

Achooouuu!





**WOMXN**  
**Braving virus fears**

The pandemic is a magnifying glass  
On the fault lines that define  
Our **unequal** society

Who is top-brass?  
Who affords to stream & chill.  
And who gets the **untested pill**.

While a few check in to luxurious quarantines  
A billion aspirations lie in smithereens  
The laathis charge  
To clear highways and tracks  
Of the very **people** who built them.

The virus kills and takes  
And who is on the frontlines?  
It is **womxn**.

**70%\* of the world's healthcare and social services is 'womxned' by womxn. Yet half of them are unpaid and unsupported.**

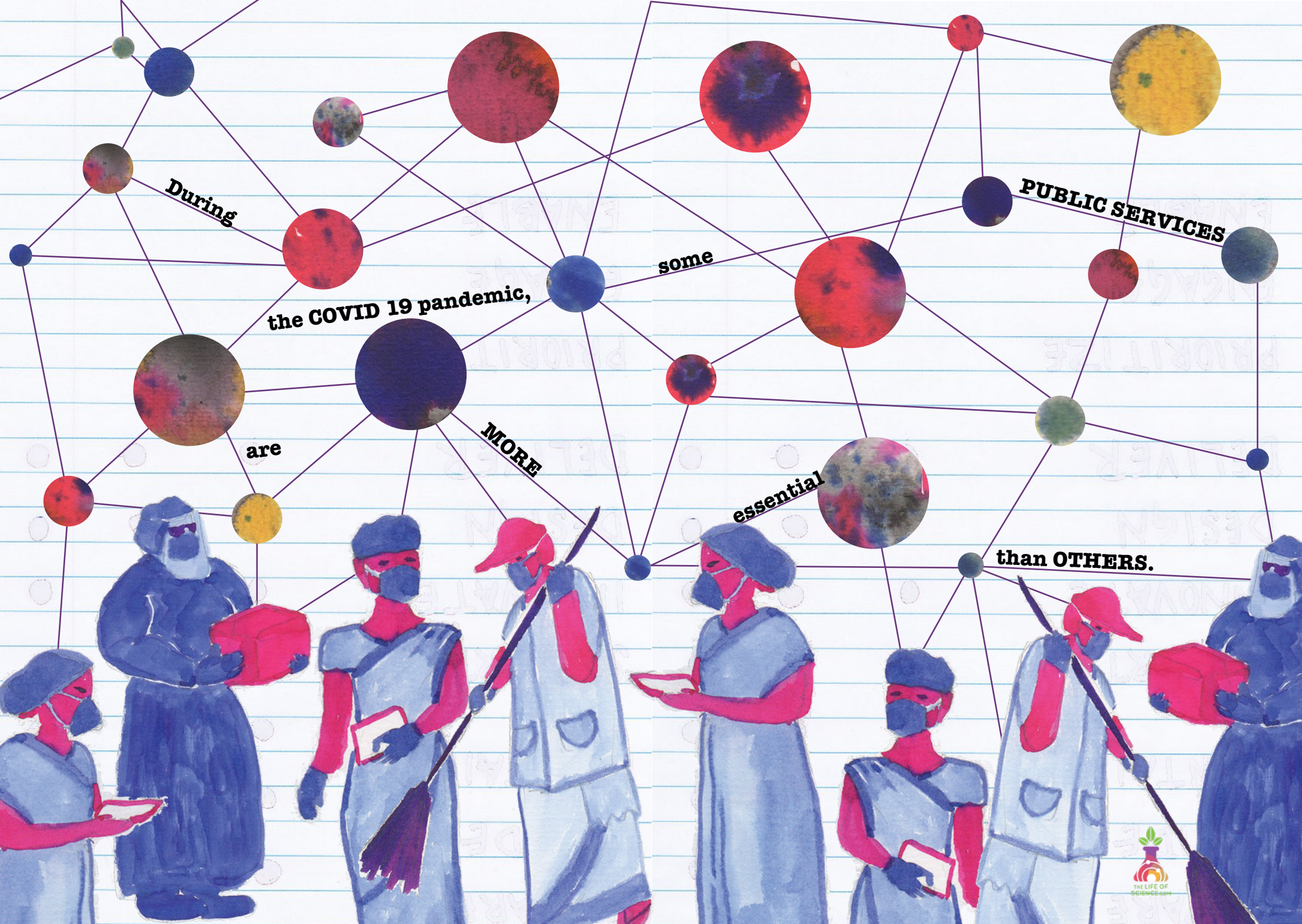
And if that doesn't sit too well  
That's because the PPEs are 'universally' designed  
for men  
Here's a spell to cast away this hell



**Achodouu**  
**Achodouu**

\* Source: UN Women  
Read more at [bit.ly/un-covid-womxn](https://bit.ly/un-covid-womxn)





During

the COVID 19 pandemic,

some

PUBLIC SERVICES

are

MORE

essential

than OTHERS.



## GOVERNANCE

- MOBILISE resources
- STRATEGISE responses
- ORGANISE infrastructure
- ENABLE public health service
- RESPOND to emergencies
- CONTAIN the spread



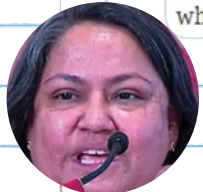
K.K. Shailaja



TheLifeofScience.com @labhopping · Mar 28

In this Op-Ed, she brings out some of the stark social realities that the pandemic is putting us face-to-face with & also sets an example in transparency. [thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/...](https://www.thehindu.com/opinion/op-ed/)

The advent of COVID-19 has led to a peculiar scenario wherein those who can otherwise afford private healthcare are now relying on government facilities to be quarantined and tested. It took a pandemic like COVID-19 for some to realise what most of India has been dealing with for decades. A case in point is the Agra



TheLifeofScience.com @labhopping · Apr 10

Uma Mahadevan (@readingkafka) is a senior IAS officer currently Principal Secretary (Panchayat Raj). On the road coordinating #covid19 relief measures in Karnataka, she still finds time to update & engage with concerned public & journalists.



TheLifeofScience.com @labhopping · Apr 10

Gram Panchayats are of critical importance, as the #covid19 pandemic spreads & as the masses grapple with the effects of lockdown in India. Officers like Uma have a big role to play here. @THP\_Ind

## JOURNALISTS

- QUESTION authority
- EXAMINE information
- INFORM the public
- ENSURE accountability



TheLifeofScience.com @labhopping · Apr 6

It would seem that the value of gritty, scientific health journalism is finally being realised. But that doesn't mean the going is any easier. Do follow science journo @PriyankaPulla's analyses and reportage during #covid19 if you aren't already.

Note: On May 4, 2020, the Indian Council of Medical Research registered a hydroxychloroquine trial for its use as a prophylactic drug on the Clinical Trial Registry of India. This followed extensive reporting on the issue by Priyanka

Source: The Wire Science



Supriya Sharma @sharmasupriya · Jun 10

We are currently overwhelmed with what's happening in our cities but spare a thought for the people of eastern Uttar Pradesh.

One coronavirus testing lab for a population of 30 million.

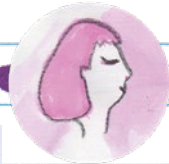


# HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

PREPARE response

PROVIDE care

MAINTAIN healthcare standards



# INNOVATORS

SUPPORT response

INNOVATE strategies

DESIGN technologies

DELIVER healthcare products



Sister Lini



**TheLifeofScience.com** @labhopping · Apr 8

"The only time the general public is aware of a nurse's name is if something happens or they get an award. Like Sister Lini," says Mridula S. Sree, a nurse in Alleppey, who cared for India's second #covid19 case in February.



**TheLifeofScience.com** @labhopping · Mar 30

Next up, virologist Minal Dakhve (@Minal\_Dakhve) who developed PathoDetect, the 1st Indian #covid19 testing kit to get commercial approval from the govt. It hit markets last week, diagnoses >twice as fast, at a quarter of the cost of imported kits. [bbc.com/news/world-asi...](https://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-56884444)



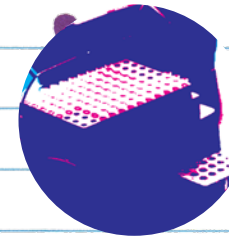
"The government wants us to be Corona warriors but sends us to battle without basic armour. They gave us a disposable mask in March - the one you can't wear for longer than eight hours. So we stitched 100,000 masks ourselves," said Ms

Source: Strait Times



**TheLifeofScience.com** @labhopping · Apr 18

As Arunachal Pradesh's first #covid19 patient was discharged yesterday, it's a good time to remember the good work by govt medical officers involved in containing the pandemic's spread. Meet Lohit district's DMO Dr Sajinglu Chai Pul.





Asha Kishore



## SCIENTISTS

**PRIORITISE** understanding the virus  
**ENGAGE** public  
**ENABLE** citizens



## SOCIETY

**AGITATE** against inaction  
**ORGANISE** support  
**VOCALISE** from the margins



**Meera Sanghamitra** @meeracomposes · Jun 9  
 We've been screaming our lungs out for 2 months but @TelanganaCMO is yet to announce an easy, streamlined & transparent process for prompt registration of all #MigrantWorkers & database that can cater to food, shelter, travel needs! Despite all digi-hype, we have failed the poor!



**TheLifeofScience.com** @labhopping · Apr 1  
 #3 Some of the most consistent, sound and reassuring #Covid19 outreach from India has been coming from clinician-scientist Gagandeep Kang (@GKangInd).



**TheLifeofScience.com** @labhopping · Apr 3  
 Swinging back to the south with Asha Kishore, neurologist & Director of @sctimst\_tvm medical research center in Trivandrum, Kerala. Under her leadership, SCTIMST has tied up with @3d\_wipro to manufacture automated ventilators for the #covid19 crisis.



**TheLifeofScience.com** @labhopping · Apr 13  
 Priya Abraham is a virologist and director of @icmr\_niv, which is the forefront of #covid19 research. Prev at @CMCvelloreOff, Priya was appointed as Chief just over 2 months ago! An unenviable challenge lies ahead of her. More in this bio by @namita\_kohli

## Transgender activists write to Centre demanding support during Covid-19 crisis

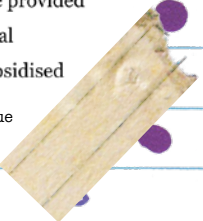
"This community is already very badly affected and further marginalised during a pandemic, and prone to higher health risks. It is important that the central government provide adequate support, which must include ration," said Meera Sanghamitra, an activist and one of the signatories to the letter.

Source: Hindustan Times

Currently rallying support and raising funds for the trans community, which has been badly affected by the lockdown brought about by COVID-19, Grace faces a number of challenges in her relief work. For one, many transpeople do not have government identification (Aadhaar cards, passports, PAN cards, ration cards or voter IDs), which means they are excluded from benefits such as those provided by the Food Security Act, which states that up to 75 per cent of the rural population and 50 per cent of the urban population should receive subsidised foodgrains under the Targeted Public Distribution System. Source: Vogue



Grace Banu



The pandemic is not a war, but a **people's crisis**.

It is also an opportunity to re-examine how we **value** different **communities** and agencies within our society.

...how we **support and enable** them, in times of crisis and beyond the crisis.

These examples show that there is a way for our society to survive this, as a human network that is...**healthier**.



Aashima  
Aashima



Concept: Nandita Jayaraj  
Words: Aashima Dogra  
Visuals: Ipsawonders

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