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THE ROLE OF THE COVID-19 HANDLING TASK FORCE (COVID-19 TASK FORCE) IN NGADA DISTRICT

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Abstract:

This study aims to identify and describe the role of the Covid-19 task force in Ngada Regency. This type of research is descriptive research using a qualitative approach. The informants who became the resource persons for this research were the Chairperson of the Ngada Regency Covid-19 Task Force, the Head of the Ngada Regency BPBD, the Ngada Police Chief, the TNI, POLRI, SATPOL PP, people who have been exposed to Covid-19 and also people who have never been exposed to Covid-19. The total number of informants in this study amounted to 11 people. Data collection techniques in this study are observation, interviews, and documentation. The data that has been collected is then analyzed using data analysis techniques from Yin (2008: 34), which are predominantly carried out in case study research. The results of this study indicate that the role of the Ngada Regency Covid-19 task force has been good, especially in preventing the spread of the coronavirus. However, the obstacle in preventing the spread of Covid-19 is the need for more understanding of the community and local customary habits that always cause crowds to spread the virus. This was difficult for the Ngada Regency Covid-19 Task Force team to overcome. The Ngada Regency, Task Force Team, continues to act as a unit tasked with preventing the coronavirus's spread while providing outreach, supervision and resolution of problems that occur in the community.

Keywords: Role, Covid-19 Task Force

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INTRODUCTION

Corona Virus or Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is a virus that attacks the respiratory system. The disease caused by this viral infection is called COVID-19. The coronavirus can cause mild respiratory system disorders, such as severe lung infections to death. Coronavirus is a collection of viruses that infect the respiratory system. In most cases, this virus only causes mild respiratory infections such as the flu, but this virus can also cause severe respiratory infections such as lung infections (pneumonia). The Coronavirus infection called COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019) was first discovered in Wuhan, China, at the end of December 2019. This virus spread quickly to almost all countries, including Indonesia, in just a few months. Several countries implemented lockdown policies to prevent the coronavirus from spreading further. Since then, in 220 countries, there have been 56,712,484 cases of infection with COVID-19, and 1,357,658 people have died. At the end of 2020, Indonesia was 743,198 infected with COVID-19. This prompted the government to implement a policy of Imposing Restrictions on Community Activities (PPKM) to suppress the spread of this virus.

It is known that until now, there is no definite drug for the coronavirus vaccine, which is very deadly. This virus can infect the respiratory tract, from mild respiratory infections such as the flu to

severe respiratory infections, namely lung infections. Some patients show no initial symptoms and do not feel sick. The initial symptoms of this virus are fever, runny nose, dry cough, and sore throat, which appear in humans in about two days to two weeks. The COVID-19 pandemic has impacted people's lives. Namely, people feel anxious and afraid to carry out activities outside the home. The impact on the community's economy has caused a decrease in income due to a lack of working time and decreased sales turnover. The impact on education has caused many schools and tertiary institutions to close and conduct online learning, so changes to the education system need to be revised.

The Indonesian government issued a disaster emergency status from 20 February 2020 to 29 May 2020 regarding the coronavirus outbreak, which was so rife with a total time of 91 days. The policy was issued by the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB). The spread of the Coronavirus in Indonesia has increased, so to overcome this, the government has formed a task force to accelerate the handling of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) as stipulated in the Presidential Decree of the Republic of Indonesia number 7 of 2020 concerning the task force to accelerate the handling of COVID-19, Article 1 which contains "Establishing a Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) from now on referred to as the Task Force for the Acceleration of Handling COVID-19". This task force was formed on 13 March 2020 based on Presidential Decree Number 7 of 2020 concerning the task force for accelerating the handling of coronavirus disease 2019, which is under the direct responsibility of the Indonesian president. The task force for accelerating the handling of coronavirus disease 2019 is a task force formed by the Indonesian government to coordinate inter-agency activities to prevent and mitigate the impact of the new coronavirus disease in Indonesia.

In July 2020, this task force was within the scope of the National Disaster Management Agency (BNPB), involving other ministries, agencies and government units such as the Ministry of Health, the Indonesian National Police, the Indonesian National Armed Forces and regional governments. This task force was formed not only at the national level but also at the provincial and district/city levels. On 20 July 2020, President Joko Widodo pressed presidential regulation number 82 of 2020 concerning the committee for handling COVID-19 and national economic recovery while simultaneously removing the task force for accelerating the handling of COVID-19 and replacing it with a task force for handling COVID-19 which is coordinated by the head of the National Agency for Mitigation Disaster (BNPB). The committee, which is directly responsible to the president, consists of three parts, namely: Policy Committee, The task force (Satgas) for handling COVID-19, and National economic recovery and transformation task force.

The duties of each part of the committee for handling COVID-19 and national economic recovery are:

- a. The policy committee has the task of formulating strategic policy recommendations to the president to accelerate the handling of COVID-19 and economic recovery. The policy committee is also tasked with integrating all existing breakthroughs and evaluating all policies in accelerating the handling of COVID-19 and economic recovery;
- b. The task force for handling COVID-19 has the task of implementing policies related to handling COVID-19. Then solve the problems of implementing strategic policies in an appropriate and fast manner, supervise policies related to handling COVID-19 and determine the steps needed in handling COVID-19; And
- c. The national economic recovery and the transformation task force has the task of implementing and controlling policies related to economic recovery. Furthermore, resolving strategic policy implementation issues related to economic recovery, and supervising

policies regarding economic recovery, to determine and implement the necessary steps for national economic recovery.

Based on presidential regulation number 82 of 2020 concerning the commission for handling COVID-19 and national economic recovery, article 6 explains the role of the task force for handling COVID-19, namely:

- a. Carry out and control the implementation of strategic policies related to the handling of COVID-19;
- b. Resolving strategic policy issues related to handling the virus quickly and precisely;
- c. Supervise strategic policies for handling the virus, and establish and implement policies and other steps needed to handle COVID-19. The COVID-19 task force carries out this role to handle COVID-19 cases in Indonesia.

The following data describes cases of COVID-19 in Indonesia in 2020 and 2021.

Table 1. Data on Covid-19 Cases for 2020-2021 throughout Indonesia

Year	Number of Positive COVID-19	Healed	Die
2020	743.198	611.097	22.138
2021	4.262.720	4.118.626	144.094

Source: Secondary data of COVID-19 cases, 2021

Based on data on COVID-19 cases for 2020 and 2021, it can be seen that cases of COVID-19 have increased from 2020 to 2021, with more patients recovering than patients dying. This very high increase in COVID-19 cases required good cooperation from the COVID-19 task force and all Indonesian people because the increase in the number of COVID-19 cases was certainly due to community negligence or the lack of optimal work of the COVID-19 task force.

Governors and Regents/Mayors in the Regions will form a task force for handling COVID-19 according to the recommendation from the head of the task force for handling COVID-19 until a task force for handling COVID-19 in each Regency/City is formed and handles the case. The Regency/City COVID-19 handling task force is a structured operational organization device from the center to the Regions which is the center for planning, coordination, control and evaluation of COVID-19 handling activities in a Regency/City area, which is contained in a circular letter number 19 of 2021 concerning the formation and optimizing the health protocol task force wearing masks, maintaining distance, and washing hands in public facilities in the context of handling the COVID-19 pandemic. In the health sector, the role of health service facilities is vital in dealing with COVID-19, under the coordination of the ministry of health, Provincial Health Offices, and District/City Regional Health Offices in carrying out efforts to prevent and control COVID-19. The Provincial Health Office coordinates the health service sector through inspection activities, quarantine tracking, isolation, and management of COVID-19 patients. Regency/city regional health offices carry out activities to increase the capacity of puskesmas in tracking, monitoring and managing COVID-19 patients, providing COVID-19 vaccination services, managing the flow of handling COVID-19 patients who require hospital treatment and strengthening coordination and collaboration with the COVID task force -19 Village/Kelurahan and Subdistrict levels, clinics and hospitals in patient monitoring. Monitoring hospitals and clinics to increase emergency services' capacity in cases of COVID-19 in the infected zone in each region. In the security field, the TNI, Police, and Civil Service Police Unit always conduct patrols in their working areas for people who make crowds.

Based on data, East Nusa Tenggara is one of the provinces in Indonesia with confirmed cases of COVID-19, with the number of cases continuing to increase. The following data on COVID-19 cases in the Province of NTT can be seen below:

Table 2. Data on Covid-19 Cases for 2020-2021 in NTT

Year	Number of Positive COVID-19	Heald	Die
2020	2.167	2.117	50
2021	64.253	62.906	1.347

Source: Secondary data of COVID-19, 2021

The spread of the coronavirus in various regions in NTT is also increasing, one of which is Ngada Regency, East Nusa Tenggara. The results of an interview with the Head of Public Relations of the Government of Ngada Regency, Marthinus P Langa, on 18 February 2022 said that:

"In 2020, Ngada Regency is still in the green zone, but two sub-districts are included in the red zone: Golewa District and Bajawa District. Then in early January 2021, Ngada Regency experienced an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases, namely 107 active cases recorded in Ngada Regency. The details are 60 patients in Bajawa District, 12 in Golewa, 15 in South Golewa, ten in Jerebu'u, nine in So'a, and one in Almere. Responding to the increase in COVID-19 cases, the Task Force appealed to all people of Ngada Regency to comply with the health protocol. For all cases in 2021, Ngada Regency is in the red zone with 1,813 positive cases of COVID-19. This is because the community needs socialization and education, so changing people's behavior takes a long time.

Based on the results of the interviews above, there has been an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases in Ngada District from 2020 to 2021, and this is because people's behavior is difficult to change. In this case, the role of the COVID-19 task force is vital to overcome the problems at hand. The Ngada District Health Office, which is part of the COVID-19 task force, also always provides socialization to prevent transmission of the coronavirus, provides quarantine places for patients exposed to COVID-19, and sends COVID-19 samples to the Provincial Health Laboratory, as well as the Civil Service Police Unit (SATPOLPP) Ngada Regency also always conducts patrols, especially if there is a crowd by the community, such as when there is an event or community gathering. This patrol was also carried out by the police and the TNI together with the Civil Service Police Unit in every sub-district in the Regency, and a guard post was also set up for the COVID-19 task force to carry out their duties. This post was created so that every community member entering their territory is examined first, such as checking their temperature and checking a negative certificate for the coronavirus from a hospital, health center or clinic. The police also sprayed disinfectants in all areas exposed to COVID-19 in Ngada Regency using AWC cars. However, despite various efforts that have been made to reduce COVID-19, the increase in COVID-19 cases in Ngada Regency is constantly increasing. This can also be influenced by the many rituals (formal events) that many people and participants must attend, so behavior change still needs to be changed.

The results of the interview with Ms. Hilda, Head of Section II of the Ngada District Health Office, said that in 2020 the number of COVID-19 cases in Ngada Regency totaled 54 cases, while in 2021, there was an increase of 1,813 cases, until today, 20 February 2022 the number cases as many as 1,876 cases.

Based on the results of the interviews above and based on the data obtained, a table describes the number of COVID-19 cases in Ngada Regency in 2020-2021.

Table 1. 3 Number of positive cases of COVID-19 in 2020-2021 in Ngada Regency

Year	Confirmed Covid-19	Heald	Die
2020	54 people	54 people	0
2021	1.813 people	1.767 people	46 people

Source: Secondary data from the Ngada District Health Office, 2021

Based on the problems above, the authors are interested in researching the role of COVID-19 Handling Task Force (Covid-19 Task Force) role in Ngada District.

METHODS

This study aims to identify and describe the role of the Covid-19 task force in Ngada District. This type of research is descriptive research using a qualitative approach. The informants who became the resource persons for this research were the Chairperson of the Covid-19 Task Force for Ngada Regency, the Head of the BPBD for Ngada Regency, the Head of the Ngada Regency Police, the TNI, POLRI, SATPOL PP, people who have been exposed to Covid-19 and also people who have never been exposed to Covid-19. The total number of informants in this study amounted to 11 people. Data collection techniques in this study are observation, interviews, and documentation. The data that has been collected is then analyzed using data analysis techniques from Yin (2008: 34), which are dominantly carried out in case study research.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this case, to find out the role of the COVID-19 task force in Ngada Regency and what are the tasks of the task force in preventing the spread of the coronavirus, the authors use role theory (Levison, 2012), which according to the role consists of; (a) role (rules), (b) personal and (c) social structure with the results of research and discussion as follows:

Roles (rules). This role shows how the role of the COVID-19 task force in preventing the spread of the Coronavirus in Ngada Regency, which is addressed to the community by the Decree of the Regent of Ngada Number 24 of 2021 concerning the task force for handling coronavirus disease 2019 in Ngada Regency in 2021 and Regent Regulation No. 44 of 2020 concerning guidelines for implementing and enforcing health protocol laws as an effort to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 in Ngada Regency starting from implementing Work From Home (WFH) for office activities from the government to the private sector for business actors such as markets, shops and places to eat are limited until 21.00 local time and implementation of health protocols for public areas. The task force team formed from the sub-district level to the RT/RW to enforce and control strategic policies made by the COVID-19 task force team in Ngada District.

Based on the results of research that the authors have conducted, there are roles played by the COVID-19 task force team, namely:

a) Socialization Of Health Procedures

The task force team carried out outreach regarding implementing health protocols so that people would better understand the importance of adhering to health protocols in preventing the spread of the coronavirus. The socialization was carried out when the task force team conducted a round-the-clock patrol. In addition, the task force team also put billboards or banners on the streets in Ngada district regarding implementing health protocols, especially 4M.

However, the dissemination needs to be more comprehensive, so some people do not comply with the health protocol because they need to understand its benefits. Based on the results of the author's observations in the field, the task force team has conducted socialization about

the health protocol. However, due to the daily habits of the community, they need to comply with the health protocol by frequently gathering and not wearing masks. This led to the spread of the virus in Ngada District.

b) The action of Reprimand Against Violators

Taking admonishment to health protocol violators must be carried out so that it becomes a deterrent effect for these violators. Based on the Ngada Regent's regulation Number 44 of 2020 concerning guidelines for implementing and enforcing health protocol laws as an effort to prevent and control the 2019 coronavirus disease in Ngada Regency, which is contained in chapter v article 7 paragraph 2 where violators will be given sanctions in the form of verbal warnings, and written warnings, social work and administrative fines, the administrative fine is IDR 300,000-IDR 500,000 if the violator has received an oral and written warning but is still committing an offense.

However, the results of the authors' findings show that the actions of reprimanding the COVID-19 task force in Ngada Regency were not firm, so there were people who did not comply with the health protocol; the reprimand action was only a formality for the task force team to carry out their duties. In addition, business actors find it difficult when they have to close their place of business because there is only one solution from the task force team other than closing their place of business.

c) Creating a COVID-19 Task Force Post for Service to the Community.

The COVID-19 task force service post coordinates, controls, monitors, and evacuates COVID-19 handling in each region in Ngada Regency so that it can make it easier for people who need services related to COVID-19.

Based on the authors' findings, it is known that the task force's role in providing task force posts has been carried out, but the community needs to take advantage of the services provided by the task force post. These posts are more often used to inspect people who enter the area so that people who enter the Ngada Regency are ensured not to carry the coronavirus.

Personal Role. This unique role shows the ethics of the COVID-19 task force in Ngada Regency regarding their service to the community in carrying out their duties as the COVID-19 task force.

a. Supervise

The task force team must always supervise people affected by COVID-19 and those not affected by COVID-19 to emphasize the spread of COVID-19 and restore the social condition of the community and reduce mortality.

Based on the research results, the authors conclude that the task force team supervises the community daily, and supervision is carried out when the task force team conducts round-the-clock patrols. This supervision is carried out to monitor people who do not follow health protocols and visit those quarantined at home because they have been exposed to the virus to check their health.

The task force team has supervised the community, both people affected by COVID-19 and those not affected by COVID-19. However, supervision is only carried out when the task force team conducts round-the-clock patrols two to three times a week and visits COVID-19 patients in self-quarantine once a week. As a result, the community feels they need to be watched, and they consistently violate health protocols when there is no supervision from the COVID-19 task force team.

b. Actions from the COVID-19 Task Force for Communities Positive for COVID-19.

The Covid-19 Task Force in Ngada Regency takes action on people affected by COVID-19 by going to the field to check the condition of the community. If the community is confirmed positive for COVID-19, the task force team will carry out surveillance and tressing (tracking) of COVID-19 patients with whom the patient made physical contact. Then the task force team moved the COVID-19 patient to the Turekisa quarantine area in Ngada Regency. The place was used as a quarantine place for Covid-19 patients to get maximum treatment and supervision from the task force team until the patient healed.

The task force team also conducted direct surveys to the field to record patient data and track people who had physical contact with patients to have their health checked.

Social Structure. Social structure is a social order in which a reciprocal relationship exists between status and roles with the boundaries of the set of social elements aimed at a behavioral rule. The social structure shows the role of the COVID-19 task force in Ngada Regency in preventing the spread of the coronavirus.

a. Coordination with the Community

Coordination of the task force with the community with the hope of synchronization and regular action to prevent the spread of the coronavirus so that they can work and socialize safely and understand the COVID-19 situation.

There is coordination from the task force team to the community in the form of directions to continue to comply with health protocols to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. In the authors' findings, it is known that the task force team coordinates well with the community so that they always comply with health protocols, visit people affected by the coronavirus, and give strict instructions when people are affected by the coronavirus.

b. Division of tasks

The division of tasks between the task force team aims to prevent the spread of the coronavirus. The division of tasks is intended so that the task force team can work optimally so that the handling of the coronavirus can be resolved quickly. From the results of the research conducted, the authors found that the division of tasks between the task force teams was good because the tasks were divided according to their respective fields, and there was a division of pickets for work so that the task force team was maintained to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Based on the results of the research conducted by the author, it can be said that the role of the Ngada Regency COVID-19 task force has been good in preventing the spread of the coronavirus. However, the obstacle in preventing the spread of COVID-19 is the need for more understanding of the community and local customary habits, which always cause crowds, making it difficult for the Ngada District COVID-19 task force to overcome. The Ngada Regency task force team continues to carry out its role as the unit tasked with preventing the spread of the coronavirus while continuing to provide socialization, supervise and resolve problems that occur in the community.

CONCLUSION

The role of the Ngada Regency Covid-19 task force has been good, especially in preventing the spread of the coronavirus. However, the obstacle in preventing the spread of Covid-19 is the need for more understanding of the community and local customary habits, which always cause crowds, making the spread of this virus difficult for the team to overcome Ngada District Covid-19 Task Force. The Ngada Regency, Task Force Team, continues to carry out its role as the unit in charge of



preventing the spread of the coronavirus while continuing to provide outreach, supervise and resolve problems that occur in the community.

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