: Enhanced wages



The Centre increased MGNREGS wages by Rs 20 from April 1, 2020, making it Rs 202 per day. The assessment reveals a high level of ignorance among the SCs about this increase with close to 60% households not even enrolled with the Scheme. This naturally translates into an even lesser realisation of the entitlement by these communities whose survival depends on daily wage manual labour, and had lost their livelihoods indefinitely to the pandemic.

Jan Dhan Yojana: Ex-gratia amount of Rs. 500 for women

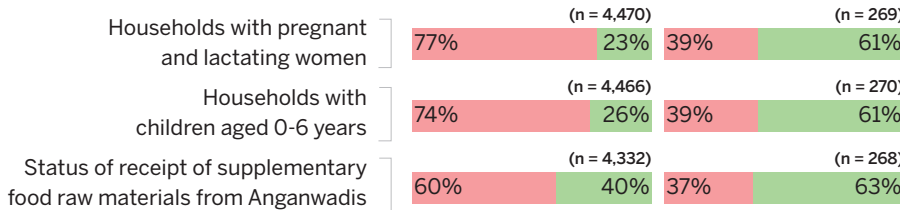


The scheme was launched in 2014 to ensure financial inclusion of the poor, and zero-balance accounts were opened in mission mode. In COVID, direct transfer of Rs 500 was announced for women account holders. The assessment shows low awareness about the relief among the SC and ST households, as well as low levels of enrolment and benefit realisation, respectively. This deprived them of urgent assistance to manage after the loss of livelihoods in the pandemic.

Percentage of respondents who replied ■ No ■ Yes

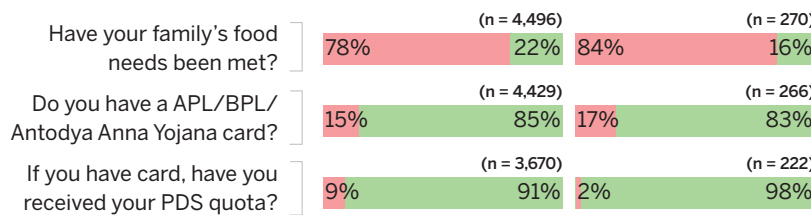
SC respondents ST respondents

ICDS: Home delivery of raw material



The COVID-19 Relief Package provided for delivery of raw supplementary food material by Anganwadi workers to the households with pregnant / lactating women and children aged 0-6 years. A large proportion of the ST households reported having eligible women and children, but a substantial proportion had not received the assistance till May-end. This delay equals to the denial despite high risk of malnutrition, hunger and diseases.

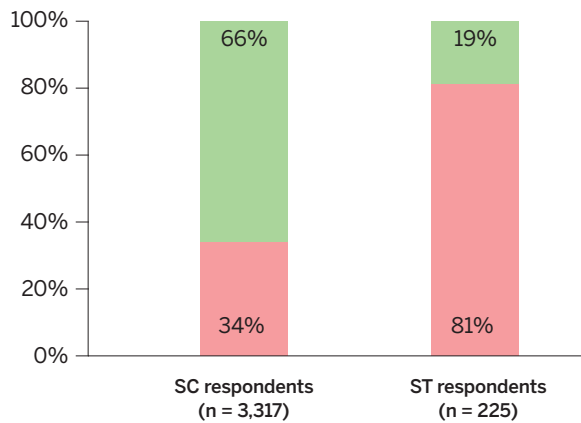
Public Distribution Scheme: Additional /free food-grains



The COVID-19 Relief Package included free 5kg cereal and 1kg pulses from April to June through the Public Distribution System for ration card holders. Though a majority of SC and ST received the entitlement, a large chunk of the ST households and significant proportion of the SC households received only partial quota of compromised quality. This explains why large numbers of SC and ST households reported that their food needs were not met.

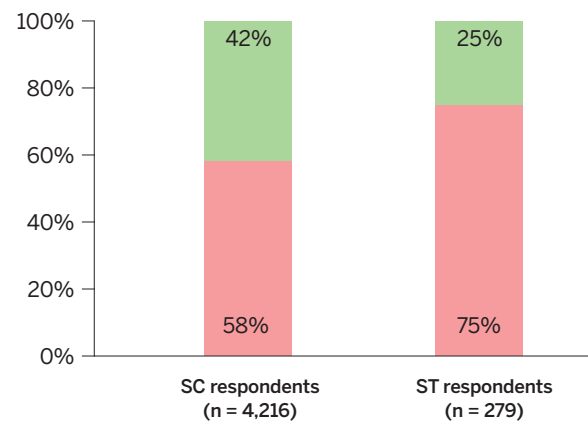
How much of your PDS quota have you received?

■ Partial ■ Full



Is the quality of ration/food distributed good?

■ Poor ■ Good



Methodology: The NCDHR is conducting a phase-wise inclusion assessment of the awareness, enrolment, and the extent of realisation of COVID related national and state relief entitlements announced by the Central Government, by the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes across the states in India. The process aims to enable greater inclusion and realisation of the social protection schemes by the SC and ST communities to enhance their capacity to cope with the pandemic. This is done by sharing real-time information and appeals with the district and state authorities for urgent action. Conducted on a mobile app by a network of local partners and hundreds of volunteers, the first phase of the survey was conducted from April 16-May 25, 2020.

Factsheet design: How India Lives (www.howindialives.com)