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# SHRAM KO NAMAN

CENTRE FOR NEW ECONOMICS STUDIES

## PHOTO ESSAY

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Pune, India- A worker sprays disinfectant wearing a Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) suit at the Gas Furnace Crematorium in Pune city amid concerns over the spread of the COVID-19 novel corona virus in Pune city, India on April 17, 2020.



# PHOTO ESSAY

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Amidst the rising death toll due to COVID-19, the cremation of Corona-affected bodies has become the task no one wants to take up. As a result of their marginalised status, the migrant workers have drawn the short stick as they brave their way in crematoriums across the city.

This photo essay seeks to capture their story and draw attention to their valuable contribution to society while working at crematoriums in this pandemic.

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## MASKED *Heroes*



Pune, India- Workers in Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) suit carry a dead body of Corona Virus case at the Gas Furnace Crematorium in Pune city amid concerns over the spread of the COVID-19 novel corona virus in Pune city, India on April 17, 2020.





Pune, India- Workers in Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) suits carry a dead body of Coronavirus case at the Gas Furnace Crematorium in Pune city, India on April 17, 2020.



Pune, India- A Fireman sprays disinfectant on an Ambulance which carried a COVID-19 affected dead body at a Cemetery in Pune city, India on April 14, 2020.

Pune, India- A Fireman sprays disinfectant on Volunteers of Popular Front of India Organization after handling a COVID-19 affected dead body at a Cemetery in Pune city, India on April 14, 2020.





Pune, India- Workers in Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) suits carry a dead body of Coronavirus case at the Gas Furnace Crematorium in Pune city, India on April 17, 2020.



Pune, India- Volunteers of Popular Front of India Organization perform last rights of a COVID-19 affected dead body at a Cemetery in Pune city, India on April 14, 2020.





Pune, India- Volunteers of Popular Front of India Organization perform last rights of a COVID-19 affected dead body at a Cemetery in Pune city, India on April 14, 2020.



Pune, India- Workers in Protection Equipment (PPE) suits carry a stretcher of a COVID-19 affected dead body at the Gas Furnace Crematorium in Pune city, India on April 17, 2020.



Pune, India- Workers in Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) suits click a group photo at the Gas Furnace Crematorium in Pune city, India on April 17, 2020.



Pune, India- Volunteers of Popular Front of India Organization stand next a stretcher for a COVID-19 affected dead body at a Cemetery in Pune city, India on April 14, 2020.





Pune, India- A Worker wait for COVID-19 affected Dead Body to arrive in a Protection Equipment (PPE) suit at the Gas Furnace Crematorium in Pune city, India on April 17, 2020.

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They say Superheroes have capes and suits, so do these workers. Behind the green masks are faces of warriors fighting the virus and taking on challenges no one wants to. Unfortunately, like their faces, their identities and contribution also remain hidden and masked. Salute to these hidden heroes and their brave contribution to our society.



*JIGNESH MISTRY is a Pune-based freelance photojournalist. He has been in the field for over 10 years. He started his career as a nightshift news photographer at a daily tabloid during his graduation. Since then, his work has been published at multiple magazines, wire agencies and national newspapers. He is also involved in undertaking photography workshops for students in academic institutions. Currently, he is a regular contributor at The Hindu, The Press Trust of India and the International Wire Agencies.*



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