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This man spent almost ■50 lakh, let go of his 3BHK dream to run a 'Rice ATM' for the needy in #Hyderabad

<https://t.co/QdULpAMYaV>



In the gruelling months of the #coronavirus lockdown earlier this year, several stories of migrant workers and the poor being stranded without jobs and money emerged. This also led to the emergence of stories of [@SonuSood](#) and the likes – the real heroes who offered help.

One such story is that of Ramu Dosapati, from Hyderabad-

an HR executive in a corporate firm, he has been running a 'Rice ATM'- a 24X7 supply of rice and other rations for the needy in Hyderabad since April, 2020.

Dosapati claims to have spent almost ₹50 lakh out of his own pocket and has no intentions of claiming it back.

Just about a month into #lockdown, Dosapati's younger son wanted to have chicken for his birthday. Dosapati went to the nearest shop to buy chicken, only to find a security guard buying chicken for ₹2000. "I was quite surprised as to why this lady is buying so much chicken...

..When I asked her I got to know she was buying it for migrant workers, who were out of food. When I asked her about her salary, she said it was ₹6,000. That made me think that if a lady with ₹6,000 salary can spend ₹2,000 on the needy, why can't I do the same?,"

In the next few days, Dosapati got to work. He went with the security guard to the place where the migrant workers were and made a list of 192 people who needed ration and other necessary items.

He started out an initial ₹1,50,000 from his savings to feed the needy. But the amount could only result in ration for a few days. And as the word spread about the Rice ATM, more and more people came forward asking for help.

"Then I went to the local kirana store owner and requested him to lend out ration on my word. I broke my provident fund and showed him the receipt for the same, assuring him that the money would come to me and I would pay him," he said.

Dosapati, who currently lives in a 1 BHK with his wife and two sons, also wanted a bigger 3 BHK. "My sons have been fighting for a long time as they want separate rooms," Dosapati tells us. He had even selected a 3 BHK and sold land in his ancestral village for ₹38.5 lakh.

Over time, there has been an outpouring of support from other groups and people to help his initiative, which Dosapati vets before taking any help. It's been over 250 days since Dosapati has been running this initiative, and for now there's stopping him.

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By- @SanchDash

<https://t.co/QdULpAvmMI>



