Dear friends,

The second wave of COVID-19 and the Central Government’s failure to mitigate the impact had led to a fast deteriorating situation in the country. The worst hit are the millions of informal sector workers. Lockdowns imposed to curb the spread of coronavirus have had a huge negative impact on them by disrupting their livelihoods. The incapacity of a long neglected health system to deal with the sudden surge in cases has led to multiple crises for the vast majority of our population. Not only is their health affected , they are now suffering from hunger , unemployment and economic insecurity.

We are giving a call for a Month of Action, starting from 1st June 2021. There is a need to emphasise on the Government’s accountability towards the right to life for every individual in the country. There is a need to raise demands on the crucial issues in the midst of the ongoing crisis. In order to do this, we shall be taking actions throughout the month

Please note that 1st June is a day of special significance – it was observed as a Black Day by the campaign and its friends in 2020, a Day of Mourning when we remembered all the people who had died during the first few months of the sudden lockdown. These deaths were not due to COVID , but due to starvation and due to accidents when migrants were returning home

The plan for the Month of Action is as follows:-

**WEEK 1**

**1st June to 6th June:- Launch of Campaign** with a public announcement that we are going to have a series of events for one month. This could be done through social media , press conferences etc. In addition , letters with a charter of demands will be sent nationally and by every state campaign to government offices either physically or through online mediums.

**7th June**: National event and webinar on our demands as well as to report and take stock of the events of the first week .

**WEEK 2**

**8th June to 13th June** : **Food For All**

States to take up events that focus on Food for All – on universal and enhanced PDS, cooked food in schools and Anganwaris, withdrawal of ICDS and MDMS by Governments and on changes needed in the food system and agriculture in general to ensure Food for All.

**14th June**:- National event and webinar on Food For All , as well as to report and take stock of the events of the second week .

**WEEK 3**

: **15th June to 20th June:** **Work for All**

States to organise events to focus on lockdowns and the COVID pandemic leading to the situation of unemployment and increasingly precarious work for the vast majority of workers in the informal sector. These events would also focus on problems within NREGA and demands for lockdown wages, special NREGA packages, unemployment allowance during lockdown and during sickness etc . It would also focus on the precarious work conditions of frontline health workers.

**21st June:** - National event and/or webinar on Work For All , as well as to report and take stock of the events of the third week .

**WEEK 4**

 **22st June to 27th June: Health For All**

States to organise events focussing on the total breakdown of the health system and the need for a guaranteed, free and universal health care system. Demands to be raised for testing, detection and isolation of COVID patients in villages and mohallas, for enhancement of care at the community level (ASHA workers services to be enhanced and improved ) , in primary health centres and in secondary and tertiary centers. Demand to be raised for free vaccination.

**28st June:** - National event and/or webinar on Health For All , as well as to report and take stock of the events of the second week .

**Note:-**

1. Accountability issues (such as the inability of states to lift and use their quota of food grains for migrant workers in 2020-21) are to be raised throughout the month, across all themes .
2. States are free to choose dates and events as per their convenience during the week of action. The only stipulation is that they should focus on the theme for the week.
3. As it is difficult to organise large gatherings during this period, online events , small meetings , protest videos and photographs , testimonies etc. can be used.
4. The events will be accompanied by a strong social media campaign that will be conducted by a national team. All those interested are requested to contact them.

**Zindabad**

**Secretariat, Right to Food Campaign**