**ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN COMBATING CORONA VIRUS(COVID-19)**

**Corona virus is an infectious disease caused by the newly discovered virus known as corona virus. The people who is infected with coronavirus has mild to moderate symptoms commonly fever, dry cough and tiredness. The serious symptoms includes difficulty in breathing, chest pain and loss of speech or movement. The coronavirus spread primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from nose when the infected person coughs or sneezes. There are no specific vaccines or treatment for COVID-19.**

**The coronavirus has spread rapidly across the world with more than 180 countries being affected in just over 4 months, infecting more than 3.5 million people. Government response to the pandemic are disrupting the civil society globally. Lockdowns and physical distancing has kept people to their homes not allowing them to meet or organise. Though these measures are disrupting the life of civil society but it is the necessity in this pandemic.**

**The civil society(organisations, families and individuals) along with government should play a important in combating the pandemic.**

**-The non governmental groups with there expertise and capabilities should be involved in helping communities prepare for the pandemic.**

**- Civil society organisations that have a close relationship with societies should raise awareness, give accurate information, counter rumours, provide needed services and work with government during an emergency.**

**- During these pandemic, it is important that the individuals and families take measures to ensure they have access to accurate information, food, water and medicines. They should access the information only from reliable sources such as WHO, local and national governments. The individual who have recovered from virus should volunteer with an organised group to help others in community.**

**Since COVID-19 is transmitted from one person to another, taking measures such as covering mouth while coughing and sneezing, hand washing and voluntarily isolating if symptoms is present may prevent the infection.**