Man hounded for contracting coronavirus commits suicide, tests negative later

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In a tragic incident, a man in Kerala allegedly committed suicide as locals hounded him for contracting coronavirus. Ironically, the poor man later tested negative for COVID-19.

The man had recently returned to his village in Madurai from Kerala where he worked as a labourer. The 35-year-old had visited his mother in the village. During his stay, the man developed symptoms such as cough and fatigue, which are generally associated with coronavirus.

Locals alerted the police and state health department. Since, the ambulance did not arrive on time, locals themselves arranged a vehicle and rushed the man to the hospital.

The videos of people ferrying him to the hospital had gone viral on the social media. This had revealed his identity.

The man recovered and reached home later, but locals adversely reacted to the possibility that he might have contracted the virus.

The man's family claimed he was upset with being ostracized. His body was recovered from a rail track near Kappalur tollgate between Madurai and Thirumangalam.