Dear All,

After 4 days of economic shutdown, the urban poor are really feeling the pinch of hard. The strong public health focus policy that is now in effect must go hand in hand with emergency economic support for the poor. Many individual groups are coming forward. But it may need to be sustained for a few months depending on how long the shutdown lasts. Social distancing and staying home works for those who are on salaried job. But most Bangladeshis are not. Beyond the economic challenges, the fear factor in reporting Covid-19 symptoms may also be a factor in under reporting.

Please see details in the attached sitrep.

Asif Saleh

Executive Director BRAC