

Pandemic through a Journo's Lens



People praying in front of a church on Good Friday as all the religious places were closed due to partial lockdown on April 2020, Chennai.



As the government announced a nationwide lockdown for 21 days, working people from other districts were seen rushing to their native places at Chennai central railway station on March 20, 2020.



A mother cover her infant baby with her saree as she waits for train to return to her native palce at Egmore railway station on May 2020. All the migrant workers were stuck in chennai as transportation were shut during 21 days.



Hundreds of people who couldn't return to their native places took shelter alongside of the Poonamalle highway road. An elderly person was seen laying in the tar road in the summer of June 21 2020 at Pachaiyappa College stop, Chennai.



People sitting in the divider maintaining social distance at chennai.



Migrant workers pose with the food package received from NGO on March 30, 2020. As they couldn't return to their native places, camps were set in the city.



People who broke the lockdown protocol were punished by police during lockdown in Chennai on March 2020.



Irony! Children from the slum of Thousand lights were seen covering their nasal area with their clothes as they were not provided enough masks and sanitizers in COVID awareness program.



During the initial stage of covid, people who attended Tablighi Jamaat meet were tested for infection. A family from Royapet are waiting to take covid test in the Government hospital, Chenani on April 09 2020.



Since lockdown was announced suddenly and railways were shut people from other states couldn't return to their native nor to their respective workplace. So they were made to wait in railway station. After a night and a day, camp was set for migrant workers.



Akhila Easwaran, Photojournalist

Akhila Easwaran was awarded the Fifth Nwmi Fellowship (2021). She is a nautical engineer who hails from Theni, Tamil Nadu. She switched gears to pursue journalism. Following a formal education in photojournalism, she worked with some of the major newspapers. Despite the pandemic-era job crunch as media houses opted for rampant downsizing, she has persisted with her dream of becoming a documentary photojournalist.