



Voices from the Margins and Inclusive Policy Responses to COVID-19 Pandemic

Key Findings Theme 6: Social Solidarity 1st Round Panel Survey

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Supported by the UK Foreign Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO), the Covid Collective is based at the Institute of Development Studies (IDS). The Collective brings together the expertise of, UK and Southern based research partner organisations and offers a rapid social science research response to inform decision-making on some of the most pressing Covid-19 related development challenges.

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Key Findings

- Marginalised community people participated in 'creating awareness about Covid-19 health protocols' (37.5%) and 'distribution of food' (10.7%). Most of 'Rural people' participated in 'creating awareness about health directives' (90%). (Table 6.1)
- 2% of the households were involved in relief/ recovery activities as a volunteer, and 7.2% individuals participated in addressing and resolving local problems. (Tables 6.2, and 6.3)
- Overall 37.4% marginalised household reported of taking some kind of local initiative where the same is true for 51% of the 'ethnic and religious minority household' and 18.8% for the 'urban slum dwellers'. The leading local initiatives taken to resist COVID-19 pandemic are 'preventing outsiders from entering the area' (75.6%), 'preventing from going out of area' (58.5%), and 'stopping local gatherings' (41.1%). (Tables 6.4, and 6.5)
- Considering the community bonding during the COVID-19 pandemic, overall for 21.9% cases the bonding deteriorated. Mostly bonding remained the same (73.8%) in spite of all the losses, hardships, and vulnerabilities. (Table 6.6)
- In 95.4% of the marginalised households, people did not find the local political leaders by their side during the pandemic. Households with 'Persons with Disabilities' (97.3%) are at the bottom compared to other groups in this case. (Table 6.7)

Table 6.1: Participation in any initiative/ planning/ activities in locality (Multiple answers) (%)

Initiatives/ Planning/ Activities	Ethnic & Religious Minority	Rural Poor	Slum Dwellers	Persons with Disability	Female headed Household	All
Creating awareness about health directives	17.9	90.0	71.4	16.7	33.3	37.5
Motivate for vaccination	5.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	33.3	3.6
Selecting distressed/ helpless households	0.0	30.0	28.6	33.3	0.0	8.9
Distributing food items	5.1	20.0	28.6	33.3	0.0	10.7
Others	10.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0
N	492	531	510	184	211	1533

Table 6.2: Individual or household's involvement in relief/ recovery activities as a volunteer (%)

Indicator	Ethnic & Religious Minority	Rural Poor	Slum Dwellers	Persons with Disability	Female headed Household	All
Involvement in relief/ recovery activities	1.8	1.7	2.5	2.7	1.4	2.0
N	492	531	510	184	211	1533

Table 6.3: Individual participation in addressing and resolving local problems during COVID-19 pandemic (%)

Indicator	Ethnic & Religious Minority	Rural Poor	Slum Dwellers	Persons with Disability	Female headed Household	All
Participation in addressing and resolving local problems	13.0	5.5	3.5	4.9	2.4	7.2
N	492	531	510	184	211	1533

Table 6.4: Any local innovative initiatives taken to resist COVID-19 pandemic (%)

Indicator	Ethnic & Religious Minority	Rural Poor	Slum Dwellers	Persons with Disability	Female headed Household	All
Innovative initiatives taken to resist COVID-19 pandemic	51.0	42.7	18.8	36.4	28.0	37.4
N	492	531	510	184	211	1533

Table 6.5: Type of local innovative initiatives taken to resist COVID-19 pandemic (Multiple answers) (%)

Type of steps/initiative	Ethnic & Religious Minority	Rural Poor	Slum Dwellers	Persons with Disability	Female headed Household	All
Stopping local gatherings	46.2	32.2	49.0	37.3	52.5	41.1
Preventing from going out of area	59.0	61.7	50.0	52.2	54.2	58.5
Preventing outsiders from entering the area	83.3	78.0	50.0	68.7	66.1	75.6
Put off any kind of social event for a certain period of time	48.6	30.8	21.9	34.3	42.4	37.1
Stopping hangouts of local youth	15.1	14.1	16.7	20.9	8.5	15.0
Following the herbal/ Kabiraji method	8.8	6.2	21.9	11.9	15.3	9.9
Inhaling steam of hot water	37.1	52.9	14.6	34.3	37.3	39.5
Drinking water with different spices	14.3	49.3	28.1	35.8	23.7	30.5
Others	0.4	0.0	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.5
n	251	227	96	67	59	574

Table 6.6: Perception about community bonding during the COVID-19 pandemic (%)

Indicator	Ethnic & Religious Minority	Rural Poor	Slum Dwellers	Persons with Disability	Female headed Household	All
Bonding improved a lot	0.2	0.0	0.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
Bonding slightly improved	2.8	2.1	7.6	2.2	5.2	4.2
Same as before	80.9	69.9	71.2	72.8	74.4	73.8
Bonding slightly deteriorated	15.2	26.6	18.2	22.8	17.5	20.2
Bonding deteriorated a lot	0.8	1.5	2.7	2.2	2.8	1.7
N	492	531	510	184	211	1533

Table 6.7: Local political leaders remained by side during the COVID-19 pandemic (%)

Indicator	Ethnic & Religious Minority	Rural Poor	Slum Dwellers	Persons with Disability	Female headed Household	All
Local political leaders remained by side during the COVID-19 pandemic	3.0	3.0	7.8	2.7	5.2	4.6
N	492	531	510	184	211	1533