



General questions

1. In what way does this story remind you of efforts to contain Covid-19 in your community?

Further exploration

1. Lockdowns may have slowed the spread of the virus, but they also take a heavy economic toll. In India, however, that economic toll meant thousands of people plummeted into extreme poverty. Should the pandemic response in developing countries with more people near the poverty line differ from that of a wealthy country?
2. Many workers like Netrapal work in the cities but send money home to rural villages, but when work in the cities is suddenly no longer available, the rural areas suffer as well. Are there other potential problems with this kind of rural-urban wealth distribution?
3. Restarting the economy is a “chicken-egg” problem, says economist Radhicka Kapoor. “Businesses will invest only if there is demand, but, at the same time, vast majorities don’t have jobs.” Can you think of any strategies that could break that cycle?