

NATIONAL COALITION on the

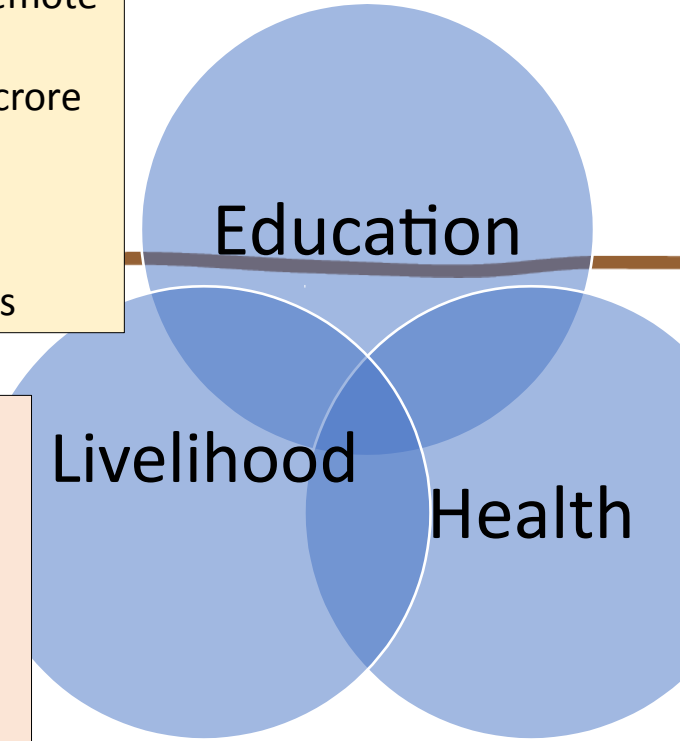
Education Emergency 

Meeting on September 18 2021

INDIA IS FACING AN EDUCATION EMERGENCY

- One of the **longest** shutdowns of school education in the world
- No meaningful on-line or remote education for majority of children, probably over 20 crore children
- **Loss of basic literacy and numeracy skills**
- Huge socio-emotional stress

- Unemployment, income loss, poverty amongst parents are driving **children to leave school for work, early marriage** etc.
- Many children have become orphans, need to care for siblings



- COVID related illness and deaths amongst parents and teachers
- Other child health services (immunizations etc) have been affected
- **Lack of mid day meals affects nutrition and hunger**

ADDRESSING THE EDUCATION EMERGENCY

Education

1. Set minimum standards for formal instruction – eg 3-4 hours per day
2. Open schools in a safe manner – prioritize younger children
3. Ensure delivery of textbooks and **additional learning resources**
4. Provide accelerated/ additional learning opportunities (tutoring, after school)
5. Social-emotional wellbeing essential
6. Equitable access to affordable connectivity, devices
7. Train teachers in flexible modalities
8. Temporarily suspend examinations

Health and Safety

1. Develop/adapt guidelines and distribute them
2. Resume **mid-day meals** and supplementing nutrition
3. Vaccinate teachers as priority
4. Accelerated water and sanitation facilities in all schools, disinfectants, soap etc
5. Regular testing of teachers and children

Social assistance

1. Income support to parents ensure no school going child has to work
2. Mid day meals (deliver food kits to homes if schools are not open)
3. Identify orphans and provide additional support
4. Special support to vulnerable girl children and other marginalized groups



APPROACH OF THE National Coalition



ACTIONS ON THREE FRONTS

1. EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TO SCHOOLS/ COMMUNITIES

- Re-opening schools strategy –safety; extra support to learners and teachers
- Educational Resources for students (text, videos etc)
- Teacher support – resources for teaching, guidelines for safety, vaccinations etc
- Parent resources (home support for learning, training on online safety and data rights of children etc)
- Multiple languages

2. SOCIAL MOBILIZATION

- Enlarge network of coalition partners
- Resources for parents: to raise demands, and engage with school and state authorities to ensure equitable learning opportunities ;
- State policy and implementation tracker; Data on education inequality
- Develop and monitor meaningful digital access indicators
- Media outreach (articles, interviews, blogs etc)

3. Collate and conduct Research to understand better

Updates

- **Education Support to Communities and Schools Working Group**

- Documented key community learning centres programs of NGOs during COVID
- Working on School opening guidelines (academic)
- Collating additional resources for schools/teachers/parents



- **Education Emergency Research Working Group**

- Research Brief (collating 20+studies) released in English, Hindi, Kannada, Telugu

- **Communications**

- Telegram group, mailing lists for collaborating and sharing
- Short note for external circulation (in Hindi, Malayalam, Kannada and Telugu)
- Newsletters and press releases

Continuous work on mobilization

- **Why?** – the people who are affected should mobilize and express their needs
- **Who** is most affected by education emergency? – the urban and rural poor, Dalits, tribals, girls, minorities.
- **What ?**
 - Enable people to understand **the urgency**, that their children are suffering great losses – (**Research Working Group**)
 - Provide educational resources and training to department / teachers / parents on how they can help their children (**Education Support Working Group**)
 - Organizations/ parents to write to school authorities, political organizations about re-opening schools, extra learning support, health, nutrition etc
 - Network with organizations from other states (RTE Forum, BGVS, Right to Food movement etc)
 - Propaganda activities (media statements; posters, twitter storm, postcards, newsletters)
 - Collecting information from the ground – high frequency short surveys, short videos)

