

THE EVALUATION OF COVID-19 BLT DISTRIBUTION IN BLITAR REGENCY

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the distribution of BLT in Blitar Regency could be distributed properly. Then for the better future it is hoped that this research can provide a clearer understanding of the main problems related to the distribution of COVID-19 social assistance so the further research can elaborate on alternative solutions. The research method used is qualitative methods. This study focuses on the evaluation of Cash Transfer for the poor or underprivileged in Blitar Regency. This research activity was carried out in Sumberjo Village, Sutojayan District, Blitar Regency. The result of this research shows Sumberjo Village is one of the villages in Blitar Regency that received the Social Assistance program in the form of Cash Transfer (BLT). The mechanism on data recipients collecting of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Sumberjo Village is carried out in accordance with the regulations from the Ministry of Villages which consist of 14 criteria for the recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT). In addition to being carried out in accordance with the regulations, the mechanism for collecting data on recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Sumberjo Village also considers data from the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Integrated Data for Social Welfare (DTKS). The number of BLT recipients in Sumberjo Village in stage 1 and 2 of 2020 was 23 KPM while in stage 3 was 21 KPM. The process of distributing Cash Transfer (BLT) by the Sumberjo Village Government ran relatively smooth.

Keywords: *BLT, Poverty, Covid-19*

1. INTRODUCTION

The occurrence of a disaster in an area forces the government provides social assistance to the community to help ease the burden by the community as a result of the disaster. Social assistance that is often given to the community from the government often gets a negative response because they feel disappointed with the distribution realization of social assistance. Based on the results of research conducted by Ihsanuddin (2020) the distribution of social assistance to the community is basically given to recipients of social assistance, namely the community according to the level of poverty and the social assistance can be in various forms. Right now, the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic has resulted in both central and regional governments being overwhelmed in terms of distributing social assistance to the community.

Due to the reality is almost the entire community of Indonesia has been affected by Covid-19. One form of social assistance program intended for the community from the government based on the poverty level is the Cash Transfer (BLT) program. This program was initiated by the government, and of course it has certain goals and reasons (Wynandin, 2008). The Cash Transfer Program (BLT) is the government proof to solve public problems in the form of poverty problems by utilizing available resources.

The economy of a country requires the role of the government in order to continue the development of the country. The expected role of the government in the economy is a positive impact role in order to improve the welfare of the people in the country by providing a guarantee of balance between private interests and social interests, it's also hoped that it can seek to turn the wheels of the economy on the right track (Maun, 2020). The Cash Transfer (BLT) was obtained from the transfer of Village Funds with the amount of 31% the total Rp. 72 Trillion, which if converted into Rp. 22.4 Trillion. The Cash Transfer Program (BLT) is given to the Head of Families (KK) approximately 12.3 million families affected by the current pandemic outbreak, the social assistance is given to the Village Head and Village Apparatus then would be distributed to families who affected by Covid-19.

Basically, the distribution provisions of Cash Transfer (BLT) have been regulated in regulations issued by the government at the beginning of the Covid-19 outbreak. This issue proved by the Permendes of Government on April 14, 2020. On that date given, the Government issued the Minister of Village Regulation Number 6 of 2020 concerning amendments to the Regulation of the Minister of Villages, Development of remote Regions, and Transmigration Number 11 of 2019 concerning the priority use of the Village Fund in 2020 which explained the provisions and mechanisms for data collection to the implementation of the Village Fund BLT. By the issuance of this regulation, the Permendes automatically becomes the juridical and implementation basis for the distribution of Cash Transfer (BLT) to underprivileged residents in the village.

The Government Village needs to prepare carefully and swiftly to directly distribute the Cash Transfer (BLT) to be forwarded to the right community based on appropriately data target. Appropriate means the Cash Transfer (BLT) can be distributed on target, on time, the right process, and on the right administrative reports.

There are several conditions for receiving social assistance as regulated in Article 8A, some of these conditions are those who entitled to receive social assistance, for example, a family who has lost a source of income which automatically does not have any a job, has never been registered as a recipient of various social assistance, and has family members who have conditions of prone to chronic illness and chronic diseases that need medical expenses. The details of the consideration above was in a research conducted by Maun (2020) explained the criteria for families who are entitled to be included in the list of recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT), who are categorized as poor families live in the concerned village.

Then the prospective recipients of social assistance must be confirmed by the village government who are not including the people who have received the assistance of the Family Hope Program (PKH), Basic Food Cards, and Pre-Employment Cards. The data on people who receive Cash Transfer (BLT) will be reconsidered based on the Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS) that already exists in the Ministry of Social Affairs (Kemensos). During the Covid-19 pandemic, the provision of social assistance was government action as a social safety net for economically affected people. However, when it is viewed from the distribution of social assistance, it has not reached all affected people. This happened due to the Government data collection is less accurate, resulting in mistargeting.

Due to these problems, this research aims to evaluate the distribution of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Blitar Regency so the social assistance can be distributed appropriately. Its also hoped that from this research, a clear understanding can be obtained regarding the current problems that are more precisely related to the distribution of Covid-19 social assistance so that further researchers can develop more critically and further regarding alternative solutions.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

The research approach in this article uses a qualitative approach method. This approach is used because the research data is not in the form of numerical or statistical data. However, the type of data in this study is a phenomenon regarding the distribution of BLT in Blitar Regency. According to Moleong (2010) qualitative research is research

conducted in order to understand the phenomena experienced by research subjects holistically by describing words and language in a special natural context by utilizing various scientific methods.

This research is focused on evaluating the distribution of Cash Transfer (BLT) for those categorized as poor in Blitar Regency. Then this research activity was carried out in Sumberjo Village, Sutojayan District, Blitar Regency. The research activity has data collection stage. At this stage the researchers used primary and secondary data. Primary data collection can be done through interview techniques, using observation instruments, notes and documents.

Sugiono (2016) explains that primary data is data obtained directly by using interview techniques with informants or direct sources. Informants in this study are as follows:

1. Village officials as BLT distributors
2. Mrs. Rifa as BLT recipient.

The next is the source of secondary data collection. Secondary data sources can be in the form of literature studies, documentation, books, archives and all things related to the object of research (Sugiono, 2016). This data source is used to support primary data. The secondary data sources in this study are documents related to BLT recipient data, and other literature that can support the sustainability of the research.

After obtaining and collecting the data, then turn to be analyzed. In qualitative research, data analysis has been prepared before and after the researcher come into the research field. Regarding data analysis techniques, the researchers used Miles and Huberman's data analysis techniques. Miles and Huberman's data analysis technique is in the form of qualitative data analysis activities that are carried out interactively and through a continuous process until they find the clearest point in the problems studied, so that the data is saturated. The data analysis activities in question are data *reduction*, data *display*, and *conclusion drawing/verification* (Sugiono, 2016).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Legal Basis for Distribution of Cash Transfer (BLT)

The President of Indonesia, Joko Widodo ordered that part of the Village Fund budget could be allocated for Cash Transfer (BLT) as an effort to respond to the Covid-19 emergency. Then the order was immediately followed up by the Ministry of Villages, Development remote Regions, and Transmigration by creating a number of government regulations.

The following is the Legal Basis that has been regulated for use in the Management of Cash Transfer (BLT) listed in Maun's research (2020):

1. Law No. 1 of 2020 which was later changed to Law No. 2 of 2020 concerning State Financial Policy and Financial System Stability for Handling the Corona Virus Disease (COVID-19) Pandemic.
2. Regulation regarding the Priority of Use of Village Funds in 2020 as regulated in Permendes PDTT No. 6 of 2020.
3. Regulations regarding Priority Use of Village Funds are regulated in Permendes PDTT No. 7 of 2020 as an amendment to Regulation of the Minister of Villages PDTT No. 11 of 2019.
4. Regulations regarding Village Fund Management as regulated in the Minister of Finance Regulation No. 40 of 2020. In this regulation the regulations related to BLT can be found in article 24 paragraph 2, article 24A, article 24B, article 25A, article 25B, article 32, article 32A , article 34, article 35, article 47A, and article 50.
5. The article 32A of the Regulation of the Minister of Finance Number 50/PMK.07/2020 concerning Village Fund Management, there are regulations related to the Village Fund BLT.
6. Regulations regarding Village Financial Management as contained in the Minister of Home Affairs Regulation Number 20 of 2018.
7. Regulations regarding the handling of Covid-19 through the APBDesa budget which has been regulated through the Instruction of the Minister of Home Affairs Number 3 of 2020.

8. Policy regarding the Acceleration of the Distribution of Village Fund Direct Cash Assistance (BLT) as contained in the Instruction of the Minister of Villages PDPTT Number 1 of 2020 dated 15 May 2020.
9. Instructions related to the Acceleration of the Distribution of the First Phase of BLT Village Funds for Villages Organizing Special Village Deliberations are contained in the Instruction of the Minister of Villages PDPTT Number 2 of 2020.
10. April 14, 2020, the Letter of the Minister of Villages PDPTT Number 1261/PRI.00/IV/2020 was issued contained a notification of the Amendment to the Minister of Village Regulation PDPTT Number 11 of 2019 concerning Development Priorities for DD 2020 to Minister of Village Regulation PDPTT Number 06 of 2020.
11. April 16, 2020, a letter was issued regarding the technical instructions for collecting family data for prospective recipients of the Village Fund BLT. The letter is in the form of a letter from the Director General of Village Community Development and Empowerment of the Ministry of Villages PDPTT Number 9/PRI.00/IV/2020.
12. Previously, on April 21, 2020, the government had also issued a regulation in the form of a Letter of the Director General of Village Community Development and Empowerment of the Ministry of Villages PDPTT Number 10/PRI.00/IV/2020 regarding the Confirmation of Technical Instructions for Collecting Family Data for Candidates for Village Fund BLT Recipients.
13. Then on April 21, 2020, a circular letter from the Corruption Eradication Commission was issued regarding the use of Integrated Social Welfare Data (DTKS) and Non-DTKS in providing social assistance to the public. The letter is the Corruption Eradication Commission Circular No. 11/2020.

Evaluation on the Distribution of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Sumberjo Village

During the emergency response period for the Covid-19 pandemic, the government had a policy to provide social assistance to the impact people of the Covid-19 pandemic. The distribution of Cash Transfer (BLT) is one of the social fund assistance distributed by the government to the community. However, in the distribution, found that the assistance were not distributed properly. In addition to this,

from the implementation of the distribution of social assistance, there are various things that can be used as evaluations for *stake holders* so that in the future the distribution of social assistance can be distributed appropriately.

In each village the amount of the Cash Transfer (BLT) allocation is different. The amount of the budget for Cash Transfer (BLT) in each village is adjusted to the budget ceiling that will be received by the village in the 2020 fiscal year. According to PMK 40/PMK.07/2020 concerning Amendments to PMK 205/PMK.07/2019 concerning Village Fund Management explained that the Cash Transfer (BLT) is Rp. 600,000 per KPM per month given per 3 months. In accordance with the set regulations, Cash Transfer (BLT) is budgeted in the APBDesa from the Village Fund a maximum of 35% received by the village or more than 35% with the approval of the Regency/City government.

The Sumberjo Village Government distributed BLT through 3 stages, each stage consisting of 3 months. The distribution of the 1st stage is carried out in May, July and August. Distribution of 2nd stage is carried out in September and October. While 3rd stage is carried out in November and December. This is in line with the conveyed by Mr. Habib, as follows:

“...the distribution of BLT in Sumberjo Village has 3 stages, each stage consisting of 3 months. Stage 1 distribution is on May, July, August. Stage 2 distribution is on September, October. While Stage 3 distribution is on November, December.” (Interview, 5 June 2021).

Then Mrs. Rifa as the BLT recipient added:

"...I got BLT from Sumberjo Village, the first was at the beginning of Covid-19, then every month I still got it until the last of April when I was fasting." (Interview, 5 June 2021).

The mechanism for collecting data on recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Sumberjo Village is carried out in accordance to the regulations of the Village Ministry, Regulation of the Minister of Villages PD TT Number 6 year 2020 which has 14 criteria for receiving the Cash Transfer (BLT). From the 14 criterias of BLT recipients, at least the BLT recipients must meet the criteria of poverty people or underprivileged levels who live in Sumberjo Village and are not

registered as recipients of PKH, Basic Food Cards and Pre-Employment Cards (Oktavia, Khairiyah, & Ilman, 2020).

Besides being carried out based on the regulations, the mechanism for collecting data on recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Sumberjo Village also considers the data from the Ministry of Social Affairs, it is the Integrated Data for Social Welfare (DTKS). This is in the same opinion with the results of the researcher's interview with Mr. Habib as the Sumberjo Village Apparatus,

“...for the data collection mechanism should be accordance with the regulations from the Ministry of Villages, there are 14 criteria...DTKS is used as a material for consideration.” (Interview, 5 June 2021).

Before distributing social assistance, the Sumberjo Village Government conducted a survey and recorded residents who met the regulation criteria. After completing the data collection collected by RT RW, the data is recapitulated into material to be validated in the Special Village Deliberation. By having deliberation activity, everybody has opportunity to provide input and improvements related to the data on recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT). If there is no improvement in the deliberation, the data is considered valid, then the data will be stipulated in the Village Head Regulation.

The process of distributing Cash Transfer (BLT) can only be distributed directly to the community when the data has been approved by the head of district on behalf of the Regent. The number recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Sumberjo Village is different in each stage. In stages 1 and 2, BLT recipients in Sumberjo Village about 23 KPM. While in stage 3 there are 21 KPM. This is in line with the statement of Mr. Andri as the Village Pamong Sumberjo:

"The number of BLT recipients in Sumberjo Village for 2020 stages 1 and 2 is 23 KPM. While the stage 3 in 2020 is 21 KPM." (Interview, 5 June 2021)

The process of distributing Cash Transfer (BLT) by the Sumberjo Village Government ran smoothly. The admission process is scheduled according to the hours listed on the invitation which had been distributed the day before by the Village Government. By this system, the process of distributing Cash Transfer (BLT) done quickly without any crowds. Before entering the Village Office area for BLT reception,

the BLT recipients are required to wash their hands first and must wear a mask. If there are prospective recipients who do not comply orders such as wearing masks, the Sumberjo Village Government provides masks for them.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the research and discussion above, it can be concluded that Sumberjo Village is one of the villages in Blitar Regency that received the Social Assistance program in the form of Cash Transfer (BLT). The mechanism in carrying out data collection recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Sumberjo Village is accordance with regulations from the Ministry of Villages which contain 14 criteria for recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT). In addition to being carried out as the regulations, the mechanism for collecting data on recipients of Cash Transfer (BLT) in Sumberjo Village also considers data from the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Integrated Data for Social Welfare (DTKS). The number of BLT recipients in Sumberjo Village for stages 1 and 2 of 2020 was 23 KPM while in stage 3 was 21 KPM. The process of distributing Cash Transfer (BLT) by the Sumberjo Village Government ran relatively smooth. The admission process is scheduled according to the hours listed on the invitation which had been distributed the day before by the Village Government.

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