And we **clapped?**

An exhibition on five years since COVID-19 and the lockdown

Five years ago, we lit candles.

We clapped from our balconies.

We were told we were **'all in this together.'**

But what followed was a wave of state violence, abandonment, and silence. Crores lost their jobs. Migrant workers walked thousands of kilometres. Families died waiting outside hospitals.

While the state congratulated itself on **'containing the crisis.'**

This exhibition is part of Lest We Forget—A National People's Conclave on 5 Years of the Pandemic that will be held here on August 21–22, 2025.

Organised by people's movements, trade unions, and civic initiatives, in collaboration with the People's Commission and Public Inquiry Committee (PC-PIC).

The National People's Conclave will bring together voices from the ground and reflections from public health experts, jurists, academics, journalists, and organisers, to remember, listen, and hold power to account.

This exhibition turns back to the early days of the pandemic and traces what has unfolded since.

About the gap between image and reality, memory and erasure.

It is about those five years that began with lockdowns, and never quite ended. It is a space for remembering and for reckoning, with what the state promised, what it delivered, and what it erased.

It is also a space for listening to those who lived through the crisis at the margins, and those who resisted, documented, and testified.

This exhibition features the works of—

Satish Acharya
Editorial Cartoonist

Rachita Taneja
Comic Artist

Appupen
Writer and Artist

Siddhesh Gautam
Mixed Media Artist and Writer

Shahid Tantray
Photo and Multimedia Journalist

Harsha Vadlamani
Photojournalist and Filmmaker

Ishan Tankha
Photojournalist

Malvika Raj
Madhubani Artist

Vijay Pandey
Documentary Photographer



The exhibition is divided into three sections.

The first section focuses on the testimonies of everyday people. Real voices. Real accounts. From communities whose suffering never made it to government press releases or media headlines. But they are the stories that hold the truth.

The second section curates political art, comics, photography, and visual commentary made during these years of crisis, offering a lens into how artists have remembered, resisted, and recorded. Some document. Some mourn. Some provoke.

The third section is a timeline wall that traces major events from 2020 to 2025.

Together, these sections speak to each other. They speak to you.

This is not an archive of the past. It is a mirror held up to the present.

What do you see?



EXHIBITION: AUG 1-20, 2025
CONCLAVE: AUG 21-22, 2025
JAWAHAR BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

PED ?!

SCAN TO KNOW MORE



LEST WE FORGET

A NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONCLAVE ON 5 YEARS OF PANDEMIC

ांक्लेव पीपल्स कॉन्क्लेव പീപിൾസ് കോൺക്ലേവ് پیپلزکانکلیو பீபல்ஸ் கான்க்லேவ் పీపల్స కాంక్లేవ పీపల్స

AUGUST 21-22, 2025
JAWAHAR BHAWAN, NEW DELHI

ORGANISED BY
PEOPLE'S MOVEMENTS, TRADE UNIONS, AND OTHER CIVIC INITIATIVES
IN COLLABORATION WITH
PEOPLE'S COMMISSION AND PUBLIC INQUIRY COMMITTEE

This is an non-funded, collective effort.
Your support can help us bring it to life.
Scan the QR code to contribute.

LEST WE FORGET
A National People's Conclave on 5 Years of Pandemic
August 21 - 22, 2025 | Jawahar Bhawan, New Delhi
presents an exhibition



AND WE CLAPP

