





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Annual Report 2020-21

INTRODUCTION

About RCUES, Mumbai	04
About the book	06
Acknowledgement	07
Snapshot of Appreciations	08

REGIONAL SPECIALISED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMMES AND WEBINARS

1. Role of elected representatives in response to COVID-19	11
2. Health and safety of front-line workers / sanitation workers during & post COVID-19	15
3. NULM - during & post pandemic approach	21
4. COVID-19 and vulnerable urban communities	26
5. Biomedical & municipal waste management in urban areas	31
6. Women's health, safety and livelihood during & post COVID-19	36
7. Role of ULBs in tackling challenges: during & post pandemic	42
8. Health and safety of front-line workers / sanitation workers during & post COVID-19	47
9. Role of elected representatives in response to COVID-19	52
10. Financial reforms during and post COVID-19	56
11. NULM - during & post pandemic approach	60
12. Disaster Management at ULB level	65
13. COVID-19 and vulnerable urban communities	70
14. Capacity Building of Elected Representatives	75
15. Urban Transportation & Road Safety : Awareness and Infrastructure	79
16. Women's health, safety and livelihood during & post COVID-19	84
17. Biomedical & municipal waste management in urban areas	89
18. Role of ULBs in tackling challenges: during and post pandemic	94
19 - 22. Health and safety of front-line workers / sanitation workers during & post COVID-19	99
23. Role of elected representatives in response to COVID-19	105
24. Disaster Management at ULB level	110
25. Impact of COVID-19 on various Urban Development Missions and changed perspectives	115
26. Financial reforms during and post COVID-19	119
27. NULM - during & post pandemic approach	123
28. Emergency preparedness and response system in Smart Cities	128
ANNEXURES	132

ABOUT RCUES, MUMBAI



The Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) at All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AIILSG), Mumbai was established by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI) to undertake urban policy research, technical advisory services and strengthening work capabilities of municipal officials and elected members from the States of Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and UT's of Diu, Daman, Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep in the Western Region and States of Assam and Tripura in the North East Region. The Principal Secretary, Urban Development Department of Government of Maharashtra (GoM) is the ex-officio Chairman of the Advisory Committee of the RCUES, Mumbai, which is constituted by the MoHUA, GoI.

The RCUES was recognized by MoHUA, GoI as a National Training Institute (NTI) to undertake capacity building of project functionary, municipal officials, and municipal elected members under the earlier urban poverty alleviation programme-UBSP. The RCUES was also recognized as a Nodal Resource Centre for SJSRY (NRCS) and Nodal Resource Centre (NRC) for RAY by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India.

AIILSG, Mumbai houses the Solid Waste Management (SWM) Cell backed by the GoM for capacity building of municipal bodies and provide technical advisory services to ULBs in the State. The Ministry of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation (MoUE&PA), GoI and UNDP have set up the 'National Resource Centre for Urban Poverty' (NRCUP), which is anchored by RCUES at AIILSG, Mumbai.

AIILSG, Mumbai in partnership with CEPT University, Ahmedabad funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has conducted more than 200 workshops with Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in Maharashtra for mainstreaming SLBs at ULB level. AIILSG is now supporting implementation of Swachh Bharat Mission in urban areas of Maharashtra. The Change Management Unit (CMU) and the State SLB Cell of Maharashtra were established at AIILSG, Mumbai in 2010 by Water Supply & Sanitation Department (WSSD), Government of Maharashtra.

In 2010, RCUES, Mumbai was entrusted the work of preparation of City Sanitation Plans for 19 Municipal Corporations and 15 Class "A" Municipal Councils in Maharashtra by the GoM which was supported by the MoHUA, GoI. Also, Waste Management & Research Centre was established at AIILSG, Mumbai in 2011, by WSSD, GoM.

In 2013, AILSG, Mumbai is empaneled by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, for providing technical support to the ULBs in the field of water supply, sanitation, sewerage and drainage systems. Later in 2015, RCUES, Mumbai is identified as a technical service provider in Municipal Solid Waste Management projects under Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) launched by the MoHUA, GoI.

Over the years, RCUES of AILSG Mumbai has been working in close coordination with state and local Governments to provide strategic, advisory, technical and capacity building support for assessment and improvement in infrastructure service delivery in cities.

Along with ULBs, it is also engaging with multiple stakeholders like NGOs/CBOs, SHGs, private sector organisations, financial institutions at city level for providing technical and strategic support focusing on preparing action plans/strategies, technical assessment reports, CSPs/CDPs/DPRs as well as on-ground support by engaging with communities for improvement in various urban sectors to ensure improved quality of life to the citizens. AILSG, Mumbai is also working at the grass root level in cities through field visits, guiding ULB officials, conducting situation assessments with the objective of bridging the gap between the cities and state for sustainable sanitation solutions under Swachh Bharat Mission Urban.

In February 2016, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, Government of India empaneled the RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai for conducting training and capacity building programme for experts of SMMU, CMMUs, COs, Key Officials and other stakeholders of the states and ULBs under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY – NULM).

In 2017, AILSG was empaneled among one of the 35 agencies in India for conducting Integrated Capacity Building Programmes (ICBP). AILSG Mumbai is supporting the states of Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Goa for the same.

Through all these activities, RCUES of AILSG Mumbai is striving to transform the notion of capacity building by not limiting itself to trainings / workshops but engaging with the state and local governments at multiple levels. With a small but enthusiastic team, RCUES, Mumbai will continue to strive towards improving the capabilities of municipal officials with a broader objective towards developing able governments thereby enabling better cities.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.aiilsg.org/rcues.html>

Mr. Ranjit Chavan
President

Mr. Rajiv Agarwal, IAS (Retd.)
Director General

Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi
Director

ABOUT THE BOOK



This document is a compilation of the reports of regional specialised web-based training programmes and webinars conducted by RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai in the year 2020–2021, supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

In January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus to be a public health emergency of international concern. With cases rising steadily, it is realized that the urban local bodies (ULBs) have a key role to play in tackling this never seen before the challenge. The importance of continued efforts on training and capacity building of urban stakeholders is recognized, especially in order to face the challenges during and post COVID-19 times. Hence, as per various guidelines of the Government authorities, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai continued providing capacity-building support through web-based training programmes for the respective target groups. It will further act as a platform for various stakeholders to raise queries and also to share their experiences and knowledge.

The RCUES, Mumbai continues to strive towards improving the capabilities of municipal officials with a broader objective towards developing able governments thereby enabling better cities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



The RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai is supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI), pleased to compile this document comprising a brief of the Capacity Building Programmes and Webinars. The RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai is thankful to MoHUA, GoI for the same.

The RCUES, Mumbai is sincerely grateful to the concerned Urban Development Departments & Authorities of Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam and Tripura State Governments for their continued support in facilitating the participants and making the capacity building programmes successful.

The RCUES, Mumbai extends its sincere gratitude to Shri. Ranjit Chavan, President, AILSG & Shri. Rajiv Agarwal, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AILSG for their continued support and encouragement for making the capacity building programmes most effective.

The RCUES, Mumbai invited the participants from ULBs of Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam, Tripura and Union Territories of Diu, Daman, Dadra Nagar Haveli and Lakshadweep and would like to express gratitude towards all the participants who made the programmes successful.

The RCUES, Mumbai is also thankful to all distinguished trainers for their valuable inputs shared with the participants through web-based training programmes and encouraged them to tackle the city specific pandemic challenges during COVID-19 times and motivated them for applying the knowledge in effective implementation of various missions at city level.

The RCUES, Mumbai appreciates its entire team for rigorous efforts in conducting all the web-based training programmes and webinars effectively and on time.

Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi
Director

Top right

Appreciation by:

Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer,
MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai

Bottom

Feedback on twitter



From: Ajit Salvi <ajitsalvi66@gmail.com>
Date: Fri, Jul 17, 2020 at 7:12 PM
Subject: Re: Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on "Health and Safety of Front Line Workers / Sanitation Workers during & post COVID-19" on 17th & 18th July, 2020.
To: rcues training <rcuestraining@aailsg.org>

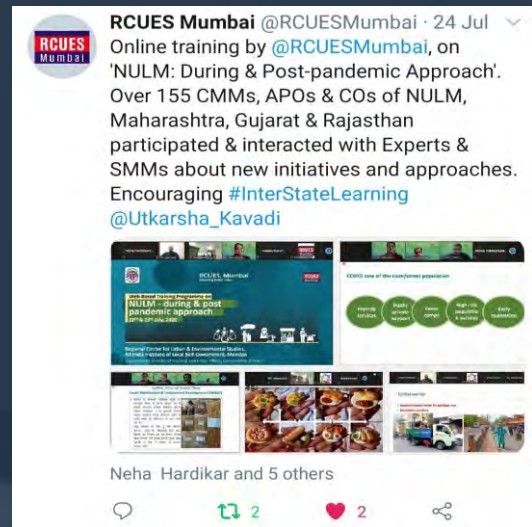
Dear Utkarsha mam,

Today's web based training programme organised by RCUES was really successful. Team of RCUES under your able leadership has done a marvelous job. I especially appreciate the efforts of Mrs Neha Hardikar & Mrs Maleka Ansari as they did it in professional manner in a very short time. Previously the team of RCUES was having expertise of organising classroom based training programme but in no time your team is settled in the modern way of organising Training Programme.

Fuhrer, I think today a limited number of Resource persons also played a role as each resource person got sufficient time to convey the main contents of Training.

Kindly convey my words of appreciation to all including backstage actors.

Regards,
Ajit Salvi



SNAPSHOT OF APPRECIATIONS





From: Vivek R. Pardeshi <Smomumbai1@npsuindia.org>
Date: Tue, 28 Jul 2020, 9:40 pm
Subject: Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on "COVID - 19 and Vulnerable Urban Communities" on 28th & 29th July, 2020.
To: rcues training <rcuestraining@aailsg.org>
Cc: neha.hardikar@aailsg.org <neha.hardikar@aailsg.org>, maleka.ansari@aailsg.org <maleka.ansari@aailsg.org>, vlad aailsg <vlad@aailsg.org>

To,
Ms Utkarsha Kavadi,
Director, RCUES of AAILSG, Mumbai.

Dear madam,

Sincere thanks for providing me an opportunity to participate in the web based training series. I converted it into a learning opportunity! It is a most needed and result oriented programme. Continuous capacity building is one of the important weapons against Covid 19 pandemic and I appreciate the efforts taken by you and the team RCUES for organizing these webinars. I am sure the series will continue and we will be able to give our small but vital share in the war against Covid 19 and for welfare of urban population and the environment!

All the best wishes to the entire team!

With best regards,

Dr Vivek R Pardeshi,
Surveillance Medical Officer
NPSP, Haffkine Institute campus,
Acharya Donde Marg, Parel, Mumbai



Top left

Appreciation by:
Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, SMO,
NPSP, Mumbai

Bottom left

Appreciation by:
Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head,
SNDT College, Mumbai

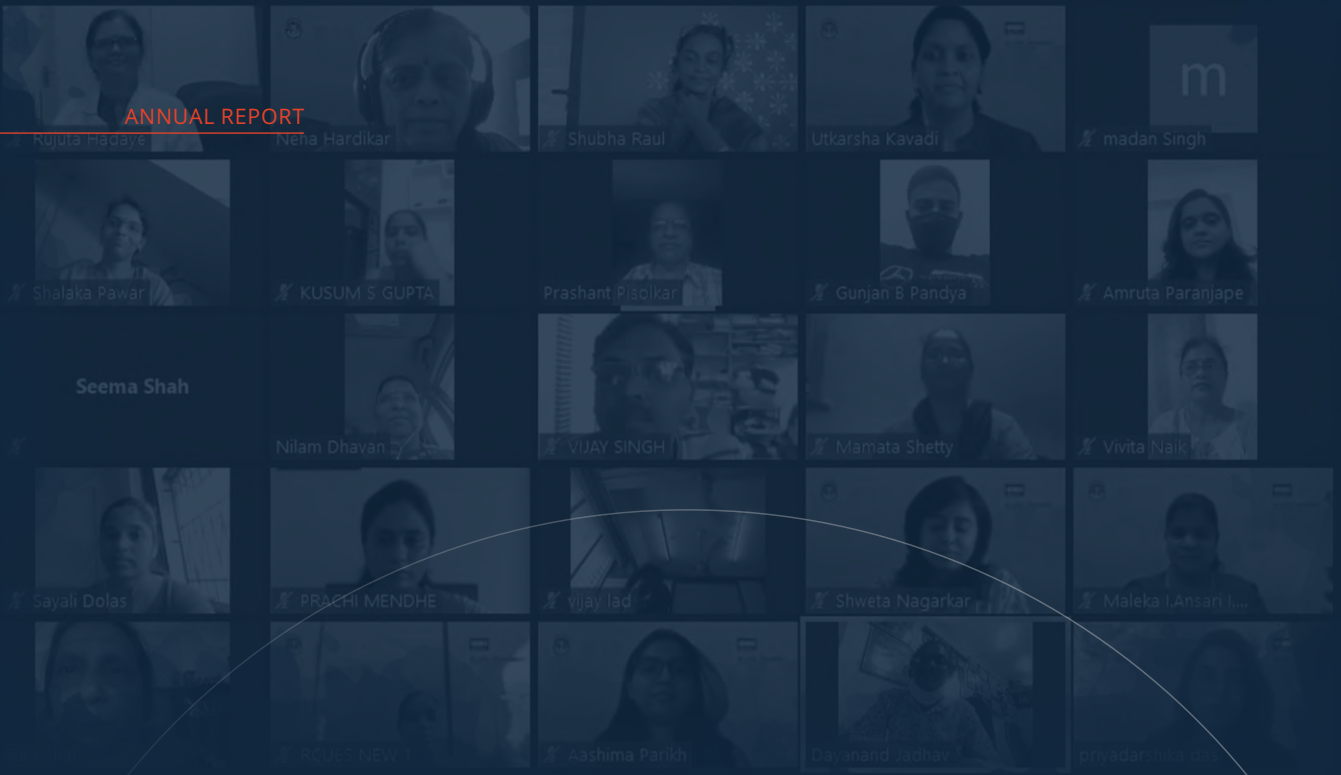
To,
Utkarsha Kavadi,
Director,
RCUES, Mumbai.

I would like to thanks to the Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self-Government (AAILSG), Mumbai for inviting me as a speaker in the national level Web-based training program on "Role of ULBs Tracking Challenges: During and Post Pandemic," on 28th and 29th October 2020 and allow me to express my views on Financial Reforms for ULBs to Provide Sustainable Solutions to Pandemic.

I appreciate to you all for this useful training program and addressed all the relevant issues of ULBS related to COVID-19 pandemic crisis and participants will be benefited in their work at city level during and post relief of COVID-19 pandemic crisis.

Thanking you,

Dr. Kishor P. Kadam
Head,
Department of Economics,
SNDT college of Arts and SCB College of Commerce and
Science for Women, Churchgate, Mumbai-20



REGIONAL SPECIALISED WEB-BASED

TRAINING PROGRAMMES & WEBINARS



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **ROLE OF ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

29th -30th June, 2020

Key Highlights

The key highlights of this web-based training programme were an amalgamation of technical experts from medicine sector, former Mayor of Mumbai and Hon'ble Mayor of Vadodara who addressed the participants. This mixture of trainers' team could discuss health aspects, safety measures at community level and awareness generation through elected representatives. Besides, the participants could learn implementation strategies to battle against the COVID through Bhilwara model.

BACKGROUND

In January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus to be a public health emergency of international concern. Since then WHO declared it as a pandemic affecting more than 115 countries around the globe. With cases rising steadily, it was realized that the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) have a key role to play in tackling this never seen before challenge. Further, leadership and involvement of elected representatives of the ULBs is going to be most crucial in the coming days to face post-COVID-19 challenges.

Importance of continued efforts on training and capacity building of stakeholders has been recognized, especially in order to face the challenges during this pandemic. Hence, as per various guidelines of the Government authorities, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG), Mumbai has continued providing this capacity building support through web-based tailor-made training programmes for the respective target

groups. It also acts as a platform for various stakeholders to raise queries and also to share their experiences and knowledge. It needed an earnest attempt to encourage the participants through the web-based platform instead of face to face training programmes after the extended lockdown due to COVID-19 and recent pandemic situation across the country.

Considering this, RCUES of AIIILSG, Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Role of Elected Representatives in Response to COVID-19 on 29th & 30th June, 2020 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme is supported by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss role of municipal elected representatives in addressing post pandemic challenges at city level.

PARTICIPATION

In all 35 participants comprising of Hon'ble Mayor, Elected Representatives, Municipal Commissioners, Representatives of NGOs and other municipal officials from Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan attended this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION



Mrs. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai started the web-based training programme by welcoming the eminent trainers and the participants. She gave a brief background of conducting virtual training programmes due to the lockdown in cities. The role of elected representatives has been recognized as significant in tackling the challenges of the pandemic in cities. The RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai created a virtual platform for resolving their queries and experience sharing.



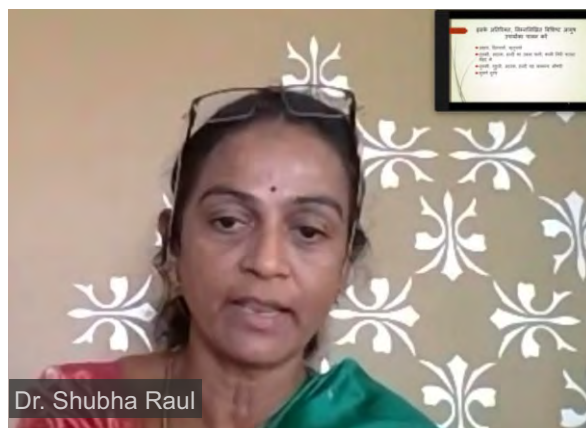
Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai delivered the welcome address to the trainers and the participants. She explained RCUES, Mumbai's continued efforts in capacity building support through web-based tailor-made training programmes for the respective target groups from Western Region, North East Region and Union Territories of Diu, Daman, Dadra Nagar Haveli & Lakshadweep.

She highlighted the key role of elected representatives in tackling the challenges in their respective cities and encouraged the participants to use this platform to raise queries and also to share their experience and knowledge.

INAUGURATION

Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai, and Member of Ayurveda, Yoga, Unani, Siddha and Homeopathy (AYUSH) Task Force, Government of Maharashtra (GoM), inaugurated this web-based training programme. In her inaugural address, she expressed her gratitude towards the team of RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai for conducting training programme exclusively on role of elected representatives in tackling the post pandemic challenges. She noted that these learnings would certainly be valuable for them to work effectively in post pandemic situation in their respective municipal wards.



Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai, and Member of AYUSH Task Force, GoM addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19' was delivered by Dr. Rujuta Hadaye, Professor in Department of Community Medicine, KEM hospital, Mumbai. She commenced her session with the explanation of the common symptoms of COVID-19 like cough, cold, fever, difficulty in breathing and its pattern of progression, which are considered as public health concern. She also shared the number of COVID-19 cases across the country to illustrate the severity of the disease and mode of transfer. She further explained the norms for physical distancing, hand hygiene, consistent use of masks and PPE, safe waste management and surface cleanliness to prevent the infection. She noted that the infection

can be controlled by educating the COVID patient for an early diagnosis and treatment. She explained the role of State Governments in tackling during and post pandemic situations. She concluded by discussing stigma attached to COVID-19 and measures that are being taken to tackle it.



Dr. Rujuta Hadaye, Professor in Department of Community Medicine, KEM Hospital, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Advisory of AYUSH for Meeting Challenges arising due to Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in India' was delivered by Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai and Member of AYUSH Task Force, GoM. She explained preventive measures such as personal hygiene, hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and social distancing etc. to check the community spread of COVID-19. She emphasized the significance of Ayurveda during post pandemic scenario. She noted that it helps in boosting immunity and maintaining a healthy life. She specified the AYUSH self-care guidelines for preventive health measures and boosting immunity with special mention of respiratory health. She further showed several Ayurvedic and Homeopathic medicines to be useful as a preventive measure and also explained the importance of physical exercises, breathing exercises to boost the immunity. She concluded by explaining the significant role of elected representatives as a task force with reference to AYUSH guidelines.

The next session on 'Role of Elected Representatives in Response to COVID-19' was delivered by Mr. Prashant Pisolkar, Sr. Faculty, AILSG, Mumbai. He explained the importance of IEC activities for the awareness of preventive measures among citizens, involving local representatives & NGOs during & post pandemic situation. He then explained the active role of elected representatives in identifying COVID patients in their respective municipal wards to provide them required assistance in getting treatment facility in health centres, ensuring cost effective testing facility at local level. Elected

representatives also can play a key role in admitting COVID patients in quarantine centres or hospitals of their wards, ensuring availability of ambulance at reasonable rates, ensure the facility for non COVID chronic patients, ensure disposal facility for dead bodies etc. At the end, he explained that the provision of an additional budget can be made for any emergency management by municipal authorities to save the lives of citizens during such situations.

On second day, Dr. Jigeeshaben Sheth, Hon'ble Mayor of Vadodara inaugurated the training programme. In her inaugural address, she described the status of COVID-19 at Vadodara city.



Dr. Jigeeshaben Sheth, Hon'ble Mayor of Vadodara Municipal Corporation, Gujarat addressing the participants.

She talked about the Vadodara Municipal Corporation's (VMC's) initiatives taken up in scaling up the existing dedicated Health Centre Facilities at Government hospitals in the city by citing an example of the hospitals run by the VMC, which is converted into a 500 bed facility. She expressed her concern about loss of livelihood of vulnerable communities during pandemic and that the VMC has taken up initiative to encourage vulnerable women to stitch cotton masks etc. VMC joined hands with local dealers to provide raw material and other support to such communities. This initiative generated a good livelihood opportunities across the city. At the end she encouraged the elected representatives to be proactive in getting immediate health facilities in their respective municipal wards. Elected representatives also can integrate local dealers with vulnerable population to create mask, sanitizers to generate the livelihood opportunities at community level.

The session on 'Prevention and Control in Addressing Challenges at Community Level' was delivered by Dr. Vijay Kumar Singh, Professor (Additional), Department of Community Medicine, BYL Nair & TNM College, Mumbai. He explained the methods to be followed at individual as well as community level to control the spread of the virus. He stated that, as per

WHO guidelines, it is critical to communicate to the public what is known about COVID-19, what is unknown, what is being done, and actions to be taken on a regular basis. He explained preparedness and response activities should be conducted in a participatory, community-based way that are informed and recurrently improved according to community feedback to detect and respond to concerns, rumors and misinformation. He also added that changes in preparedness and response interventions should be developed based on community perspectives. He then added, after understanding the community perspective, responsive and transparent messages in local should reach to the community through trusted channels of communication, using community-based networks and also through elected representatives.



Dr. Vijay Kumar Singh, Professor (Additional), Department of Community Medicine, BYL Nair & TNM College, Mumbai addressing the participants.

At the end, he described the categories of areas into red zone, orange zone and green zone and their respective protocols as per the government guidelines at community level.

After the technical sessions, the virtual platform was opened for best practices to be shared. The idea of sharing and discussing best practices was to provide options to other cities for replication and adoption.

Dr. Ghanshyam Chawla, Dy. Chief Medical Health Officer, Bhilwara Municipal Council, Rajasthan explained how the Bhilwara District fought back against COVID-19 and became the best model in the state of Rajasthan.

He explained that, initially Bhilwara district was a epicentre of new coronavirus in Rajasthan until aggressive containment measures taken by Bhilwara district to limit the spread of Coronavirus. The ruthless containment strategy followed by Bhilwara district was strict imposition of curfew, mass screening, identification of potential clusters etc. Around 2000 team members carried out door to door screening of around 28 lakhs population across

Bhilwara district and enforced home quarantine to those who found symptomatic. He further explained, Bhilwara district administration developed a three pronged strategy to combat the cluster spread. The first step taken by Bhilwara was effective implementation of curfew, sealing the borders of containment zones and ensuring zero vehicular movements, the second step taken was identifying potential clusters and carried out intensive mapping of contacts, isolating high risk people and the third step taken was extensive screening of the entire population of Bhilwara district. After the three pronged strategy, quarantine centres were developed at private hospitals, hotels and resorts to avoid the inaccessibility to health facilities.



Dr. Ghanshyam Chawla, Dy. Chief Medical Health Officer, Bhilwara Municipal Council, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

At the end, he explained the significant role of elected representatives in awareness generation for proper use of mask and gloves, sanitization and implementation of social distancing, disposal of bio medical waste as per BMW Rules 2016 etc. Bhilwara being a model in fighting against corona virus, other states are trying to replicate containment strategy used by Bhilwara district to curb the spread of Coronavirus in their cities.

SUMMING-UP

At the end of the technical sessions, trainers addressed the queries raised by the participants, followed by proposed a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to the trainers and the participants.



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **HEALTH & SAFETY OF FRONT LINE WORKERS / SANITATION WORKERS DURING & POST COVID-19**

17th - 18th July, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was the question and answer session conducted after the technical sessions. In this participatory session, the trainers addressed the queries raised by the participants.

BACKGROUND

The outburst of Coronavirus has put the world in a public health crisis. Health and safety is now one of the top priorities for all the nations. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the escalation of cases have put the world in multi-sectoral crisis. The provision of safe water supply, sanitation and waste management services is essential to protect human health during all infectious disease outbreaks, including the Coronavirus outbreak. Improvement in knowledge of such stakeholders will assist them in taking appropriate decisions in effectively addressing the immediate challenge. Once this is done, these officials can further disseminate this information to their Front Line Workers (FLWs).

Considering this background, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AILLSG), Mumbai had organised a Regional Specialised Web-Based Training Programme on 'Health and Safety of Front Line Workers / Sanitation Workers During & Post COVID-19' from 17th & 18th July, 2020. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of

Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

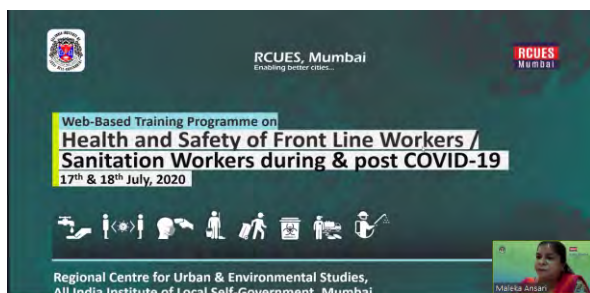
The key objective of the training programme was to understand and address the challenges for health and safety of FLWs / sanitation workers and service providers engaged in sanitation at city level.

PARTICIPATION

In all 154 participants comprising Chief Officers, Head of Departments (Sanitation), Junior Engineers, City Coordinators, Sanitary Inspectors and Multipurpose Health Workers of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Assam and Tripura attended this web-based training programme.

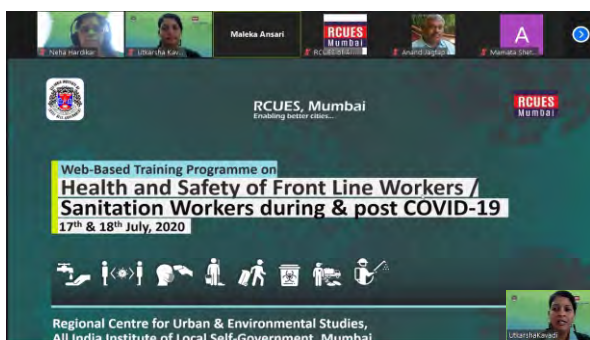
INTRODUCTION

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILLSG, Mumbai welcomed the trainers and the



Mrs. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

participants and briefed them about the objective of the web-based training programme. She requested Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to address the participants. Ms. Kavadi gave a brief background of the institute and noted that RCUES, Mumbai is supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).



Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She also noted that this web-based training programme was essentially being conducted to impart latest knowledge and practical on-ground solutions to tackling COVID-19. She further said that it is crucial to understand challenges of FLWs and service providers engaged in sanitation and waste management at slums, densely populated areas and containment zones. She highlighted that this training is for concerned municipal officials of ULBs involved in sanitation and waste management of COVID-19, who can further disseminate the information to their FLWs. She concluded her welcome address by encouraging the participants to be interactive through this online platform.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The technical session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID -19 & Emergency Preparedness and Response' was delivered by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP), World Health Organisation (WHO), Mumbai. Dr. Pardeshi explained the common symptoms of

COVID-19 pandemic and its pattern of progression. He stated that it is crucial to understand the modes of transmission of the virus to understand the spreading of it. He continued elaborating on transmission of virus by stating that the MoHUA, GoI has published info-graphics which depicts the nine common means of spread of the virus. He then explained the measures to be taken to reduce transmission of COVID-19. The measures are to keep physical distancing, quarantine for 14 days, to seek immediate health care, to avoid going to public areas and to wear masks when they are around other people. He further explained that it is essential to follow hygiene practices like wearing a mask, hand washing, and other measures prescribed as precautions against COVID-19.



Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPSP, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He also stated that hand and respiratory hygiene measures that should be followed, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), GoI has published guidelines for hygiene measures to be undertaken to contain further spreading of the virus. He noted that the MoHFW, GoI's guidelines illustrates DO's and DON'T's for appropriate respiratory hygiene, appropriate use of mask and hand hygiene which are crucial to contain spreading of the virus. He emphasized that FLWs have to take additional precautions after reaching home. Since these FLWs are at high risk as working directly with COVID patients, these measures to be strictly followed to safeguard themselves and their families. He also explained the stigma attached to this earlier unknown pandemic situation. FLWs can play a significant role by helping them understand the severity of the virus. He concluded by mentioning the key agencies are working together at global, national and state/local levels for prevention and control of this pandemic.

The next session on 'Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) – Precautions and Preventive Measures' was

delivered by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. Initially, Dr. Salvi discussed on cleanliness of surfaces and precautions to be taken in community sanitation. While elaborating on precautionary measures at community level, he mentioned the precautions and interventions by community members as well as caretakers executed properly can help control the spread of the disease. He further explained that common surfaces at shared hand wash facilities like handles, knobs, doors etc. are major source of disease spread in a community. He recommended the use of foot operated pedaled hand washing stations at shared community spaces to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently without touching the tap which will control the spread of disease. He mentioned that these were globally adopted measures during epidemics for controlling the spread of disease.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He further explained community toilets may lead to spread of the disease due to lack of hygiene and poor maintenance. Dr. Salvi again emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure that soaps or hand sanitisers are available at the toilet premises and encourage its usage to the toilet users. Caretakers should also clean the toilets frequently with disinfectant. While doing all this, caretakers must strictly adhere to the use of safety gears. He then mentioned the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures for sanitation workers to be followed by state governments as well as contractors employing sanitation workers. He continued saying that ULBs are advised to put Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in place to ensure health and safety of sanitation workers including lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practiced while performing their duties on field every day. Sanitation workers are to be provided with

appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons and the usage of these must be ensured by ULBs and contractors to minimize their risk to the virus. He described WHO released an interim guidance document on 19th March, 2020, which supplements the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) documents by summarizing WHO guidance on water, sanitation and health care waste relevant to viruses, including corona viruses. He continued saying that based on this document, the MoHUA, Gol has published an Advisory on 'Safe Management of Water Supply and Sanitation Services during COVID-19 Crisis' in April 2020. He shared some practices followed by ULBs to avoid transmission of virus in dense communities in the urban areas, which may be replicated suitably. He concluded by explaining about the safety gears and equipment to be used by sanitation workers while working on field.



Mr. Anand Jagtap, former Officer on Special Duty (OSD), MCGM & Sanitation Expert in UNICEF Project, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Health and Sanitation Measures at Community Level - Experience Sharing of Dharavi, Mumbai' was delivered by Mr. Anand Jagtap, former Officer on Special Duty (OSD), MCGM and Sanitation Expert in UNICEF Project, Mumbai. He explained the condition of the slums in Mumbai, the Slum Sanitation Programme (SSP) and the sanitation challenges faced by Mumbai slum residents in the current pandemic crisis. He explained the most important challenges in slums during the COVID-19 epidemic have been that of maintaining social distancing, keeping the toilets clean and ensuring that users practice hand and personal hygiene in places where access to water and toilet facilities are limited. He further described that,

MCGM, Mumbai has installed incinerators and sanitary pad vending machines in the toilet blocks to address the menstrual hygiene needs of women and girls.

Dharavi being one of the highly dense slum, with support from Hindustan Unilever, has installed community laundry machines in some of the toilet blocks and the wastewater from the laundry can now be used to flush toilets and initiated 'Flush the virus' drive in Dharavi slum with support from UNICEF, Maharashtra.

He also described the awareness campaign to be initiated in communities to tackle pandemic challenges with support from UNICEF, Maharashtra. He also added that UNICEF intends to provide technical support to develop Terms of Reference (ToR) and SOPs to be referred as a part in health and hygiene education awareness, sensitivity workshops to generate awareness of measures to be taken during the pandemic situation. He concluded by mentioning the urgent need to focus on awareness and educational activities in slums that needs to be increased to encourage community participation in tackling the post pandemic challenges.

On the second day, the session on 'Biomedical Waste Management (BMW)' was delivered by Mr. Pundalik Awate, former Chief Engineer (SWM Projects), MCGM, Mumbai. He explained the types of waste generated and collected from the hospitals, health care centers, quarantined households, proper procedure to handle each category of waste and type of disposal based on BMW Rules, 2016 and guidelines issued by MoHUA, MoHFW, National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), Central Pollution Control Board, (CPCB) and Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB). He further explained the rules and responsibilities of authorities managing COVID-19 facilities in dealing with waste generated, safety precautions and standard operating procedures that are to be followed by healthcare workers, categories of waste generated from different facilities and their disposal methods.

He further explained that COVID-19 waste has to be handled as per provisions of BMW Rules, 2016, amended and as per specific guidelines of CPCB. It is crucial that the rules are followed to avoid health hazards caused due to exposure to the waste. He added, ULBs have to ensure a facility is provided for

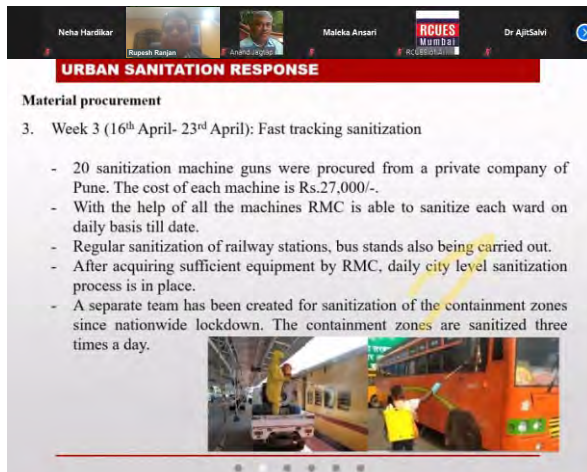


Mr. Pundalik Awate, former Chief Engineer (SWM Projects), MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

treatment and disposal of BMW. While elaborating on SOPs for BMW management, he stated that for effective and safe handling of waste, handler must ensure use of recommended Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and follow the hand hygiene protocol. He continued explaining that in addition to the use of PPE, it is essential to ensure disinfection and safe handling of all items to be used in the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19 patients. Spills of chemicals and body fluids need to be managed following protocol. He then explained biomedical waste is to be segregated in four colour coded bags / containers as per the BMW Rules, 2016. Waste generated needs to be segregated, collected, transported and disposed as per the categories. Biomedical waste i.e. masks and hand gloves from these areas (both patients/non patients) must be collected in yellow bag as BMW and should be handed over to authorized BMW common treatment facility (CTF) collection vehicle. Records of the same should be maintained. Biomedical waste from a COVID-19 ward must be collected and treated following BMW norms and should be disposed through BMW CTF operators only. He concluded the session by saying COVID-19 waste generation and disposal must be reported on daily basis by all stakeholders, hospitals, ULBs, BMW CTFs and State Pollution Control Board (SPCB). CPCB has developed a mobile application for the same to upload the data on daily basis.

The last session was conducted to understand the efforts taken by the ULBs to tackle the pandemic. Representatives of Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Jharkhand and Navsari Municipality, Gujarat presented their city level efforts to tackle the unknown situation in cities.

The first ULB presentation on 'Initiatives towards Tackling COVID-19 at Ranchi, Jharkhand' was

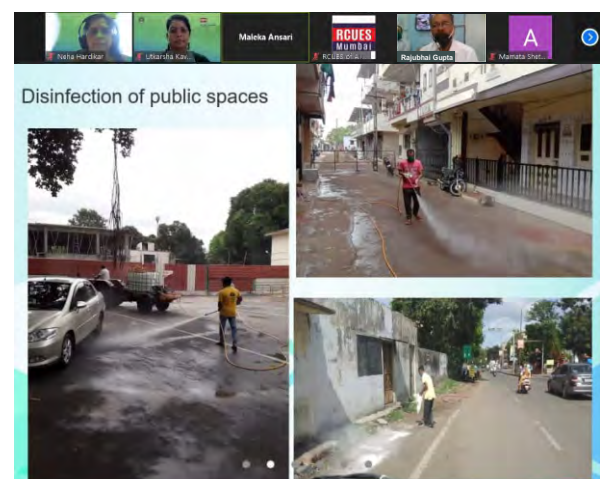


Mr. Rupesh Ranjan, City Manager, Health & Sanitation Department, Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Jharkhand addressing the participants.

delivered by Mr. Rupesh Ranjan, City Manager, Health & Sanitation Department, Ranchi Municipal Corporation (RMC), Jharkhand. Initially, Mr. Ranjan gave an overview of Ranchi city and intermittent actions taken to tackle pandemic of COVID-19. He then continued stating that, as soon as the nationwide lockdown was declared and COVID-19 cases started rising, RMC started taking preventive measures of screening and sanitizing the entry-exit points of the city. Concurrently, RMC district has prepared a district level guideline on 'COVID-19 – Preparedness and Control', which was issued on 20th March, 2020 before recording a single case of COVID-19 in Ranchi district. This district level rapid action helped in controlling further spread of virus. The initiatives undertaken to tackle the COVID-19 in Ranchi district were set up of control room, formation of control room, helpline, preparation of sanitation plan for hotspot areas, vehicle procurement plan, sanitary workforce deployment plan, encouraging stakeholders to provide health kits and food packages to migrants. He then mentioned the required periodic interventions undertaken by RMC to overcome the challenges and formulate new strategies for controlling the spread of COVID-19 in the most vulnerable areas where new COVID-19 cases were being detected. These strategic interventions comprised sealing 3 km area around the infected person's location and declaring it a containment zone after receiving the information on new cases from the health department of RMC, strict lockdown was imposed in the area, and door to door screening, sanitization practiced three times a day in the identified containment areas.

He also discussed cognizance strategies taken by RMC by conducting training for municipal officials of

Health and Sanitation Department from Ranchi district to acquire a knowledge on SOPs, appropriate use of safety gears, DO' and DON'Ts, measures to be taken at ULB level. These training were supported by WHO. He also talked about the significant role of elected representatives played while tackling during and post pandemic challenges in Ranchi district. The elected representatives have actively participated in carrying out door to door awareness in their respective municipal wards and educated the citizens about WASH safety guidelines and precautionary measures for COVID-19, importance of segregating waste especially masks and gloves for health and hygiene. Hon'ble Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Ranchi released Rs.1 crore each from the RMC's Citizen Welfare Fund for escalating the battle against COVID-19. Besides, these district / ULB level efforts in tackling pandemic challenges, several private organizations took initiatives to tackle these crises through CSR funds.

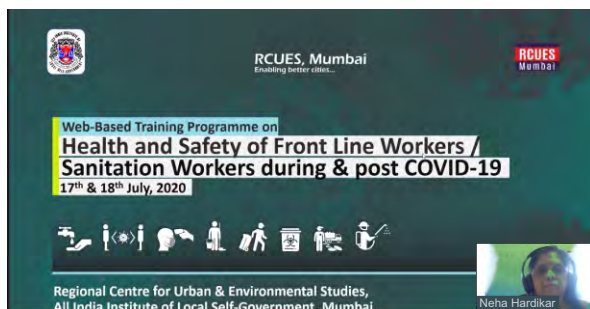


Mr. Rajubhai Gupta, Executive Engineer, Health & SWM Department, Navsari Municipality, Gujarat addressing the participants.

The second ULB presentation on 'Initiatives towards tackling COVID-19 at Navsari, Gujarat' was delivered by Mr. Rajubhai Gupta, Executive Engineer, Health & SWM Department, Navsari Municipality, Gujarat. The first step taken by Navsari Municipality was an IEC campaign to generate awareness of symptoms of COVID-19 and measures to be taken at city level in tackling pandemic challenges. The prominence was given to the safety of the FLWs and sanitation workers. Sanitation workers played a vital role in disinfecting public spaces, government offices and residential building premises at Navsari city. City administrators ensured good quality and adequate quantity of full PPE kit to be provided to both contractual and permanent sanitation workers including women sanitation workers. Sanitation

workers and other stakeholders created awareness among people by door to door Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities, explaining about DO's and DON'T's to control further spread of virus. Citizen participation and integrated efforts were the foremost attributes to tackle pandemic challenges in Navsari city.

In the Question and Answer session, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai encouraged the participants to communicate with the trainers. The respective trainers addressed the queries raised by the participants through raised hand option or through chat box. After this session, feedback questions were launched, where participants recorded their answers. The feedback questions comprised of content of the sessions, its duration, recommendations to these programmes, etc.



Mrs. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

SUMMING-UP

The feedback was followed by the conclusion of the training programme. Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai, concluded the training programme by giving a Vote of Thanks to the trainers and the participants.

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **NULM - DURING & POST PANDEMIC APPROACH**

22nd - 23rd July, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants learnt about the manifold livelihood opportunities developed successfully through several projects. Furthermore, information was shared about newly launched scheme PM SVANidhi by MoHUA, GoI for street vendors.

BACKGROUND

National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) was launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (MoHUPA), now Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI). The mission is focused on organizing urban poor in strong grassroots level institutions, creating opportunities for skill development leading to market-based employment. The Mission also aimed at providing shelter equipped with essential services to the urban homeless and address livelihood concerns of the urban street vendors. The COVID-19 outbreak affected all the segments of the population and has been particularly detrimental to members of social groups in the most vulnerable situations. It continues to affect vulnerable communities including street vendors, homeless population. During post pandemic scenario, it is imperative to take a more holistic approach to build long-term livelihood sustainability of the urban poor, integrating objectives of employment generation and skill building along with hygiene and sanitation.

Considering this, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'NULM - During & Post Pandemic Approach' on 22 & 23 July, 2020 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the MoHUA, GoI.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on NULM beneficiaries and approach of the mission for tackling the same.

PARTICIPATION

In all 156 participants comprising Chief Officers, Water Supply Engineers, District Managers, Executive Officers, Social Mobilization and Institution Development (SMID) Technical Experts, City Mission Managers, Assistant

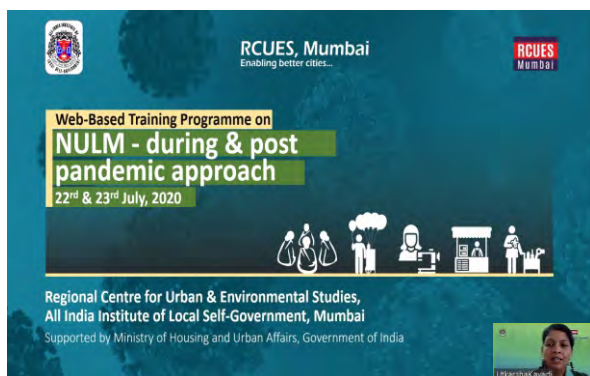
Project Officers, Community Organizers, NGO representatives from Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Assam attended this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION



Mrs. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai started the web-based training programme by welcoming the trainers and the participants. She discussed the objective of this training programme and introduced Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to address the participants.

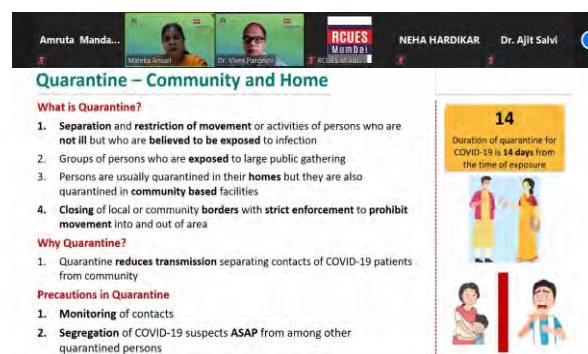


Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Ms. Kavadi welcomed the trainers and the participants. She briefly explained the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on NULM beneficiaries in terms of loss of livelihood, inadequate health facilities, inadequate basic amenities etc. RCUES, Mumbai has created a platform to acquire knowledge on how to tackle during and post pandemic challenges in cities. This training was for concerned municipal officials of urban local bodies (ULBs) involved in facilitating NULM beneficiaries to confront this unprecedented crisis, who can further disseminate the knowledge to NULM beneficiaries. She concluded by encouraging the participants to make the utmost use of this online platform to gain thorough knowledge from the expert trainers.

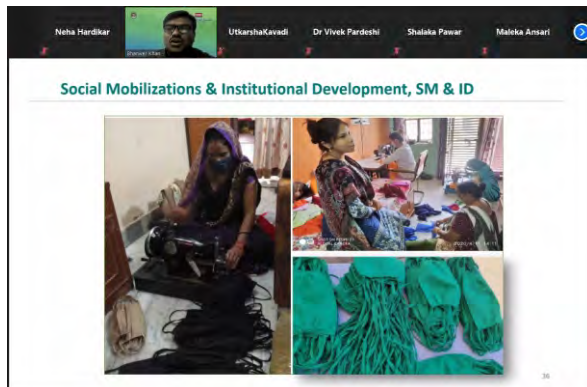
TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The technical session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19 with respect to NULM Functionaries and Beneficiaries' was delivered by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP), World Health Organization (WHO), Mumbai. Dr. Pardeshi explained the common symptoms of COVID-19 pandemic and its pattern of progression. He stated that it is crucial to understand the modes of transmission of the virus to control the spread. He continued elaborating on transmission of virus by stating that, the MoHUA, GoI has published info-graphics which depict the nine common means of spread of the virus. He then explained the measures to be taken to reduce transmission of COVID-19. The measures are to keep physical distancing, quarantine for 14 days, to seek immediate health care, avoid going to public areas and to wear masks when they are around other people. He further explained that it is essential to follow hygiene practices like wearing a mask, hand washing, and other measures prescribed as precautions against COVID-19. He also stated that, hand and respiratory hygiene measures that should be followed, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), GoI has published guidelines for hygiene measures to be undertaken to contain further spreading of the virus. He noted that MoHFW, GoI's guidelines illustrates DO's and DON'T's for appropriate respiratory hygiene, appropriate use of mask and hand hygiene, which are crucial to contain spreading of the virus. He further discussed the challenges faced by urban poor who reside in slums. Due to dense population, it is difficult to maintain the social distancing, difficulty in making home quarantine due to lack of space keeping distance. Majority of the NULM beneficiaries were migrated for their livelihoods. As the impact of COVID-19 occurred, most of the NULM beneficiaries lost their current livelihoods resulted in facing a lot of challenges to be tackled. Largely, this vulnerable population did not receive immediate health and basic facilities like food and potable water,



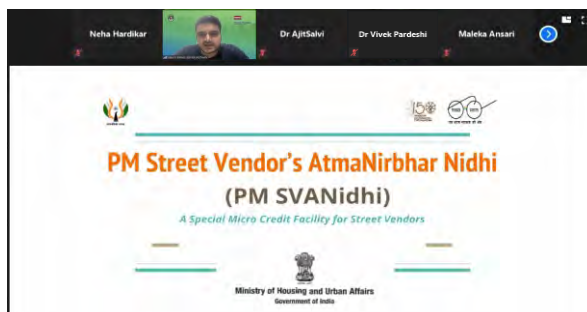
Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPSP, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

sanitation facilities etc. He concluded by mentioning that the state governments needs to cater to these facilities during the pandemic.



Mr. Bhanwer Khan, State Mission Manager, SMID, NULM, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and other NULM Beneficiaries' was delivered by Mr. Bhanwer Khan, State Mission Manager, SMID, NULM, Rajasthan. He discussed crisis situation during lockdown across Rajasthan state and how urban poor lost their livelihoods and became more vulnerable. He further said, Self Help Groups (SHGs) of vulnerable women were formed under Social Mobilizations & Institutional Development (SM & ID) component of NULM mission. During this pandemic, mission officials with the help of City Livelihood Centres (CLCs) trained these women to stitch masks to generate livelihoods. These masks were purchased in bulk by Municipal Corporations of Rajasthan state (MCR) and distributed free of cost to street vendors, sanitation workers, SWM workers etc. Moreover, SHGs were encouraged groceries and other food items to be delivered at door to door basis. This activity also generated livelihood to urban vulnerable. His focused on generating livelihood through SHGs across Rajasthan state.



Mr. Nitin Pareek, State Mission Manager (Financial Inclusion & Micro Enterprises), NULM, Government of Rajasthan addressing the participants.

The session on 'Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and other NULM Beneficiaries' was delivered by Mr. Nitin Pareek, State Mission Manager

(Financial Inclusion & Micro Enterprises), NULM, Government of Rajasthan. While discussing on NULM components, focused on Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH), he showed pictures of shelter homes running with essential facilities across Rajasthan state. The monitoring of these shelter homes was being done under State Mission Management Unit (SMMU). He then said, NULM beneficiaries can avail the subsidized loan maximum of Rs. 2 lakh at 7% interest to set up the micro enterprises under Self Employment Programme (SEP) of NULM. In this, the interest subsidy claims are done through PAISA portal. He concluded by explaining the process of availing subsidized loan to NULM beneficiaries.



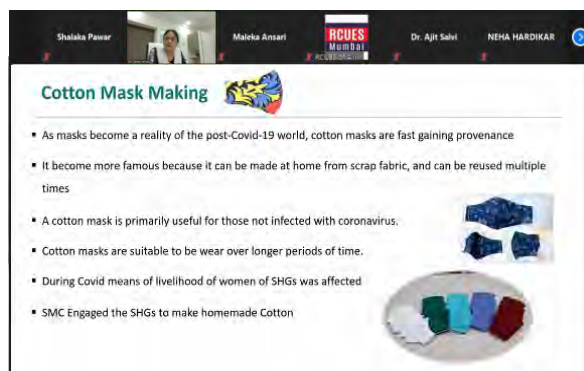
Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Enhancing Sanitation and Waste Management Based on Livelihood Opportunities' was delivered by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. Initially, Dr. Salvi discussed on cleanliness of surfaces and precautions to be taken in community sanitation. While elaborating on precautionary measures at community level, he mentioned the precautions and interventions by community members as well as caretakers executed properly can help control the spread of the disease. He further explained that common surfaces at shared hand wash facilities like handles, knobs, doors etc. are major source of disease spread in a community. He recommended the use of foot operated pedaled hand washing stations at shared community spaces to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently without touching the tap which will control the spread of disease. He mentioned that these were globally adopted measures during epidemics for controlling the spread of disease. He further explained community toilets may lead to spread of the disease due to lack of hygiene and poor maintenance. Dr. Salvi emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure that soaps or hand sanitizers are available at the toilet premises and encourage its usage to the toilet users. Caretakers should also clean

the toilets frequently with disinfectant. While doing all this, caretakers must strictly adhere to the use of safety gears. He then mentioned the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures for sanitation workers to be followed by state governments as well as contractors employing sanitation workers. He continued saying that, ULBs are advised to put in place Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure health and safety of sanitation workers including lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practiced while performing their duties on field every day. Sanitation workers are to be provided with appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons and the usage of these must be ensured by ULBs and contractors to minimize their risk to the virus. He described WHO released an interim guidance document on 19th March 2020, which supplements the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) documents by summarizing WHO guidance on water, sanitation and health care waste relevant to viruses, including corona viruses. He continued saying that based on this document, the MoHUA, Gol has published an Advisory on 'Safe Management of Water Supply and Sanitation Services during COVID-19 Crisis' in April 2020. He shared some practices followed by ULBs to avoid transmission of virus in dense communities in the urban areas, which may be replicated suitably.

At the end, he talked on livelihood opportunities can be deployed to NULM beneficiaries related to sanitation and waste management during pandemic of COVID-19 as ULBs needs additional unskilled, semi-skilled resources. ULBs can be encouraged SHGs in making masks, face shield by providing raw material to them to get them livelihood opportunities. Moreover, operation and maintenance of public toilets, community toilets, composting plants, dry waste collection centres can be done through unskilled NULM beneficiaries to cater livelihood opportunities to them.

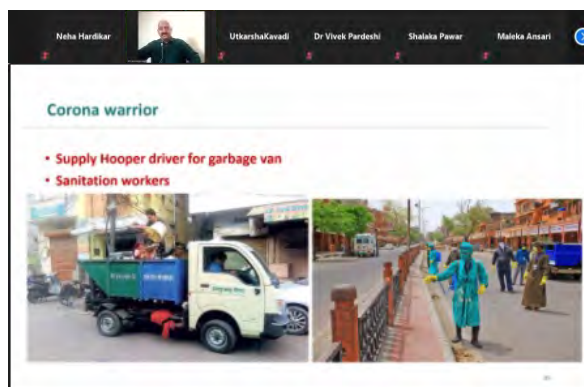
The next session on 'Post Pandemic Approach of NULM - Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and Other NULM Beneficiaries' was delivered by Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC), Gujarat. She discussed on SMC's efforts in creating new livelihood opportunities in the city. During lockdown, SMC encouraged SHGs formed under NULM to make masks after providing raw material by other stakeholders. SHGs made 4 lakh masks which were distributed in the local hospitals through SMC. Afterwards, Area Level Federation (ALF) took a lead and used their revolving fund amount to purchase the



Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, SMC, Gujarat addressing the participants.

material. SMC ensured hygiene standard during production of mask through training of SHGs and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures such as compulsory gloves, use of sanitizer and social distancing. SMC also involved SHGs in roti making project with the help of NGOs during lockdown. SHG women were involved in making rotis and packaging them. Around 100 SHGs of Surat city were involved in roti making project to procure new livelihoods opportunity. She then said the COVID-19 pandemic and consequent lockdowns have adversely impacted the livelihoods of street vendors. The MoHUA, Gol has launched PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi called PM SVANidhi. Under this scheme, Rs. 10000 credit was given as a working capital to street vendors to restart their livelihoods. She further added, SHGs were involved in quick survey to identify street vendors in various parts of Surat. SHGs were also involved in rakhi making and Ganpati idol making projects. She concluded by mentioning SMC has implemented several projects through SHGs and NGOs that developed new sources of livelihood to NULM beneficiaries during pandemic situation.

The next session on 'Good Practices under NULM Mission – New Livelihood Opportunities During & Post Pandemic' was delivered by Mr. Ajay Singh Gaur, Chief



Mr. Ajay Singh Gaur, Chief Executive Officer in RMR Group & State Coordinator, CLC, Jaipur, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

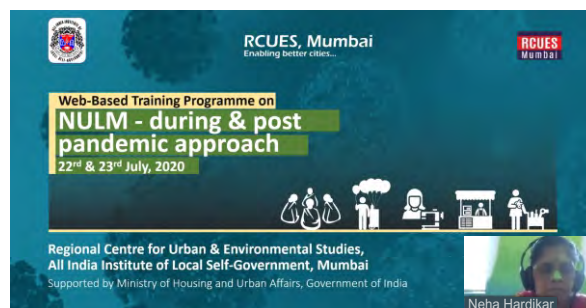
Executive Officer in Government of Rajasthan and State Coordinator, City Level Centre (CLC), Jaipur, Rajasthan. He described new livelihood opportunities during pandemic through CLCs. He discussed survival challenges for the migrant labours. He further continued that this challenge was unprecedented and varied from individual to individual. These challenges impacted both on mental health and physical health. He was proactively involved in converting shelter homes in to quarantine centres during lockdown. This was done through CLCs of Rajasthan state. Due to extended lockdown, most of the NULM beneficiaries lost their livelihoods. Government of India executed MoU with Amazon and Flipkart to scale up a market for the products developed by SHGs to regenerate their livelihoods. CLC played a vital role to encourage SHGs to new products. At the end, he discussed about several livelihood opportunities can be generated for the migrated workers in different industry, sanitation worker in hospitals.



Mr. Prasad Raje Bhosale, State Mission Manager (SMM), DMA, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Mr. Prasad Raje Bhosale, State Mission Manager (SMM), Directorate of Municipal Administration (DMA), Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai addressed the participants. He briefly discussed the pandemic scenario in Maharashtra. The beneficiaries such as street vendors, homeless population under NULM mission were motivated to live through the unprecedented situation by conducting community meetings for the awareness generation urban slums. Mission authorities with the support from other stakeholders laid maximum efforts to create the awareness on COVID-19 and how to tackle the challenges in a pandemic situation. He concluded by stating that PM SVANidhi will be useful for street vendors to regenerate their livelihoods by availing loan under this scheme.

In the Question and Answer session, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai encouraged the participants to exchange their thoughts with the trainers. The respective trainers

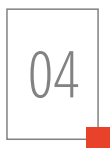


Mrs. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

discussed the queries raised by the participants. After this session, the feedback questions were launched, where participants recorded their answers.

SUMMING-UP

At the end, a Vote of Thanks was proposed by Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai after a feedback launched to the trainers and the participants.



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **COVID-19 & VULNERABLE URBAN COMMUNITIES**

28th - 29th July, 2020

Key Highlights

The key highlights of this web-based training programme were that the trainers presented the ground reality of urban vulnerable communities facing the challenges of the pandemic and shared recommendations to tackle these challenges.

BACKGROUND

In January 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus as a Public Health Emergency of international concern. Since then WHO has declared it as a Pandemic affecting more than 115 countries around the globe. The COVID-19 outbreak affected all the segments of the population and was particularly detrimental to members of social groups in the most vulnerable situations. It continues to affect vulnerable communities including street vendors, homeless, slum dwellers, labours and migrants across the country. The frontline workers and landless agricultural labourers are also among these sections, who have insecure, temporary and vulnerable livelihood in cities. It is critical to address the issues of these vulnerable communities for bringing health and economy of Indian States, back to normalcy.

Considering this background, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG), Mumbai

had organised a Regional Specialised Web-Based Training Programme on 'COVID-19 & Vulnerable Urban Communities' on 28th & 29th July, 2020. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss and address the issues related to impact of COVID-19 on urban vulnerable communities and discuss the areas of intervention during post COVID-19 scenario.

PARTICIPATION

In all 53 participants comprising Chief Officers, City Mission Manager (CMMs), Assistant Project Officer (APOs), Community Organizer (COs) of urban local bodies (ULBs) of Maharashtra and Rajasthan attended this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai welcomed the trainers and the participants and explained the scenario of urban poor in COVID-19 situation. She introduced the faculty who are working at the grass-root level to share the status of the urban poor during the pandemic. She encouraged the participants to take this opportunity to recognize the pandemic situation in slums and suggest probable recommendations to address these challenges. She also noted that this platform would be open for the participants to raise their queries and get it addressed through expert trainers.



Mrs. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The technical session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19 - with respect to Vulnerable Urban Communities' was delivered by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPS), WHO, Mumbai. Dr. Pardeshi initially explained the symptoms and development pattern of COVID-19. He further explained why it is pivotal to know the ways the virus spreads. He continued mentioning that, the MoHUA, Gol has published info-graphics which shows the nine ways the Coronavirus spreads. He then explained the actions such as keeping physical distance, 14 days quarantine, look for instant health care, avoid going to public spaces and wearing of mask necessary to be taken to lessen the spreading of COVID-19. He further described that hygiene practices are indispensable during pandemic of COVID-19. He then explained that the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India (Gol) has issued the guidelines for hygiene methods to be adopted to contain the spread of the virus. The MoHFW, Gol's guidelines explains DO's and DON'T's for proper respiratory hygiene, right use of mask and hand hygiene, which are vital to contain spreading of the virus. He then explained severe impact of COVID-19 on urban

vulnerable due to high density of population in communities. Most of the community dwellers depend on community toilets making it difficult to trace contacts. He also talked about impact of pandemic on migrants who depend on street food stalls. He further said that state government along with multiple stakeholders should make integrated efforts to cater speedy services like food and medical assistance, increase quarantine facilities, immediate sealing of the containment areas and deploy community health workers to protect urban vulnerable in pandemic situation. He concluded by highlighting on public private support to be given in providing services to urban vulnerable population, organising fever camps for them, conducting high risk population surveys, additional care for child, women and elderly population to safeguard their lives in pandemic situation.



Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPS, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Health and Nutrition Needs of the Urban Slum Communities' was delivered by Ms. Poornima Nair, Director, Health & Disability, Apnalaya, Mumbai. She shared a snapshot of the scenario of the urban vulnerable in this pandemic. She talked about the stepwise priorities of slum communities and how they are affected due to impact of pandemic of COVID-19. The first priority being that of access to food and water, 42% of the households had to take loan for buying ration to fulfill their basic need. The second priority being health and that it is essential to cater cost-effective health facilities to the urban vulnerable. The pandemic has created an extreme burden on healthcare facilities. Later, she explained the health and nutrition challenges of the urban vulnerable. She further elaborated on food insecurity leading to poor food intake during pregnancies, unavailability of Iron & Folic Acid (IFA) and calcium supplements and increased financial burden as the families availing services at private practitioners. She further added that high risk pregnancies cases remain unidentified, essential immunizations during

pregnancy are missing and disruption of Take Home Ration (THR) distribution through Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), increased home deliveries, increased risk of maternal and newborn deaths, increased risk of premature deliveries and low birth weight babies, increased risk to COVID-19 infection due to sharing infrastructure with quarantine centres and lack of post natal care were recurrently seen as health and nutrition challenges. She also talked on community related challenges such as lack of information about COVID-19 and treatment facilities, inadequate basic amenities like water and food facility, public toilets etc. After talking about the challenges posed on urban vulnerable, she spoke on the necessity to strengthen the healthcare facilities by focusing on capacity building of both facility and community based services, ensuring availability of water for appropriate hygiene and sanitation practices, ensuring sufficient public toilets, adequate ICDS infrastructure. She concluded by emphasizing on building a strong relationship of trust with the community and supports their healthcare facilities. Multi-sectoral convergence is required to strengthen these facilities.



Ms. Poornima Nair, Director, Health & Disability, Apnalaya, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Vulnerable Children' was delivered by Ms. Malathy Madathilezam, Director (Education & Livelihoods), Apnalaya, Mumbai. Initially she shared some figures to present the status of vulnerable children in pandemic of COVID-19. She mentioned that more than 15 crore children could go below the poverty line in next six months, 20% increase in drop-out rate of girls predicted, 9.2 crore children lost access to Mid-day meals due to the pandemic.

(<https://www.chicagobooth.edu/research/rustandy/blog/2020/how-are-indian-households-coping-under-the-covid19-lockdown> & CMIE, April 2020)

This critical scenario gravely impacted the vulnerable children in terms of learning and education, growth and development, economic conditions, safety

security and mental health. She focused on the number of reasons for increase in dropout from schools. One of the major challenges of digital education is that, majority of the vulnerable children cannot afford the internet access required for digital education, they have difficulty in understanding new concepts. She later explained that the impact of COVID-19 on mental health of vulnerable children. Children from slums and low income households are at higher risk due to the stigma around mental health, accessibility and affordability of mental healthcare. She also explained that the pandemic may lead to rise in child labour, loss of household livelihoods, increase in the risk of child trafficking, child labour in hazardous jobs with less payment. She concluded by giving few recommendations to tackle this pandemic challenges. According to her, special focus should be given to children at risk like street children and orphans. She also recommended the convergence of National Urban Livelihood Mission (NULM), ICDS, Health posts at with local stakeholders, NGOs for prevention and early identification of issues. The integrated efforts of NGOs, CBOs and other multiple stakeholders in building awareness and need assessment of vulnerable communities will certainly help in tackling pandemic challenges of urban vulnerable.



Ms. Malathy Madathilezam, Director (Education & Livelihoods), Apnalaya, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) – Precautions & Preventive Measures' was delivered by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. Dr. Salvi commenced his session on community sanitation where he explained how cleanliness precautions to be taken in communities. While discussing on precautionary actions to be implemented at community level, he explained that, the spread of virus can be controlled by suitable interventions implemented by the community

members and the caretakers. He further explained that commonly used hand wash facilities like handles, knobs, are foremost cause the spread of virus in the community. It is recommended to use foot operated pedaled hand washing stations at shared community spaces to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently without touching the tap which will control the spread of disease. He then explained that, the community toilets are the major sources of spreading of virus as toilets are hygienically ill-maintained. Dr. Salvi again emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure the availability of soaps or hand sanitizers for toilet users and caretakers should clean the toilets repeatedly with disinfectants by using the safety gears for self-protection.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He then mentioned the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures for sanitation workers to be followed by state governments as well as contractors employing sanitation workers. He further added that, ULBs are guided to develop the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure health and safety of sanitation workers including lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practiced while performing their daily responsibilities on the field. Sanitation workers are to be provided with appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons and the usage of these must be ensured by ULBs and contractors to minimize their risk to the virus. In conclusion, he explained the role and responsibilities of ULBs with respect to sanitation and waste management by listing as sanitizing of buildings and the streets, community and public toilets, sanitizing COVID and health centres and collection of municipal solid waste from quarantine homes during Pandemic.

The next session on 'Recovering from COVID-19: Housing, Labour and Governance' delivered by Ms. Roshni Nuggehali, Executive Director, Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA), Mumbai. She

explained the long term implications of pandemic on vulnerable communities. She added that once the need for social distancing subsides, it is essential to foresee a need



Ms. Roshni Nuggehali, Executive Director, YUVA, Mumbai addressing the participants.

for midterm and long term interventions to rehabilitate communities and build resilience to tackle any unseen crisis. The required intervention includes up-gradation of sanitation and hygiene facilities in communities such as low-income schools, Anganwadis, community spaces, hospitals, etc. She then explained the significance of health education in slums, screening and awareness generation on WASH. She further explained the impact of loss of livelihoods on daily wagers / migrants and restoring their livelihood so as to ensure their lives return to normalcy in this critical situation. She provided selected recommendations for slums. Most of the slums which are non-notified may be evicted at any point of time, which makes the slum population most vulnerable. It is a prerequisite to fast-track slum notification process and provides them for basic services like water and sanitation especially in post COVID-19. She also suggested regulating rental housing under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) component and resettlement housing for vulnerable population and providing shelter homes to homeless population. Moreover, she suggested recommendation for migrant labour as they are one of the vulnerable. She explained legal provisions to protect the rights of vulnerable communities for their better survival. These legal provisions include Social Security Act, Maharashtra Domestic Workers Act, Building and Other Construction Workers Act and Street Vendors Act. She concluded by mentioning the necessity of urban planning and governance initiatives to be implemented to tackle the challenges of urban vulnerable with relevant state act.

The next session on 'Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Livelihoods of Urban Poor' was delivered by

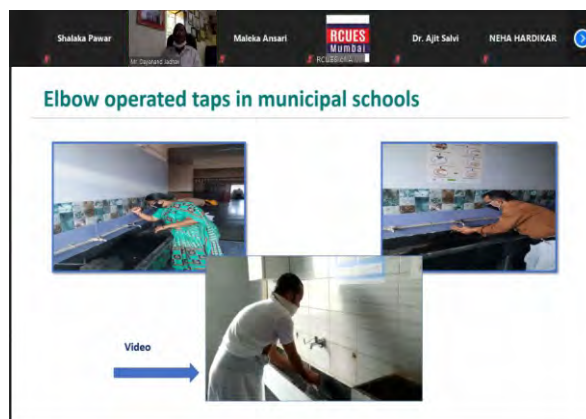
Ms. Malathy Madathilezam, Director (Education & Livelihoods), Apnalaya, Mumbai. She shared data to illustrate the status of urban vulnerable in pandemic of COVID-19. She mentioned more than 34% households reported their incapacity to survive independently without any support as they lost their livelihoods due to pandemic of COVID-19. Moreover, 84% of Indian households have lost income due to lockdown and unemployment rate was increased to 24% in May 2020.

(<https://www.chicagobooth.edu/research/rustandy/blog/2020/how-are-indian-households-coping-under-the-covid19-lockdown> & CMIE, April 2020)

She presented cases where severe impact occurred due to lockdown. It was observed from surveys that, 42% of the households had to borrow loan for buying ration from relatives and friends being a major source of taking a loan. As majority of vulnerable lost their livelihoods, around 12.5% vulnerable population such as construction workers, street vendors have migrated to their native places for their survival. She then explained the impact of COVID-19 on youth. She noted that they face challenges to work from home due to lack to access to required technology and non-conducive work environment (noise in slums). She mentioned that women are also severely impacted due to loss of livelihoods, decrease in their mobility due to lockdown which resulted in distressing mental health in vulnerable communities. She concluded by mentioning the possibility of convergence government schemes like NULM, PMAY to generate livelihoods opportunities for urban vulnerable during pandemic of COVID-19 to decrease their trauma.

The next session on 'Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic in Urban Communities - Dharavi Experience' was delivered by Mr. Dayanand Jadhav, Executive President, Triratna Prerana Mandal, Mumbai. He explained 'Flush the Virus' initiative in Dharavi slum with support from UNICEF Maharashtra. He further continued, this initiative was implemented in few municipal wards of MCGM especially in G/North ward where Dharavi is located. This drive was extensively focused on 150 community toilets and 50 MCGM schools used as quarantine centers. They introduced non-touch pedal hand washing stations at community toilets, elbow operated taps in municipal schools, megaphone awareness campaign at communities, distribution of mask, face shield and toothpaste, ration etc. He has shared pictures and videos of the elbow operated taps and distribution of ration and masks in Dharavi community. He concluded by explaining that the most important challenges during

the COVID-19 epidemic have been that of maintaining social distancing, keeping the toilets clean and ensuring that users practice hand and personal hygiene in places where access to water and toilet facilities are limited and need to be addressed on priority.



Mr. Dayanand Jadhav, Executive President, Triratna Prerana Mandal, Mumbai addressing the participants.

After the technical sessions, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai explained the knowledge test to the participants. The participants were encouraged to select choices to address the questions. Simultaneously feedback questions were also shared with the participants.

SUMMING-UP

The feedback was followed by the conclusion of the training programme. Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai, concluded the training programme by giving a Vote of Thanks to the trainers and the participants.

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **BIOMEDICAL & MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT IN URBAN AREAS**

09th - 10th September, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants learned how to tackle SWM challenges during the COVID time through technical sessions and how to make the city clean through various approaches and initiatives were taken by ULBs, presented as success stories of waste management.

BACKGROUND

Safe and scientific management and disposal of municipal solid waste is a major concern worldwide and particularly in developing countries like India. Following the SWM Rules 2016, it is a mandate for the urban local bodies (ULBs) in India to achieve 100% segregation of waste at source, composting or recycling at local place and further series of actions for safe disposal. Likewise, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued guidelines for biomedical waste management. Sudden outbreak and spread of COVID-19 has thrown many challenges for the waste management services, particularly because of large scale generation of hazardous medical and bio-medical wastes through testing and treatments in hospitals. In this situation, when there is no respite from the spread of the pandemic it has become all the more necessary for the ULBs to ensure greater safety and stringent measures under the MSW Rules, and the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016.

Considering this background, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All

India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIISG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Biomedical & Municipal Waste Management in Urban Areas' on 9th & 10th September, 2020 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme is supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss the challenges in safe municipal and biomedical waste management at the local level and suggest probable solutions, especially in response to the given COVID times.

PARTICIPATION

In all 26 participants comprising Elected Representatives, Chief Officers, Municipal Engineers, Chief Sanitary Inspectors, Sanitary Inspectors, Multipurpose Workers, MIS Experts, State Mission Managers (SMMs), Community

Organizers of ULBs from Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, and Rajasthan attended this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION

At the outset, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, welcomed the speakers and the participants and gave introduction of the expert speakers. She explained the challenges faced by ULBs during this pandemic and gave outline of the contents of the training programme. She said that as is the practice of the RCUES, the training programme every technical session will conclude with interaction with the participants.

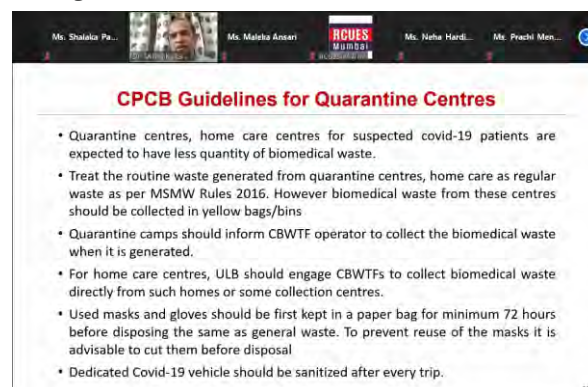


Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first technical session on 'Municipal Solid Waste Management in Urban Areas' was taken by Dr. Milind Kulkarni, former Professor, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) & Environmental Expert, Mumbai. After giving the introduction and mentioning the importance of Solid Waste Management (SWM), he stated that in the existing scenario, unavailability of sufficient land for landfills leads to 'Not In My Backyard (NIMB)' syndrome, which he said is the present status of solid waste management in the country. Cities are generating more and more waste, which is increasing by the day. In such a scenario, cities need to re-invent waste management practices in the country. In the context of SWM, he focused on scientific land filling. In the majority of the cities, landfills are not planned scientifically, he said. Unscientific landfills create a harmful impact on the environment due to the emission of air pollutants, greenhouse gases, foul smells, contamination of groundwater due to leachate, flies, etc., which are causative factors for spreading the diseases. He also mentioned that valuable resources can be recovered by good solid waste management practices. He then explained MSW Rules, 2016 where focus is given on

segregation at source in three categories: dry, wet and domestic hazardous. House to house collection and segregation at the collection, transport, treatment, and disposal stages are the hallmarks of this system. Similarly, 100% treatment of waste by using suitable technologies for wet waste treatment, dry waste recycling of dry waste is done and value from the waste is unlocked. The only inert substances need to be sent to landfill to reduce the load on landfills significantly. After explaining the importance of SWM and MSW Rules, he spoke on MSWM aspects in the context of COVID-19. He mentioned that the CPCB has issued guidelines on the disposal of COVID waste. These guidelines must be followed by all stakeholders including isolation wards, quarantine centers, sample collection centers, laboratories, ULBs, and Common Biomedical Waste Treatment and Disposal Facilities (CBWTFs). At the end of the session, he explained the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on segregation of waste at source. These SOPs gave emphasis on segregation at the source which should be collected, transported, and are disposed of in a segregated manner and casts responsibility on all the stakeholders to ensure the segregation of waste during the entire SWM chain.

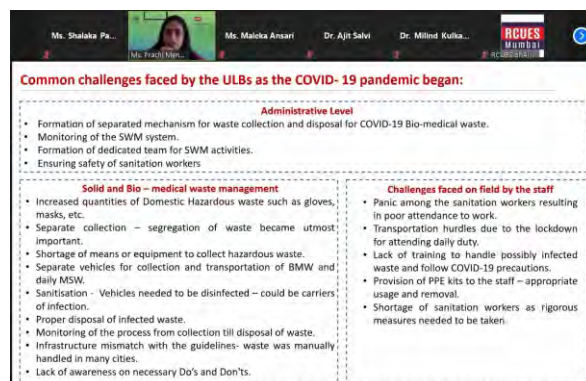


Dr. Milind Kulkarni, former Professor, IIT & Environmental Expert, Mumbai addressing the participants.

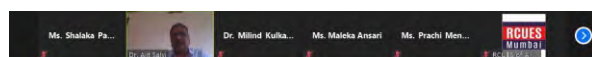
The next session on 'Challenges Faced by ULBs in Handling Solid Waste during Pandemic' was taken by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. He began his session by showing pictures of solid waste scattered in megacities and also depicting how natural resources are getting depleted. He explained the role and responsibilities of ULBs in SWM. He further added that, due to the pandemic of COVID, the ratio of waste generated has become high which poses a huge challenge to ULBs in handling solid waste. While elaborating on challenges faced by ULBs, he explained that, due to COVID-19, the additional burden is imposed on municipal staff and field staff

relating to collection of waste from quarantine centers, sanitizing the infected homes, sanitization of buildings and streets, supply of food packets to containment zones and quarantine centers, etc.. He further spoke about the measures taken to tackle the pandemic situation by providing sufficient masks, hand gloves, sanitizers, medical checkup of all workers, provision of PPE kits, temperature scanning facility at the workplace, the supply of homeopathic medicine as suggested by AYUSH. NGOs, CBOs, and other stakeholders are involved in the process of handling the pandemic situation. Representatives of NGOs are playing a vital role in creating awareness among the people. He concluded by enumerating Do's and Do not's for sanitation workers before and after work and precaution and safety measures to them, which has to be taken care of.

collection to disposal of waste were the challenges to many cities. She further added that many field staff also faced problems like attending duty in lockdown due to the unavailability of public transport facilities.



Ms. Prachi Mendhe, Research Associate, AILSG, Mumbai, addressing the participants.



Segregation



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The session on 'Solid Waste Management Practices in Indian Cities during Pandemic' was taken by Ms. Prachi Mendhe, Research Associate, AILSG, Mumbai. In the beginning, she gave a brief background on what has changed in MSWM under COVID-19 as COVID-19 response initiatives and efforts of several Indian cities were tracked during the entire lockdown period of two months; i.e. April-June, 2020. She then discussed the common challenges faced by the ULBs, since the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. The ULBs faced new challenges like the formation of a separate mechanism for waste collection and disposal relating to the wastes of bio-medical hazards generated in the procedures of COVID-19, monitoring of the SWM system, formation of a dedicated team for SWM activities at an administrative level. She explained that dedicated mechanism for SWM collection and transportation was required due to increased quantities of domestic hazardous waste such as gloves, masks, etc. Separate vehicles for collection and transportation of Bio-Medical Waste (BMW) and daily MSW, proper disposal of infected waste, monitoring of the process from

After explaining the challenges at various levels, she explained the initiatives undertaken by cities to overcome the challenges. She explained the efforts taken by Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC), who had established a separate waste collection mechanism for quarantined households. The route mapping of the houses was done based on GIS database analysis. All the waste generated from the quarantined households was collected by the bio-medical waste team and not through regular waste collection mechanism. This was to avoid any spread of infection while handling the waste. Bio-medical waste management committees are constituted in all the health care facilities to ensure safe disposal of COVID-19 related waste. The geo-tagged waste collection vehicles are used for collecting bio-medical and municipal solid waste which is closely monitored on the map through geolocation. In the end, she concluded by depicting the snapshot of several cities' efforts like route mapping, capacity building, etc. to tackle the challenges of MSWM in cities during COVID time.

On the second day, the first technical session was delivered by Dr. Shilpa Narayanan, Director, Training, Appa Patwardhan Tantraniketan, Dehu Village, Pune on 'Biomedical Waste Management (BMWM) in Urban Areas'. She explained the different types of waste generated and collected from the hospitals, health care centers, quarantined households, and the proper procedure required to handle each category of waste, and type of disposal based on BMW Rules, 2016 and guidelines issued by the MoHUA, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), and CPCB. She further explained the roles and responsibilities of

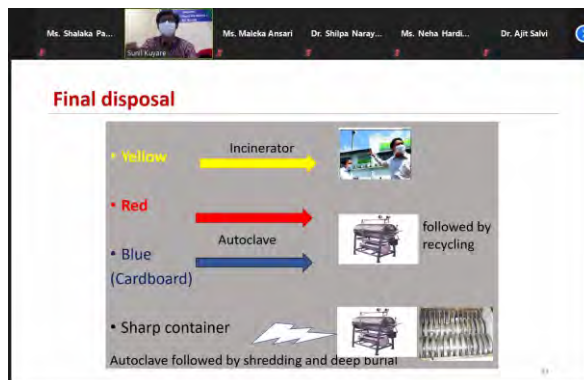


Dr. Shilpa Narayanan, Director, Training, Appa Patwardhan Safai / Paryawaran Tantraniketan, Pune addressing the participants.

authorities in managing COVID-19 facilities while dealing with the waste generated, safety precautions, and SOPs that are to be followed by healthcare workers, categories of waste generated from different facilities, and their disposal methods. She added that COVID-19 waste has to be handled as per provisions of BMW Rules, 2016, amended and as per specific guidelines of CPCB. She further said that ULBs are required to ensure the facilities as provided for the treatment and disposal of BMW. While elaborating on SOPs for BMW management, she stated that for effective and safe handling of waste, the handler must ensure the use of recommended PPE and follow the hand hygiene protocol. On this account she explained that in addition to the use of PPE, it is essential to ensure disinfection and safe handling of all items to be used in the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19 patients. She then explained that biomedical waste is to be segregated in four color-coded bags/ containers as per the BMW Rules, 2016. Waste generated needs to be segregated, collected, transported, and disposed of as per the relevant procedure of each of the categories of biomedical waste i.e. masks and hand gloves from these areas (both patient/non-patients) must be collected in a yellow bag as a biomedical waste and should be handed over to an authorized BMW Common Treatment Facility (CTF) collection vehicle. She concluded the session by saying COVID-19 biomedical waste from a COVID-19 must be collected and treated following BMW norms and should be disposed of through BMW CTF operators only.

Dr. Sunil Kuraye, Associate Professor, Seth G S Medical College & KEM Hospital, Mumbai took the next session on 'BMWM – Current Practices in Urban Areas'. He started his session by explaining the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules 2016 (BMWM), in which he discussed the color coding of bags and the types of biomedical waste to be collected as per the

nature of waste as prescribed. He emphasized on yearly training to be imparted to the concerned staff who were handling biomedical waste at various stages up to final disposal. He then said that doctors rely on junior staff for collection and segregation of biomedical waste assuming that it will be segregated accurately and will be transported in a segregated manner till final disposal.



Dr. Sunil Kuyare, Associate Professor, Dept. of Microbiology, Seth GS Medical College & KEM Hospital, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He then spoke about the preventive measures to be taken by front line workers, who handle the biomedical waste frequently. He explained the steps of wearing and removing the entire PEE kit. In the end, he concluded by mentioning the necessity of reinventing the existing system of waste management by stringent training on yearly basis to the BMW handling staff, robust implementation of BMWM Rules 2016, and guidelines.

ULBs' PRESENTATIONS

After the technical sessions, ULBs made presentations to the participants on the Initiatives undertaken by them in waste management for tackling the pandemic crisis.

The first ULB presentation was made by Ms. Neha Singh, Project Associate and Technical Consultant, Jodhpur Municipal Corporation (JMC), Rajasthan. She explained the efforts taken by JMC in SWM during the pandemic. She explained that till last year the door to door waste collection mechanism was not started in the city. This year, this mechanism was implemented and is in operation in all the 65 municipal wards of Jodhpur city. She further explained that JMC has focused on IEC activities and behavior change awareness programs including a range of activities like wall paintings on the importance of segregation, municipal ward level Rangoli competition on SS 2020, beautification of old slums, banners and hoarding on

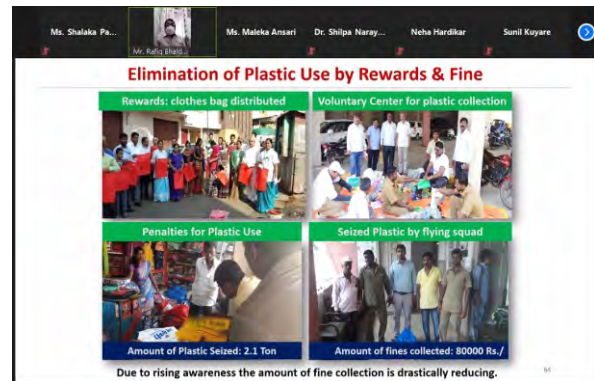
cleanliness, plastic ban, waste segregation, distribution of blue and green dustbins use of dustbins, rallies, campaigns, etc. on various parameters of Swachh Survekshan (SS) - 2020. These activities helped JMC to score better rank in SS 2020. She then explained that JMC had allotted separate vehicles for the collection of C&D waste, installed separate dustbins on all D2D vehicles for the collection of domestic hazardous waste, installation of smart dustbins, and litter bins in all market areas. Besides these activities, strict enforcement on the use of plastic bags was done and biodegradable plastic bags were distributed to vendors. She concluded by mentioning that, JMC had concentrated on documenting their efforts in waste management as a case study.



Ms. Neha Singh, Project Associate and Technical Consultant, JMC, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

The next ULB presentation was made by Mr. Rafiq Bhaldar, Deputy Engineer, Sanitation & SWM, Karad Municipal Council (KMC), Maharashtra. He explained the efforts taken by KMC, as it has been declared 'A One' of the Cleanest City in India under less than 1 lakh population. He then explained the entire chain of activities of KMC in waste management. He said that Karad City had focused was on Reuse, Reduce and Recycle (3 R's) in waste management. Karad City had achieved 100% segregation of municipal waste at source. Municipal officials in collaboration with NGOs, CBOs, and other stakeholders created awareness among citizens about the segregation of municipal waste. Citizens were inspired to segregate the waste at source through demonstrations, door to door awareness campaigns, and monitoring. He further explained the process of 100 % collection of segregated solid waste through Ghantagadis monitoring it through a GPS tracking system.

Mr. Bhaldar then explained the SOPs developed by KMC for wet waste processing and types of wet waste processing like Windrow Composting and biogas. He further added that KMC had established the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) Centre for dry waste and



Mr. Rafiq Bhaldar, Health Inspector, KMC, Maharashtra addressing the participants.

plastic processing unit. KMC also had taken the green initiative by developing value-added products from waste. He concluded by mentioning that, during this entire journey consisting of various initiatives, KMC had bagged many awards like Swachh City Award, Star Rating Certificate, etc. and became a success story in cleanliness and SWM.

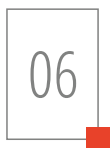
In the Question & Answer session, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai encouraged the participants to discuss their queries with the trainers. After this session, the feedback was taken from the participants. The participants discussed with the trainers to resolve their queries of their respective cities in livelihood opportunities and safety.



Resource persons are addressing the participants during Question & Answer session.

SUMMING-UP

In the end, Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai proposed a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished trainers and the participants and concluded the training programme.



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **WOMEN'S HEALTH, SAFETY AND LIVELIHOOD DURING & POST COVID 19**

23rd - 24th September, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants learned about several initiatives implemented in cities to tackle women's health, social and economic issues. They were also informed of the efforts undertaken to make vulnerable communities self-reliant through newly generating livelihood opportunities for women during the pandemic.

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the whole gamut of life activities. Some sections of society have to bear a major burden which includes the staff of local authorities, doctors, paramedic staff, health workers, marginalized sections, especially women among them. The past experiences of outbreaks show evidence of increased maternal mortality, as resources and priorities are re-allocated to the containment of the virus. In addition to inadequate health care facilities, women also suffer from the social and economic impact of COVID-19 including an increase in domestic violence across sectors, unpaid care and unequal share in domestic responsibilities, inadequate awareness & economic regression. A gender-inclusive policy planning and implementation is the need of the hour to manage the coronavirus pandemic by improving health services and social safety.

Considering this scenario, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India

Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Women's Health, Safety & Livelihoods During and Post COVID-19 on 23rd & 24th September, 2020 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss gender-inclusive policies and actions in addressing post-pandemic challenges and ensuring health and safety.

PARTICIPATION

In all 67 participants comprising Chairpersons, Elected Representatives, Chief Officers, Executive Engineers, Assistant Engineers District Managers,

Executive Officers, SMID Technical Experts, City Mission Managers, Manager SD&ID, Assistant Project Officers, Community Organizers, NGO representatives of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam and Tripura participated in this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION

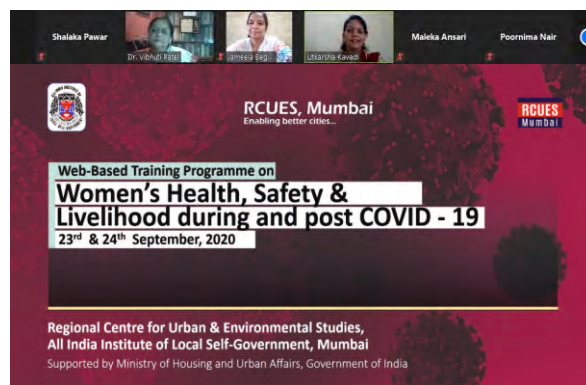
At the outset Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai gave an introduction of this web-based training programme and welcomed the trainers and the participants. She explained the objective of the training programme. Thereafter Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressed the participants.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Ms. Kavadi welcomed the trainers and the participants. She spoke about the objectives of establishing the RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai under the auspices of the MoHUA, GoI. She said that major activities of the RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai relate to imparting training, capacity building, advisory services and undertaking research works in the urban sector. She then explained the challenges of the COVID-19 and its impact on women's health, safety, and livelihood in terms of critical issues of women like inadequate health services, loss of livelihood, domestic violence, etc. In this situation, RCUES, Mumbai has created a platform to gain knowledge on how to tackle during and post-pandemic challenges in cities and to disseminate information of the effective measures and experience of the cities.

She further said that this training programme especially focuses on women's challenges and probable solutions to ensure their health and safety. In turn, the participants can further disseminate the knowledge onwards in their cities. She concluded by encouraging the participants to make the most of this



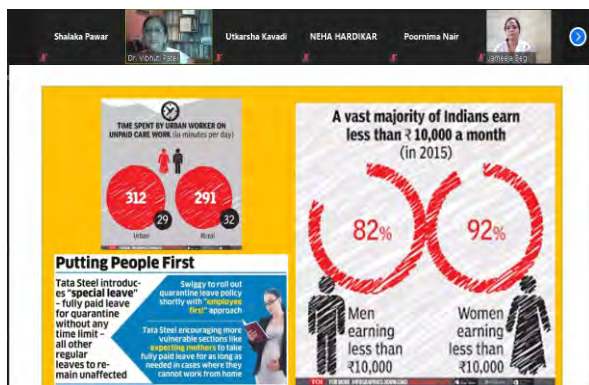
Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

online platform to acquire in-depth knowledge from the expert trainers.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first technical session on 'Women's Development and Empowerment' was delivered by Dr. Vibhuti Patel Professor (Retd.), Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. She started her session by focusing on women's development process, its issues, and challenges. She explained how women tackled health emergencies throughout the extended lockdown period and how it was seen through a gender lens. She cited by highlighting the emphasis on women that, COVID-19 pandemic is not just a health issue. It is a profound shock to our society and economy where women are at the heart of providing care and response to ongoing efforts. As front-line responders, health professionals, community volunteers, transport and logistics managers, scientists, are making critical contributions to address the outbreak of COVID-19 and women come in this line of responders. She further said that, women workers have been disproportionately affected by job loss, reduced working hours and financial crisis. She added that women spend ten times more time on unpaid work than men. This unequal distribution of caregiving responsibilities is linked to stereotypes of gender roles. She also said that women as health care providers, almost 70% in the forms of the frontline health care workforce as doctors, nurses, sanitary workers, Anganwadi workers (ICDS) and ASHA workers (NRHM), school teachers, etc. are susceptible to high risk of infection. Moreover, women are facing increased domestic care burdens in the wake of children and earning members being confined to home during the lockdown. Middle and upper-class educated employed women were working from home as they had information technology-enabled communication channels. She continued that, the pandemic had dreadful implications for the

vulnerable population like women-headed households, people with disability, pregnant women, homeless people, street children, lonely elderly, socially stigmatized transgender community and sex workers.



Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Professor (Retd.), TISS, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She further explained the consequences of reverse migration without infrastructural support due to barriers in inter-state cross over resulting in dangerous routes used by the migrant families, getting mowed down by bus, truck, train. Violence against women escalated due to social isolation under the lockdown. She elucidated on Government COVID-19 Relief Package to be used during COVID times. At the end of the session, she explained that there was a need for reduction of socioeconomic inequalities through innovative public economic policies and gender responsive participatory budgeting. She highlighted need for economic and social development for women more so during the pandemic.

The next session on 'Impact of COVID-19 on Women's Health & Health Practices' was taken by Ms. Poornima Nair, Director (Health & Disability), Apnalaya, Mumbai. She started her session by mentioning the impacts of the pandemic on women. She explained that women are more likely to bear the impact of social and economic consequence of the pandemic due to increased workload of domestic chores like childcare, cooking, cleaning, laundry, looking after sick or elderly family members, etc. Generally, women lack access to health care facilities. Besides this, there was an increased incidence of physical and emotional abuse against women. Pregnant and lactating mothers and children were susceptible to contracting COVID infections. She also explained that, as women are economically impacted more due to the deepening of pre-existing gender inequalities. Further she explained the impact on the reproductive health of a woman during a pandemic. She

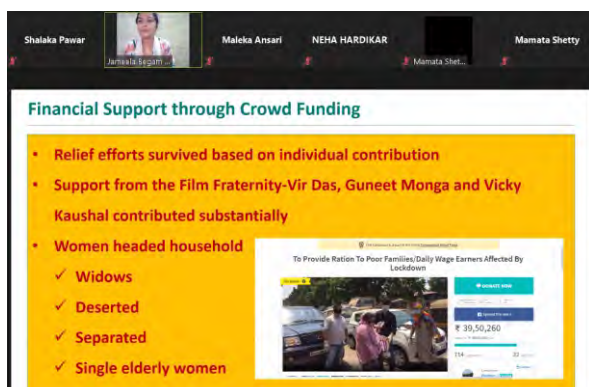
elaborated that, impact on reproductive health occurred due to reduced access and utilization of essential maternal health services, food insecurity leading to poor food intake during pregnancies, unavailability of Iron Folic Acid (IFA) and calcium supplements, mothers missing out on essential immunizations during pregnancy, increased financial burden as the families availing services of private practitioners, high-risk pregnancy cases going unidentified, disruption of Take Home Ration (THR) distribution through Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and inability to access services for termination of unwanted pregnancies. In her presentation she also focused on the impact on the reproductive health of women from vulnerable communities which occurred due to increased home deliveries in vulnerable communities, lack of transport facility during emergencies, increased risk of premature deliveries and low birth weight babies, increased risk to COVID infection due to sharing infrastructure with COVID treatment facilities and lack of healthcare service providers for non-COVID related health problems. During the pandemic, due to several reasons including fear of COVID, unpaid work at home, financial crisis, unavailability of health care facilities, women underwent mental stress, and showed symptoms like stress, anxiety, anger, insomnia, ability to focus, etc. After explaining the impact on women's health, she talked about opportunities to address the issues of women's health. She explained that the healthcare system needs to be strengthened focusing on primary health and nutritional programmes. She concluded by emphasizing to safeguard the health system and focusing on gender-sensitive response and addressing stigma towards mental health.



Ms. Poornima Nair, Director, Health & Disability, Apnalaya, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Mrs. E. Jameela Begum Pathan, Founder Member, Ghar Bachao Ghar Banao Andolan (GBGB), Mumbai took the next session on the topic of 'COVID-19 Pandemic & Safety of Women and Girl Child'.

Speaking on the scenario of the Mumbai slums, she explained that most of the migrants came to Mumbai for their livelihoods and are compelled to stay in slums with their families. A few NGOs dedicatedly provided relief during pandemic including lockdown. The primary activity undertaken by GBGB was running a community kitchen to provide food to migrants and jobless people as a social solidarity measure in slums. Through this activity more than 1 million meals were served to the needy during the lockdown. Referring to another relief activity during the pandemic, she mentioned of the relief camp for 300 migrants and homeless located in the western part of Mumbai city. GBGB, Mumbai also supported these people by taking care of their cooking, cleaning, and other daily chores. Special measures for women were taken like separate toilets in the camp to maintain the health and hygiene of women workers. She further added that representatives of GBGB helped these migrants to return their home towns safely during the pandemic.

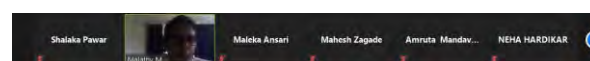


Ms. E. Jameela Begum Pathan, Founder Member, Ghar Bachao Ghar Banao Andolan, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Concluding the session, she said that GBGB had implemented relief activities in the majority of the communities by providing cooked meals through community kitchens, dry ration, sanitary napkins, PPE kits, masks, gloves, and sanitizers to hospitals, nurses training during the pandemic.

On the second day, the technical session on 'COVID-19: Livelihood & Employment of Women – Challenges & Possibilities' was taken by Ms. Malathy M, Director, (Education & Livelihoods), Apnalaya, Mumbai. She explained the scenario of women's livelihoods and employment before COVID through statistical data. She further said that The Periodic Labor Force Survey conducted by the Government of India has shown that, 94% of women workers in India are in the informal sector, 4 out of 10 women are illiterate, 81% of these women-owned enterprises are operated

from within their household premises, the workforce participation rate for women is less in India, 97% of the women operate in enterprises with less than six workers, 54.4% of salaried women are not eligible for any social security benefit, 50.6% of salaried/regular wage women are not eligible for paid leave, 66.5% of salaried/regular wage women had no written job contract, only 6.9% women have undergone any formal or informal vocational training compared to 15.7% men. Later, she spoke about the impact of COVID-19 on women's livelihoods and unemployment during the lockdown. She mentioned that 4 out of every 10 women who were working last year lost their jobs during the lockdown, women employed in the pre-lockdown phase are 23.5% less likely than men to be employed post-lockdown, 70% of the global healthcare workforce is made up of women who earn 11% less than men in the same field. She further added that, as a majority of women are self-employed or in the informal sector, and are not entitled to social security benefits like paid leave, job security, there is a higher risk of income and livelihoods loss.



Approaches to support recovery of livelihoods at a local level

- Supporting women employees in our organisations**
 - Flexible work timings
 - Well being initiatives
- Grants and Loans without interest**
 - For the most vulnerable women, there will be a need to support financially
 - Apnalaya organised direct cash transfer for the 2185 vulnerable households in the community
 - Recovery grants/ Interest free loans for women entrepreneurs with flexible repayment terms
- Innovations**
 - Supporting women to respond to market demands in the post lockdown period
 - Increased demands for mask, soaps, sanitizers
 - Building a local consumer base – suitable for rural areas
 - Involving women in leading relief and awareness interventions around COVID-19
 - Supporting Medical Insurance costs for frontline workers –relief/ health

Ms. Malathy M, Director, Education & Livelihoods, Apnalaya, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She further stated that, due to lockdown and loss of livelihoods, there was an increase in vulnerabilities such as the increased risk of domestic violence, limited access to credit, and reduced decision-making powers, particularly financial. 70% of women who experienced violence at home had symptoms of mental health-related ailments, 45% of women felt lonely, depressed, or irritable during the lockdown, increased risk of drop-out of children from education, child marriages, trafficking, etc. She also explained that, due to lockdown and loss of livelihoods, cultural barriers and lack of a supportive environment also increased such as increased demands of caregiving, unpaid work at home, etc. After explaining the impact of COVID on women's livelihoods and employment, she emphasized strategies to recover women's livelihoods and employment. The recovery of livelihoods, she said, can be procured through banks

and financial institutions, skill development and vocational training organizations, local government implementation and innovations, private and public sector employers, NGOs & CBOs, state, and central government policies, and CSR funding organizations. She said that the policy level initiatives such as cash transfers, focus on supporting sectors such as agriculture, healthcare, and education where women's workforce participation is high have to be relied upon to support the recovery of livelihoods and employment to women. She concluded her session by citing innovations to be undertaken to support women to respond to market demands, support inflexible work timings, and well-being initiatives, providing grants and loans without interest in the post lockdown period.

The next technical session on 'Preparedness and Response Mechanism at ULB Level: Recovering from COVID-19' was delivered by Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra. He began his session by explaining, how ULBs will have to be empowered for prevention and control of COVID-19. He emphasized the empowerment of ULBs by citing reference of the article 243W of the Constitution inserted by 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (74th CAA). He said that, if ULBs which are set up as Local Self Government units, can perform a far more effective role through the devolution of powers and responsibilities to them. He further stated that ULBs as a local government can formulate economic development and social justice plans as mentioned in the 12th Schedule of the 74th CAA. He mentioned that the Government of India (Central as well as State) spends only 1.25 to 1.5% of its GDP on Public health. {Ref: Report by the World Health Organization (WHO)}. He further explained that the role of Women & Child Development Committees (WCDC) can play a dynamic role in women and child development activities by making sufficient budget provisions. The



Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra addressing the participants.

budget provisions will allow WCDC to formulate promotive and curative health programmes, to tackle the morbidity like COVID at the city level. He added that most of the ULBs are unaware of gender budget provisions and their appropriate usage for women and child development activities.

He further said that ULBs should strengthen their infrastructure instead of privatization or engage in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) etc. He then discussed the role of the disaster management department and integrated urban and regional planning approach. In an integrated planning approach, ULBs have to include peri-urban areas while considering the development of infrastructure. He concluded by stating the importance of social engagement in preventive measures of COVID.

ULBs' PRESENTATIONS

After the technical sessions, ULBs made presentations to the participants related to the post-pandemic challenges for women and efforts taken at the city level to tackle them and ensure health and safety for women.

The first ULB presentation on 'Efforts taken in Cities during Pandemic' was made by Dr. Hemlata Gandhi, SM & ID Manager, NULM, Brand Ambassador SBM & BBBP Kota, Rajasthan. At the beginning of her session, she spoke about the pandemic crisis in Kota city. She said that initially people were afraid of COVID due to its occurrence for the first time. Kota Municipal Corporation (KMC) undertook drive to generate awareness to the citizen for compulsorily using face mask, keeping social distances, hand hygiene, etc. to contain the spread of the virus in the city. These drives were enforced and successfully implemented through Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the NULM mission. She continued that, SHGs played a dynamic role in tackling pandemic. KMC took efforts to generate livelihood opportunities through SHGs as most of the informal sector lost their jobs during the pandemic in Kota city. She mentioned that 39 women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Kota have provided more than 51,000 masks to frontline workers. She then explained that SHGs also made face shield, PPE kits, gowns, lab coats for front line workers and staff, and generated income sources for their livelihoods. She also stated that, during the pandemic, most of the workers in informal sector lost their jobs and facing scarcity of food. SHGs made food products to be provided to needy people and implemented an income-generating initiative with financial support from KMC.



Dr. Hemlata Gandhi, SM&ID Manager, NULM, Brand Ambassador SBM & BBBP Kota, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

The second ULB presentation on 'Efforts taken in Cities during Pandemic' was delivered by Ms. Deepali Naik, Director and Ex-Officio Joint Director, Directorate of Women and Child Development, Panaji, Goa. She said that awareness of this Corona virus is a crucial need of the hour.

Anganwadi workers organized awareness programmes by keeping social distancing and precautions. The awareness programmes were conducted in which people were explained the importance of social distancing, hand hygiene, health issues, etc. Later, she said that Anganwadi workers were asked to distribute Take Home Ration (THR) after Anganwadi centers were shut in the wake of widespread COVID-19 and that Anganwadi centers conducted cleanliness drives, which played a significant role in cleanliness. She emphasized time management during the pandemic to tackle the crisis. She concluded that SHGs in the state contributed to tackling the crisis during the pandemic by stitching more than 1 lakh masks that are distributed at very reasonable prices to lower-income group people and front-line workers.



Ms. Deepali Naik, Director & Ex-Officio Joint Director, Directorate of Women & Child Development, Panaji, Goa addressing the participants.

In the Question & Answer session, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai encouraged the participants to discuss their queries with the speakers. After this session, the feedback was taken from the participants. The participants discussed with the speakers to resolve their queries at their respective cities in livelihood opportunities and safety.

SUMMING-UP

In the end, Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai proposed a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished speakers and the participants and concluded the training programme.



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **ROLE OF ULBs IN TACKLING CHALLENGES: DURING AND POST PANDEMIC**

28th - 29th October, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants learned strategic planning to be implemented at the ULB level to tackle the challenges and strategies for raising revenues by ULBs during the pandemic of COVID-19.

BACKGROUND

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly impacted cities around the world and raised fundamental questions about urban development. The multi-dimensional impact of the pandemic, for example, resulted in lockdown measures, the closure of schools, public spaces, and cultural institutions, and the rise of unemployment, as well as a collapse of tourism and related incomes in cities notably. It is a prodigious challenge for local governance on the frontline. The measures taken to contain the spread of the virus are having massive implications on Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) due to their economic structure, their preparedness for such an emergency, especially public health and service delivery systems. These challenges made us rethink in various dimensions like social, cultural, economic, and environmental. ULBs were amongst the first in rethinking and reinventing their strategies to be more sustainable through strategic planning. To discuss the strategies in enhancing ULBs' capacities during and post-pandemic challenges, it is important to find new

innovative ways to raise the resources and pool in finances at the local level. This is also the time to push for decentralized governance and strengthen local administration to make successful planning and their implementation during and post-pandemic.

Considering this, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Role of ULBs in Tackling Challenges: During and Post Pandemic' on 28th & 29th October, 2020 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of this training programme was to discuss the strategies for enhancing ULBs' capacities in handling this unprecedented situation and tackling

post-pandemic challenges and ensuring self-reliant governance.

PARTICIPATION

A total of 27 participants comprising Presidents, Dy. Municipal Commissioners, Municipal Engineers, Sanitary Inspectors, and Sanitation Superintendents from Maharashtra, Goa, and Gujarat attended this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai started this web-based training programme by extending warm welcome to the trainers and the participants. She stated that RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai works in capacity building, research in the urban sector and spoke on how ULBs need to enhance their capacities and how strategic planning is required for self-sufficient local governance. RCUES, Mumbai has provided a platform to expand knowledge on strategic planning to tackle the challenges in cities.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first technical session on 'Urbanization: Past, Present and Future' was delivered by Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra. In his session, he mentioned about the growth rate of urban population by depicting figures in percentages and estimated urban population to be increased in 2030 as urbanization in India, which is taking place at a faster pace than ever before. He spoke about the future of urbanization in India vis-à-vis urban agglomerations in India and how the cities are facing scarcity of resources like water. He added that the country's urban population is likely to reach 600 million by 2030. Cities are growth hubs for India, and the country's transformation depends directly on

their governance and sustainable urbanization. He further explained that, according to the Niti Aayog, India requires an INR 40-trillion investment until 2030 to overhaul its infrastructure whereas the revenue of all the municipal corporations put together is not more than INR 1.2 trillion, approximately one percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). He concluded by explaining probable key measures like resource mapping, planning horizon of 50 years, spatial planning, resource generation for development, governance and institutional planning, and time-bound robust implementation.



Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Role of ULBs in Tackling Challenges and Preparedness in the Effective Service Delivery – Water and Sanitation' was delivered by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. Initially, Dr. Salvi discussed the cleanliness of surfaces and precautions to be taken in community sanitation. He elucidated the responsibilities of ULBs connected to water supply and sanitation by discussing water supply management, centralized and decentralized system of wastewater management and sanitation management of public and community toilets. He further stated that community toilets may lead to the spread of the disease due to lack of hygiene and poor maintenance. Dr. Salvi emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure that soaps or hand sanitizers are available at the toilet premises and encourage its use to the toilet users. While elaborating on precautionary measures to be taken at the community level, he mentioned the precautions and interventions to be taken by community members as well as caretakers if executed properly can help control the spread of the disease. He further explained that common surfaces at shared hand wash facilities like handles, knobs, doors, etc. are major sources of disease spread in a

community. He recommended the use of foot-operated pedaled hand washing stations at shared community spaces to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently without touching the tap which will control the spread of disease. He mentioned that these were globally adopted measures during epidemics for controlling the spread of the disease. Caretakers should also keep themselves sanitized by using disinfectants in a regular manner. While doing all these, caretakers must strictly adhere to the use of safety gear. He then referred to the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures for sanitation workers to be followed by state governments as well as contractors employing sanitation workers. He stated that, ULBs are advised to put in place Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure the health and safety of sanitation workers including lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practiced while performing their duties on field every day. Sanitation workers are to be provided with appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons and the usage of these must be ensured by ULBs and contractors to minimize their risk to the virus. He said that the WHO has released an interim guidance document on 19th March 2020, which supplements the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) documents by summarizing WHO guidance on water, sanitation, and health care waste relevant to viruses, including coronaviruses. He further said that based on this document, the MoHUA, GoI has published an Advisory on 'Safe Management of Water Supply and Sanitation Services during COVID-19 Crisis' in April 2020.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He concluded his session by sharing some practices followed by ULBs to avoid transmission of the virus in dense communities in the urban areas, which may be suitably replicated.

The next session on 'Role of ULBs in Tackling Challenges and Preparedness in the Effective Service Delivery – Solid Waste Management' was delivered by



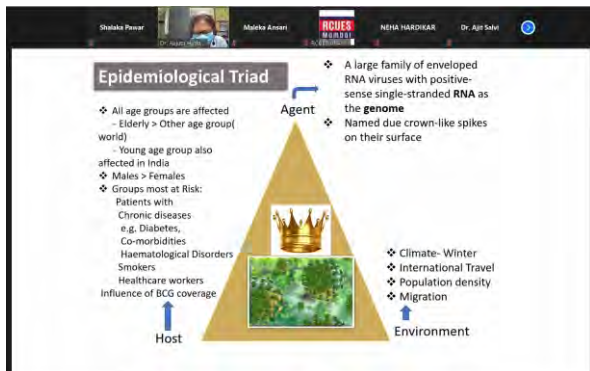
Dr. Ketna Matkar, Founder and Managing Director, Cipher Environmental Solutions LLP, Climate Reality Leader, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Dr. Ketna Matkar, Founder and Managing Director, Cipher Environmental Solutions LLP, Climate Reality Leader, Mumbai. At the beginning, she explained the current status of COVID patients and their recovery rate across the country. She then explained the life span of the Coronavirus on various surfaces like paper, copper, wood, surgical mask, etc. She emphasized seven-steps approach for developing a municipal solid waste management plan. She elaborated upon the challenges in SWM such as source segregation, collection, transportation, treatment, disposal, data management, and update and financial assistance during and post-pandemic. She expressed concern about biomedical waste being mixed with other wastes. During COVID times, the average biomedical waste generated from hospitals and COVID centers has increased in a huge quantity. She mentioned that the CPCB has issued guidelines on the disposal of COVID waste. These guidelines must be followed by all stakeholders including isolation wards, quarantine centers, sample collection centers, laboratories, ULBs, and Common Biomedical Waste Treatment and Disposal Facilities (CBWTFs).

At the end of the session, she explained the SOPs on segregation of waste at source. These SOPs have emphasized segregation at the source which should be collected, transported, and are disposed of in a segregated manner and casts responsibility on all the stakeholders to ensure the segregation of waste during the entire SWM chain.

On the second day, the technical session on 'Role of ULBs in Social Development During Pandemic and Decentralized Strategies for Sustainable Health Infrastructure' was delivered by Dr. Rujuta Hadaye, Professor, Preventive & Social Medicine, KEM Hospital, Mumbai. She explained the common symptoms of COVID-19 like cough, cold, fever,

difficulty in the breathing and its pattern of progression, which are considered a serious public health concern. She portrayed the number of COVID-19 cases across the country to understand the severity of the disease, its route of infection, mode of transfer.



Dr. Rujuta Hadaye, Professor, Preventive & Social Medicine, KEM Hospital, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She further explained the norms for physical distancing, hand hygiene, consistent use of masks and PPE, safe waste management, and surface cleanliness to prevent the infection. The infection can be controlled by educating the public at large about preventive measures, immediate isolation of the patients, early diagnosis, and treatment. She elaborated upon the role of ULBs and the Government of Maharashtra in tackling during and post-pandemic situations. ULBs have played a vital role in controlling the disease by developing and providing infrastructure facilities to COVID patients. ULB officials made a provision of quarantine centers, provided food and sanitation facilities through linkages with other stakeholders. ULBs also encouraged Self Help Groups (SHGs) to provide masks, PPE kits to front line workers and other medical staff. She concluded that ULBs had effectively implemented livelihood generation activities during the pandemic.



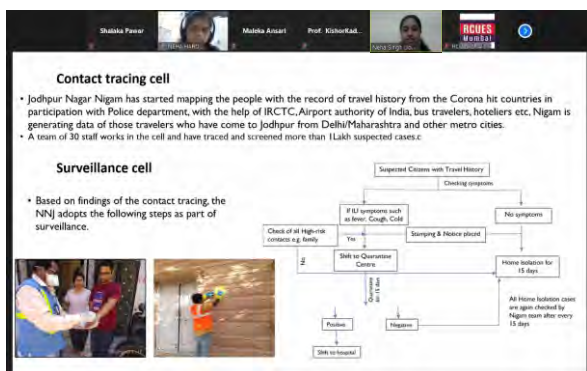
Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department of Economics, SNDT College, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next technical session on 'Financial Reforms for ULBs to Provide Sustainable Solutions to the Pandemic' was delivered by Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department of Economics, SNDT College, Mumbai. Beginning his speech he described the status of ULBs by explaining that, ULBs are broadly concerned with public health, welfare, regulatory functions, public safety, public infrastructure functions, and development activities. He then explained that the main sources of revenue of ULBs are collection from taxes and non-tax sources under the Municipal Act, 1956, deviation of shared taxes and duties as recommended by the State Finance Commission (SFC). In addition to this, grants are received from the Government of India under centrally sponsored schemes. He added that some of these reforms were done with limited success under Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in 2005-2013. Further, these reforms were carried forward in the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) of 2015-2022. He then explained the reasons for the changes in the financial condition of ULBs such as interruption of public investment in basic services, absence of ULBs own revenue book, limited availability of state and central schemes, steps for state and central tax reforms, etc. He then emphasized ULBs and COVID - 19 Pandemic. He concluded by explaining the changes needed in the financial status of ULBs while tackling pandemic challenges and the need for revised financial reforms at the ULB level.

ULBs' PRESENTATION

After the technical sessions, the ULB presentation was done to present an example of good practices to understand the efforts taken in tackling pandemic at the ULB level in the city of Jodhpur. This presentation was delivered by Ms. Neha Singh, Research Officer, SWM & SBM, Jodhpur Municipal Corporation (JMC), Rajasthan. She explained the efforts taken by JMC in SWM during the pandemic. She said that till last year the door to door waste collection mechanism was not started in the city. This year, this mechanism was implemented and is in operation in all the 65 municipal wards of Jodhpur city.

She further explained that JMC has focused on IEC activities and behavior change awareness programs including a range of activities like wall paintings on the importance of segregation, municipal ward level Rangoli competition on SS 2020, beautification of old slums, banners and hoarding on cleanliness, plastic ban, waste segregation, distribution of blue and green dustbins, use of dustbins, rallies, campaigns,



Ms. Neha Singh, Research Officer, SWM & SBM, JMC, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

etc. on various parameters of Swachh Survekshan (SS) - 2020. These activities helped JMC to score better rank in SS 2020. She then stated that JMC had allotted separate vehicles for the collection of C&D waste, installed separate dustbins on all D2D vehicles for the collection of domestic hazardous waste, installation of smart dustbins, and litter bins in all market areas. Besides these activities, strict enforcement on the use of plastic bags was done and biodegradable plastic bags were distributed to vendors. She concluded by mentioning that, JMC had concentrated on documenting their efforts in waste management as a case study.

After the ULB presentation, feedback on the online training programme was taken by Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai.



Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

SUMMING-UP

At the end, Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai proposed a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished trainers and the participants and concluded the training programme.



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **HEALTH & SAFETY OF FRONT LINE WORKERS / SANITATION WORKERS DURING AND POST COVID-19**

10th - 11th November, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants learned the safety measures to be taken by sanitary and front line workers while working on the field and facing health challenges, through technical sessions delivered by the distinguished trainers.

BACKGROUND

The outbreak of Coronavirus has put the world in a major public health crisis. Health and safety of their population is now one of the top priorities for all the nations. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the escalation of cases have put the world in a multi-sectoral crisis. The provision of safe water supply, sanitation and waste management services is essential to protect human health during all infectious disease outbreaks, including the Coronavirus outbreak. Improvement in knowledge of such stakeholders will assist them in taking appropriate decisions in effectively addressing the immediate challenges. Once this is done, these officials can further disseminate this information to their Front Line Workers (FLWs).

Considering this background, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based

Training Programme on 'Health and Safety of Front Line Workers / Sanitation Workers During and Post COVID-19' on 10th & 11th November, 2020. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to understand and address the challenges for health and safety of FLWs / sanitation workers and service providers engaged in sanitation at city level.

PARTICIPATION

In all 64 participants comprising President, Executive Officers, City Project Officer, Sanitation Workers, Sanitary Inspectors, City Coordinators of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) of Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Goa and Assam attended this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai welcomed the distinguished trainers and the participants and briefed them about the objective of the web-based training programme. She gave a brief background of the institute and stated that RCUES, Mumbai is supported by the MoHUA, GoI. She also said that this web-based training programme was essentially being conducted to impart latest knowledge and practical on-ground solutions to tackling COVID-19. She further said that it is crucial to understand the hazards and challenges faced by the FLWs and service providers engaged in sanitation and waste management at slums, densely populated areas and containment zones and to ensure that they are well informed of the protective measures and are equipped with required safety kits.

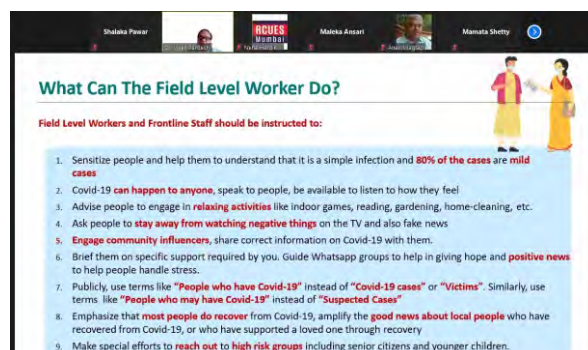
She highlighted that this training is for the concerned municipal officials of ULBs involved in sanitation and waste management of COVID-19, who can further disseminate the information to their FLWs.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The technical session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19 and Emergency Preparedness and Response' was delivered by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP), World Health Organization (WHO), Mumbai. Dr. Pardeshi explained the common symptoms of COVID-19 pandemic and its pattern of progression. He stated that it is crucial to understand the modes of transmission of the virus to understand the spreading of it and its pattern of spreading. He elaborated on transmission of virus by stating that the MoHUA, GoI has published infographics which depict the nine common means of spread of the virus. He then explained the measures to be taken to reduce transmission of Corona virus. The measures are to keep physical distancing,

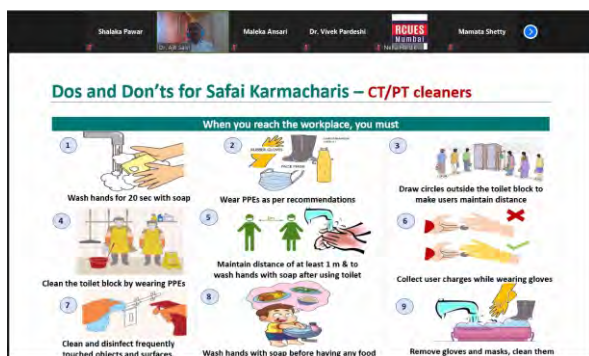
quarantine for 14 days, to seek immediate health care, to avoid going to public areas and to wear masks when they are around other people. He further explained that it is essential to follow hygiene practices like wearing a mask, hand washing, and other measures prescribed as precautions against COVID-19. He also stated that in respect of the hand and respiratory hygiene measures that should be followed, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), GoI has published guidelines for hygiene measures to be observed to contain further spreading of the virus. He further stated that the MoHFW, GoI's guidelines illustrates DO's and DON'T's for appropriate respiratory hygiene, appropriate use of mask and hand hygiene which are crucial to contain spreading of the virus. He emphasized that FLWs have to take additional precautions after reaching home. Since these FLWs are at high risk as working directly with COVID patients, these measures should be strictly followed to safeguard themselves and their families. He also spoke about the stigma attached to this earlier unknown pandemic situation. FLWs can play a significant role by helping them understand the severity of the virus. He concluded by mentioning information of the key agencies which are working together at global, national and state/local levels for prevention and control of this pandemic.



Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPSP, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) – Precautions and Preventive Measures' was delivered by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. Initially, Dr. Salvi discussed on cleanliness of surfaces and precautions to be taken in community sanitation. While elaborating on precautionary measures at community level, he mentioned the precautions and interventions by community members as well as caretakers executed properly can help control the spread of the disease. He further explained that common surfaces at shared hand wash facilities like handles, knobs, doors etc. are major sources of

spread of diseases in a community. He recommended the use of foot operated pedaled hand washing equipment at shared community spaces to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently without touching the tap which will control the spread of disease. He mentioned that these were globally adopted measures during epidemics for controlling the spread of the disease. He further explained that community toilets may lead to spread of the disease due to lack of hygiene and poor maintenance. Dr. Salvi further emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure that soaps or hand sanitizers are available at the toilet premises and encourage its usage to the toilet users. Caretakers should also clean frequently with disinfectant. While doing all this caretakers must strictly adhere to the use of safety gears.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He then mentioned the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures for sanitation workers to be followed by state governments as well as contractors and the employed sanitation workers. He continued saying that ULBs are advised to put Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in place to ensure health and safety of sanitation workers including lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practiced while performing their duties on field every day. Sanitation workers are required to be provided with appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons and the usage of these must be ensured by ULBs and contractors to minimize their risk to the virus. He said that the WHO released an interim guidance document on 19th March, 2020, which supplements the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) documents by summarizing WHO guidance on water, sanitation and health care waste relevant to viruses, including corona viruses. He further stated that based on this document, the MoHUA, Gol has published an Advisory on 'Safe Management of Water Supply and Sanitation Services during COVID-19 Crisis' in April 2020. He shared some practices followed by ULBs to avoid transmission of

virus in dense communities in the urban areas, which may be replicated suitably. He concluded by explaining about the safety gears and equipment to be used by sanitation workers while working on field.

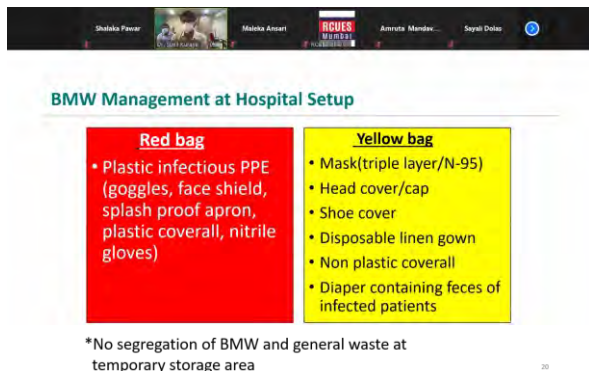
The next session on 'Health and Sanitation Measures at Community Level – Experience Sharing of Dharavi, Mumbai' was delivered by Mr. Anand Jagtap, former Officer on Special Duty (OSD), MCGM and Sanitation Expert in UNICEF Project, Mumbai. He explained the condition of the slums in Mumbai, the Slum Sanitation Programme (SSP) and the sanitation challenges faced by Mumbai slum residents in the current pandemic crisis.



Mr. Anand Jagtap, former Officer on Special Duty (OSD), MCGM and Sanitation Expert in UNICEF Project, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He elaborated on the most important challenges in slums during the COVID-19 epidemic have been those of maintaining social distancing, keeping the toilets clean and ensuring that users practice hand and personal hygiene in places where access to water and toilet facilities are limited. He further mentioned that MCGM has installed incinerators and sanitary pad vending machines in the toilet blocks to address the menstrual hygiene needs of women and girls. Dharavi being one of the highly dense slums, with support from Hindustan Unilever, community laundry machines have been installed in some of the toilet blocks and the wastewater from the laundry can now be used to flush toilets and initiated 'Flush the Virus' drive in Dharavi slum with support from UNICEF, Maharashtra. He also spoke about the awareness campaign to be initiated in communities to tackle pandemic challenges with support from UNICEF, Maharashtra. He further added that UNICEF intends to provide technical support to develop Terms of Reference (ToR) and SOPs to be included in health and hygiene education awareness, sensitivity workshops to generate awareness of measures to be taken during the pandemic situation. He concluded by mentioning the urgent need to focus on awareness and educational activities in slums that needs to be

increased to encourage community participation in tackling the post pandemic challenges.



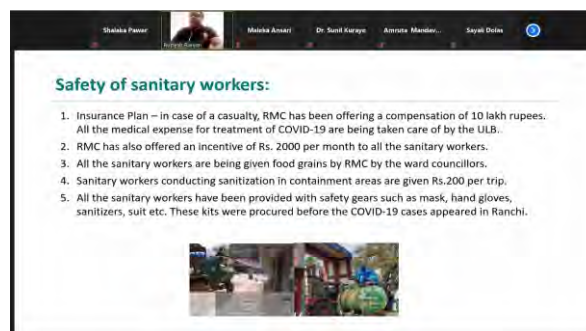
Dr. Sunil Kuyare, Associate Professor, Seth G S Medical College & KEM Hospital, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Biomedical Waste Management (BMWM)' was delivered by Dr. Sunil Kuyare, Associate Professor, Seth G S Medical College & KEM Hospital, Mumbai. He started his session by explaining the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules 2016 (BMWM), in which he discussed the color coding of bags and the types of biomedical waste to be collected as per the nature of waste, as prescribed. He emphasized on yearly training to be imparted to the concerned staff who were handling biomedical waste at various stages up to final disposal. He then said that doctors rely on junior staff for collection and segregation of biomedical waste assuming that it would be segregated accurately and will be transported in a segregated manner till final disposal. He further spoke about the preventive measures to be taken by front line workers, who handle the biomedical waste frequently. He explained the steps of wearing and removing the entire PPE kit. In the end, he concluded by mentioning the necessity of reinventing the existing system of waste management by stringent training on yearly basis to the BMW handling staff, robust implementation of BMWM Rules 2016, and guidelines.

ULBs' PRESENTATION

The ULB presentations were conducted to understand the efforts taken by the ULBs to tackle the pandemic. Representatives of Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Jharkhand and Navsari Municipality, Gujarat made presentation on their city level efforts to tackle the unknown situation in cities.

The first ULB presentation on 'Initiatives towards Tackling COVID-19 at Ranchi, Jharkhand' was delivered by Mr. Rupesh Ranjan, City Manager, Health & Sanitation Department, Ranchi Municipal Corporation (RMC), Jharkhand. Initially, Mr. Ranjan



Mr. Rupesh Ranjan, City Manager, Health & Sanitation Department, Ranchi Municipal Corporation, Jharkhand addressing the participants.

gave an overview of Ranchi city and intermittent set of actions taken to tackle pandemic of COVID-19. He further stated that, as soon as the nationwide lockdown was declared and COVID-19 cases started rising, RMC started taking preventive measures of screening and sanitizing the entry-exit points of the city. Concurrently, RMC district has prepared a district level guideline on 'COVID-19 - Preparedness and Control', which was issued on 20th March, 2020 before recording a single case of COVID-19 in Ranchi district. This district level rapid action helped in controlling further spread of virus. The initiatives undertaken to tackle the COVID-19 in Ranchi district included setting up of control room, formation of control room, helpline, preparation of sanitation plan for hotspot areas, vehicle procurement plan, and sanitary workforce deployment plan, encouraging stakeholders to provide health kits and food packages to migrants. He then enumerated the measures of periodic interventions undertaken by RMC to overcome the challenges and formulate new strategies for controlling the spread of COVID-19 in the most vulnerable areas where new COVID-19 cases were being detected. These strategic interventions comprised of:

- *Sealing 3 km area around the infected person's location and declaring it a Containment Zone after receiving the information on new cases from the health department of RMC,*
- *Imposing strict lockdown in the area,*
- *Door to door screening, sanitization practiced three times a day in the identified containment areas.*

He also discussed cognizance strategies taken by RMC by conducting training for municipal officials of Health and Sanitation Department from Ranchi district to acquire knowledge on SOPs, appropriate use of safety gears and observing DO's and DON'Ts measures to be taken at ULB level. These training were supported by WHO. He also talked about the significant role played by the elected representatives while tackling the challenges during and post

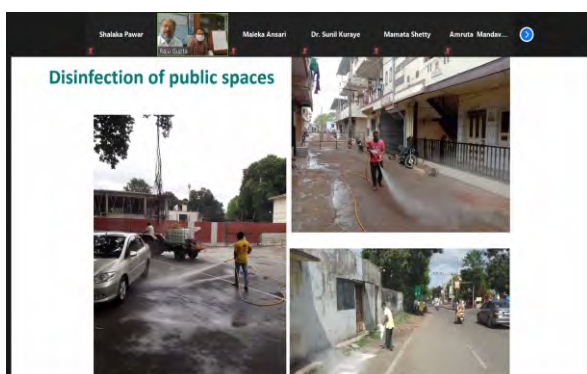
pandemic periods in Ranchi district. Elected representatives have actively participated in carrying out door to door awareness in their respective municipal wards and educated the citizens about WASH safety guidelines and precautionary measures for COVID-19, importance of segregating waste and especially use of masks and gloves, for health and hygiene. Hon'ble Mayor and Deputy Mayor of Ranchi sanctioned a grant of Rs.1 crore each from the RMC's Citizen Welfare Fund for fortifying the battle against COVID-19. In addition to these district / ULB level efforts in tackling pandemic challenges, several private organizations took initiatives to tackle these crisis through CSR funds.

The second ULB presentation on 'Initiatives towards Tackling COVID-19 at Navsari, Gujarat' was delivered by Mr. Rajubhai Gupta, Executive Engineer, Health & SWM Department, Navsari Municipality, Gujarat. The first step taken by Navsari Municipality was an IEC campaign to generate awareness of symptoms of COVID-19 and measures to be taken at city level in tackling pandemic challenges. The prominence was given to the safety of the FLWs and sanitation workers. Sanitation workers played a vital role in disinfecting public spaces, government offices and residential building premises at Navsari city. City administrators ensured good quality and adequate quantity of full PPE kit to be provided to both contractual and permanent sanitation workers including women sanitation workers. Sanitation workers and other stakeholders created awareness among people through door to door Information, Education and Communication (IEC) activities, explaining about DO's and DON'T's to control further spread of virus. Citizen participation and concerted efforts were the foremost attributes to tackle pandemic challenges in Navsari city.

Mumbai encouraged the participants to communicate with the trainers. The respective trainers addressed the queries raised by the participants.

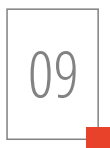
SUMMING-UP

The feedback was followed by the conclusion of the training programme. Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai, concluded the training programme by giving a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished trainers and the participants.



Mr. Rajubhai Gupta, Executive Engineer, Health & SWM Department, Navsari Municipality, Gujarat addressing the participants.

In the Question and Answer session, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG,



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **ROLE OF ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

24th November, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was the information acquired through technical sessions. The elected representatives understood the significance of their role in providing support to COVID patients and their family during this difficult time through knowledge sharing over this platform.

BACKGROUND

In January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus to be a public health emergency of international concern. Since then, WHO declared it as a pandemic affecting more than 115 countries around the globe. With the cases rising steadily, it was realized that the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) have a key role to play in tackling this unprecedented challenge. Further, leadership and involvement of elected representatives of the ULBs would be far more crucial in the coming days, to face post-COVID-19 challenges.

Importance of continued efforts relating to the training and capacity building of stakeholders has been increasingly recognized, especially in order to face the challenges during this pandemic. Hence, as per various guidelines of the Government authorities, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai has continued to provide the capacity building support through web-based tailor-made training programmes for the respective target groups. These programmes also act as a platform for

various stakeholders to gain more knowledge to raise their queries and also to share their experience and knowledge with other participants. It required an earnest effort to encourage the participants through the web-based platform instead of face-to-face training programmes after the extended lockdown due to COVID-19 and persistence of the pandemic situation across the country.

Considering this, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Role of Elected Representatives in Response to COVID-19' on 24th November 2020 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme is supported by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss role of municipal elected representatives in addressing post pandemic challenges at city level.

PARTICIPATION

In all 37 participants comprising of President, Dy. President, Elected Representatives, Office Superintendents, Administrative Officers, Jr. Supervisors (water supply and sanitation from Maharashtra, Gujarat and Rajasthan participated this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai started the web-based training programme by welcoming the distinguished speakers and the participants. She stated that the role of the elected representatives has been recognized as crucial in tackling the challenges of the pandemic in cities. The RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai has provided a virtual platform for resolving their queries, imparting necessary experiences sharing.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

INAUGURATION

Ms. Pravina Morajkar, President, Public Health Committee, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai inaugurated the web-based training programme. In her inaugural address, she explained that MCGM has set up 4 Jumbo COVID Care Facility Centres in Mumbai with the total capacity of more than 9000 oxygen beds, more than 2000 ICU beds and more than 1100 ventilator beds to treat COVID patients in Mumbai. She also stated that in Mumbai, 16000 COVID tests were done every day. She further stated that through mass surveys oxygen level, blood pressure and other parameters of the people were covered in the survey were tested, under 'My Family My Responsibility Campaign' launched by Mr. Uddhavji Thackrey, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Maharashtra. She mentioned that, the mortality rate of Mumbai of COVID patient was reduced after providing good facilities to COVID patients. Concluding her speech, she assured that the valuable



Ms. Pravina Morajkar, President, Public Health Committee, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

learnings gained from this training programme would certainly be highly useful for elected representatives, who play key role in the containment of Coronavirus.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19' was conducted by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPS), World Health Organization (WHO), Mumbai. Dr. Pardeshi explained the symptoms of COVID-19 pandemic and its pattern of progression. He said that it is vital to realize the modes of transmission of the virus to control its spread. He stated and he referred to MoHUA, GoI has published info-graphics which represent the nine-common means of spread of the virus.



Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPS, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He then elaborated upon the measures to be taken to reduce transmission of COVID-19. The measures are to keep physical distancing, quarantine for 14 days, to seek immediate health care, avoid going to public areas and to wear masks when they are around other people. He further explained that it is essential to follow hygiene practices like wearing a mask, hand washing, and other measures prescribed as precautions against COVID-19. He also emphasized

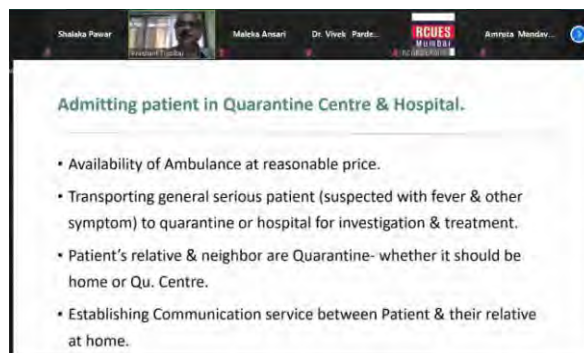
that, hand and respiratory hygiene measures that should be followed. He pointed out that the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), GoI has published guidelines for hygiene measures to be undertaken to contain further spreading of the virus. He stated that MoHFW, GoI's guidelines illustrates DO's and DON'T's for appropriate respiratory hygiene, appropriate use of mask and hand hygiene, which are crucial to contain spreading of the virus. He concluded his session by emphasizing upon the significant role of the elected representatives in tackling challenges during pandemic.



Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai and Member of AYUSH Task Force, Government of Maharashtra addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Advisory of AYUSH for Meeting Challenges arising due to Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in India' was taken by Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai and Member of AYUSH Task Force, Government of Maharashtra. She explained preventive measures such as personal hygiene, hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and social distancing etc. to check the community spread of COVID-19. She emphasized the significance of Ayurveda during post pandemic scenario. She noted that it helps in boosting immunity and maintaining a healthy life. She specified the AYUSH self-care guidelines for preventive health measures and boosting immunity with special mention of respiratory health. She further mentioned several Ayurvedic and Homeopathic medicines which are useful as a preventive measure and also explained the importance of physical exercises, breathing exercise to boost the immunity. She concluded by explaining the significant role of the elected representatives as a task force with reference to AYUSH guidelines.

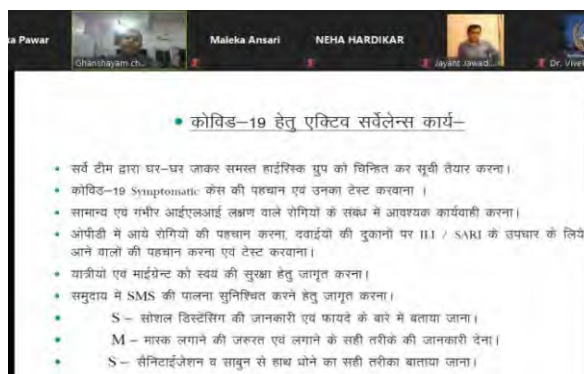
The next session on 'Role of Elected Representatives in Response to COVID-19' was conducted by Mr. Prashant Pisolkar, Sr. Faculty, AILSG, Mumbai. He explained the importance of IEC activities for the awareness of preventive measures among citizens,



Mr. Prashant Pisolkar, Sr. Faculty, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

involving local representatives and NGOs during and post pandemic situation. He further explained the active role of elected representatives in identifying COVID patients in their respective municipal wards to provide them required assistance in getting treatment facility in health centres, ensuring cost effective testing facility at local level. The Elected representatives also can play a key role in admitting COVID patients in quarantine centres or hospitals of their wards, ensuring availability of ambulance at reasonable rates, ensure the facility for non COVID chronic patients, ensure disposal facility for dead bodies. Concluding his session, he said that the provision of an additional budget can be made for any emergency management by municipal authorities to save the lives of citizens during such situations.

After the technical sessions, the virtual platform was opened for the best practices to be shared to the participants. The idea of sharing and discussing best practices was to provide opportunities to the participants from other cities for suitable replication and /or adoption of those practices. Dr. Ghanshyam Chawla, Dy. Chief Medical Health Officer, Bhilwara Municipal Council, Rajasthan explained how the Bhilwara District fought back against COVID-19 and became the best model in the state of Rajasthan.



Dr. Ghanshyam Chawla, Dy. Chief Medical Health Officer, Bhilwara Municipal Council, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

He explained that initially Bhilwara district was the epicenter of Coronavirus in Rajasthan until concerted containment measures were taken by Bhilwara district administration to limit the spread of Coronavirus. The forceful containment strategy followed by Bhilwara district included strict imposition of curfew, mass screening, identification of potential clusters etc. Around 2000 team members carried out door-to-door screening of around 28 lakhs population across Bhilwara district and enforced home quarantine to those who found symptomatic. He further explained that Bhilwara district administration developed a three-pronged strategy to combat the cluster spread. The first step taken by Bhilwara was effective implementation of curfew, sealing the borders of containment zones and ensuring zero vehicular movements; the second step taken was identifying potential clusters and carried out intensive mapping of contacts, isolating high risk people and the third step taken was extensive screening of the entire population of Bhilwara district. After this three-pronged strategy, quarantine centres were set up at private hospitals, hotels and resorts to avoid the inaccessibility to health facilities. At the end, he explained the significant role of elected representatives in awareness generation for proper use of mask and gloves, sanitization and implementation of social distancing, disposal of bio medical waste as per BMW Rules 2016 etc. Bhilwara being a model in fighting against Corona virus, other States are trying to replicate containment strategy followed by Bhilwara district to curb the spread of Coronavirus in their cities.

SUMMING UP

At the end of the sessions, trainers addressed the queries raised by the participants, followed by proposed a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to the trainers and the participants.

10

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **FINANCIAL REFORMS DURING AND POST COVID-19**

25th - 26th November, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the training was imparted to the participants about the strategies to increase the revenue of the ULBs for making strong health care system during pandemic, through the technical sessions.

BACKGROUND

The impact of the pandemic on the economy and on the fiscal positions of the Central and State Governments is still highly uncertain. The magnitude of impact of pandemic on different sectors varies; none of the sectors has remained unaffected. The pandemic has put India's urban public health systems under stress, both in terms of infrastructure and economically. The unprecedented expenses incurred on health service delivery to tackle the COVID pandemic have restrained the need to put property tax reforms on the fast track. Property tax remains the only major revenue source in the municipal portfolio and it contributes about 60 percent to municipal tax revenue in India. In addition, the municipal finance systems that support the activities necessary to fight the pandemic at the local level have also come under pressure. Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India raise finances through a variety of sources: ULBs generate their own revenues from property tax, part of stamp duty they receive, entertainment tax and other local

cess, grants from the State and Central governments, loans from banks and other institutions. They also raise finance through municipal bonds, and generate revenues from sundry sources such as rents from entities that use public premises, unclaimed security deposits etc. Due to ongoing social distancing measures in place and local level restrictions in many places, supply chains are not yet fully restored, which affects recovery process. Given the deteriorating municipal finance revenue generation amidst the COVID-19 outbreak, ULBs must urgently rethink the fiscal policy.

Considering this, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Financial Reforms During & Post COVID-19' on 25th & 26th November, 2020 at 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by

the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss the strategies by local governments to enhance the finances during COVID recovery times.

PARTICIPATION

A total of 24 participants comprising Elected Representatives, Municipal Executive Officers, Municipal Engineer III, Internal Auditors, State Mission Managers (SM & ID, NULM), District Mission Managers, Community Organizers and Social Workers of NGOs from Maharashtra, Goa and Rajasthan participated in this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION



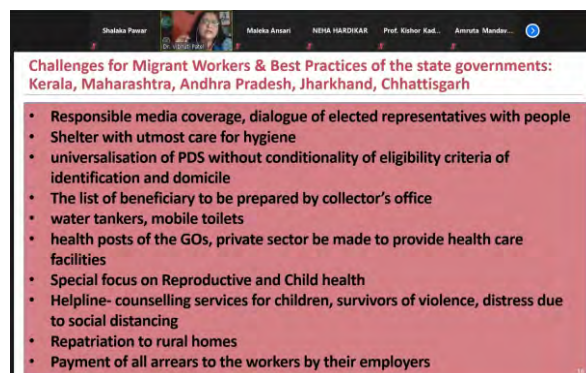
Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai started the web-based training programme by welcoming the distinguished trainers and the participants. She explained the objective of the web-based training programme by elucidating the importance of revenue generation necessary to tackle the health issues during the pandemic. She gave introduction of the trainers before the start of the technical sessions.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Impact of COVID-19 on Indian Economy' was conducted by Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Retired Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. She started her session by explaining the effects of lockdown and its impact on Indian economy. She elaborated on several sectors like travel & tourism, household services, platform based services such as Urban Clap, Swiggy, Ola and Uber, construction services, fisheries which were severely

affected due to the extended lockdown, and adversely impacted Indian economy. She further explained how rural urban linkages were affected due to lockdown. Vulnerable communities like construction workers, street vendors etc. went back to their native places as they lost their livelihood in the cities. She added that migration of vulnerable groups had huge impact on the economy. Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Telangana were affected States due to reduced workforce and low output of various services. She talked on informalization of economy which is more pronounced in female workers. In India, 94% of women are employed in the unorganised sector, involved in such works which lack dignity of labour, social security, decent and timely wages. She concluded her session by giving a few recommendations to augment the economy. Some of them are reduction of socio-economic inequality through fiscal expansion, increase in social sector investment, gender responsive participatory budgeting and universal access to health care services and by allocating at least 6% of the GDP for public health.



Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Retired Professor, TISS, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Role of Central and State in Amending Financial Reforms During Pandemic Crisis' was taken by Dr. Sanjay Phad, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai. He started his session by explaining budgetary provisions for ULBs and need of financial reforms to tackle pandemic situation. He elaborated upon India's decentralization initiatives in the form of seventy-third and seventy fourth Constitutional Amendments' poses various challenges. After the Constitutional amendments it became mandatory to Finance Commission to allocate funds and make recommendations to strengthen the functioning of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs). He further explained that though quantum of

Table 1: Amounts Allocated by Central Finance Commissions to ULBs

(('Crores))

Commission	Amount Allocated to ULBs	% Growth in amount	Share of ULB Grants	Total Local Body Grants	% Share in total FC Grants	% share in Total FC Transfer
FC-X (1995-2000)*	1000	-	18.58	5380.93	24.24	2.37
FC-XI (2000-05)	2000	100.00	20.00	10000	17.07	2.30
FC-XII (2005-10)	5000	150.00	20.00	25000	17.53	3.31
FC-XIII (2010-15)	23111	362.22	26.82	86162	33.32	5.05
FC-XIV (2015-20)	87143.8	277.07	30.32	287436	53.49	6.41
FC-XV (2020-21)	29250	9.69 (over 2019-20)	32.50	90000		

Source: Reports of Finance Commissions, Government of India.

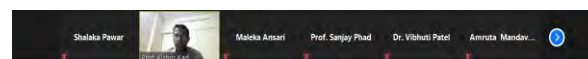
Dr. Sanjay Phad, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai addressing the participants.

flow of grants to local bodies increased over a period because of allocation of grants by the Finance Commissions, still these funds are not adequate to strengthen the functioning of ULBs. Considering these issues, he further mentioned that the percent share of ULB grants in total Finance Commission transfers which was 2.3 percent in the Eleventh Finance Commission increased to 5.05 percent in the Thirteenth Finance Commission and 6.41 percent in the recommendations of Fourteenth Finance Commission. According to him, these enhancements were not enough to fulfil the objective of the amendments. Hence this share must be increased up to minimum 15 percent he suggested. For this purpose 6 percent of divisible pool of Central taxes as general basic grants and 2 percent as performance grants need to be granted to ULBs. He also suggested that it should be ensured that the State Governments transfer the local body grants promptly and efficiently to the local bodies as per the recommendations made by the Finance Commission of India and State Finance Commissions.

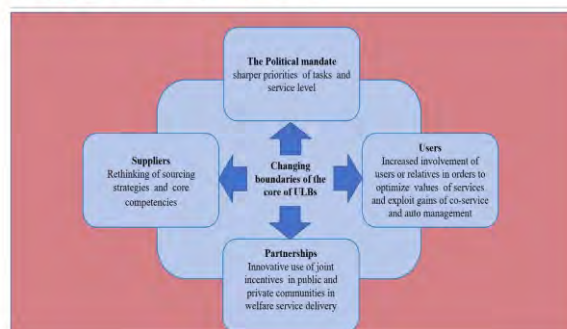
He further stated that urbanization and economic growth are interlinked as cities provide economies of agglomeration. Currently, cities accommodate 377 million i.e. 31% of India's current population and contribute 63% of the GDP and are expected to accommodate 800 million in 2050. Hence the provisioning of adequate infrastructure requires huge finances. Studies have indicated that the urban local finances in India are falling short in mobilization of resources and gaining financial autonomy. The resource base of ULBs typically consists of their own sources, state government grants, loans from state governments, and market borrowings. He said that ULBs in India have a minimal revenue base and are largely dependent on Central and State grants, which constrains their ability of ULBs to invest adequately in capital expenditure like creating infrastructure and,

thereby, improve quality of life in the cities. Central Finance Commissions have also recommended for financial strengthening of ULBs from time to time. He concluded his session by mentioning that financial self-sufficiency of the ULBs is the need of the hour. This can be achieved through encouraging municipal bonds, review of property tax system, periodically revising the tax rate and to improve efficiency and transparency in collection and mobilization of resources.

The next session on 'Strategies to Encourage Digitalization at ULB Level' was conducted by Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department of Economics, SNDT College, Mumbai. He initially talked on the prerequisite to move towards Digitization by ULBs, as due to the pace of urbanization role of ULBs is increasing in providing service delivery to citizens. He said that over the last decade, the private sector has shifted its work on a large scale to online mode.



Changing Boundaries of the ULBs



Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department of Economics, SNDT College, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Pandemic of COVID-19 has created opportunities to ULBs to transfer their services towards digitization to improve efficiency and productivity in service delivery at ULB level. He then explained strategic elements and several effective tools like web portals, apps, video calling and Citizen Service Centre (CSC) leading to digital transformation.

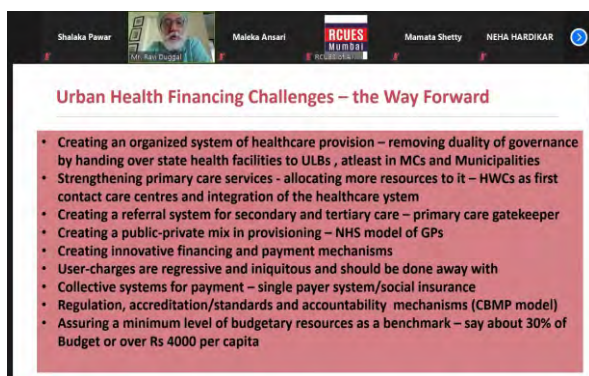
These platforms are useful in offering aviation services, pension, foreign trade, digital courts, travel and expenditure monitoring, and month-end dashboard, automation of tax and revenue management processes for direct and indirect vices, registration of properties and land, shop, birth, death, marriage, etc. He further cited examples of Digital Welfare such as education, healthcare, and social care and protection cases etc. He concluded his session by explaining importance of digitization at ULB level to bring efficiency in service delivery and other services.

On the second day, the session on 'Health Financing at ULB Level' was conducted by Mr. Ravi Duggal, Expert, Public Health, Mumbai. He started his session by elaborating on the topic of economy of ULBs, which have become weak institutions over time because of inadequate revenue generation. He added that inadequate revenue generation leads to dependency on state government resources and hence have resulting in weak autonomy and decision making powers at ULB level. He then focused on Health Financing where he talked on overview of health financing. Like the decline of the fiscal strength of ULBs over the years even healthcare spending of ULBs has come down, he added. He also mentioned that ULBs provide various levels of health care ranging from health care by the community health workers to urban health centres, dispensaries and hospitals, including medical college attached hospitals.

he explained the strategy for restructuring financial reforms where he highlighted the cost based allocation of budgets for each level of health care. Sixty percent of the health budget should be allocated for primary care like dispensaries, public health centres etc., he added.

SUMMING-UP

At the end of the sessions, the participants asked several queries regarding raising revenues of ULBs. The distinguished trainers replied to their queries. The feedback was taken from the participants, followed by proposing a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai to the distinguished trainers and the participants.



Mr. Ravi Duggal, Expert, Public Health, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He further spoke about the issues of urban health financing such as inadequate resources for primary care, tertiary hospitals handling a large proportion of primary care which amounts to wasting limited resources, lack of a referral system, deficits of human resource and need to restructure resource use etc.

He also elaborated upon 'Financial Reforms for ULBs to Provide Sustainable Solutions to Pandemic', where he mentioned that the issues which have come up have created chaos and instilled fear during the pandemic of COVID-19. The pandemic exposed the weaknesses and vulnerability of the public health system and governance. He further added that COVID context is a good opportunity which the government in order to reform the healthcare system, including the private sector. He talked on the sustainable solutions to pandemic by suggesting strengthening primary care services, creating a referral system for secondary and tertiary care, creating innovative financing and payment mechanisms. In conclusion,



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **NULM - DURING AND POST PANDEMIC APPROACH**

26th - 27th November, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was the Question and Answer Session held after the technical sessions. In this session subject experts answered several questions raised by the participants on issues in acquiring loans through banks and queries about newly launched scheme- PM SVANidhi by MoHUA, GoI for street vendors.

BACKGROUND

National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) was launched by the then Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (MoHUPA), now Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI). The mission focusses on organizing the urban poor through competent grassroots level institutions, by creating opportunities for skill development leading to market-based employment. The Mission also aims at providing equipped shelter with essential amenities to the urban homeless and addresses livelihood concerns of the urban street vendors. The COVID-19 outbreak affected all the segments of the population and has been particularly detrimental to the members of social groups in the most vulnerable situations. It continues to affect vulnerable communities including street vendors, homeless population, etc. During the post pandemic scenario, it is imperative to take a more holistic approach to build long-term livelihood sustainability of the urban poor, integrating objectives of self-employment generation and skill building along maintaining hygiene and sanitation.

Considering this, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'NULM - During & Post Pandemic Approach' on 26th & 27th November 2020 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the MoHUA, GoI.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on NULM beneficiaries and approach of the mission for tackling the same.

PARTICIPATION

In all 302 participants comprising Municipal Commissioners, Community Organizers, Assistant Project Officers, City Mission Managers (SD&I), City Mission Managers (FIME), City Mission Managers

(MIS & ME), Technical Experts from Maharashtra and Gujarat participated this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION

At the outset, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai welcomed the distinguished trainers and the participants. She gave an introduction of the web-based training programme. She briefly explained the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on NULM beneficiaries in terms of loss of livelihood, inadequate health facilities, inadequate basic amenities etc. RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai has provided a platform to obtain information necessary to tackle during and post pandemic situations in cities. She further introduced the distinguished trainers and requested them to commence the first session.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The technical session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19 with respect to NULM Functionaries and Beneficiaries' was taken by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP), World Health Organization (WHO), Mumbai. Dr. Pardeshi explained the common symptoms of COVID-19 pandemic and its pattern of progression. He stated that it is crucial to understand the modes of transmission of the virus to control its spread. He elaborated on transmission of virus and stated that, the MoHUA, GoI has published info-graphics which depict the nine-common means of spread of the virus. He then explained the measures to be taken to reduce transmission of COVID-19. The measures are to keep physical distancing, quarantine for 14 days and seek immediate health care when necessary, avoid going to public areas and to wear masks when intermingled with other people. He further explained that it is essential to follow hygiene practices like wearing a

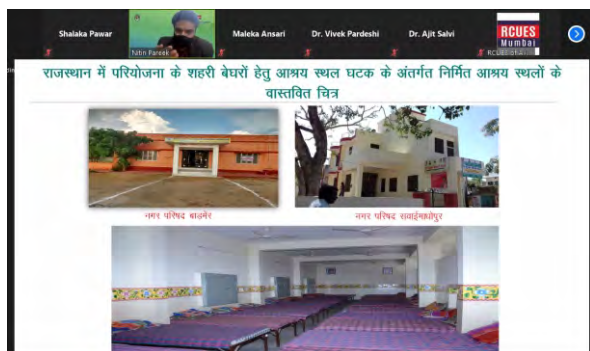
mask, hand washing, and other measures prescribed as precautions against COVID-19. He also stated that hand and respiratory hygiene measures should be followed. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), GoI has published guidelines for hygiene measures to be undertaken to contain further spreading of the virus. He said that MoHFW, GoI's guidelines illustrate DO's and DON'T's for appropriate respiratory hygiene, appropriate use of mask and hand hygiene, which are crucial to contain spreading of the virus. He further discussed the challenges faced by urban poor who reside in slums. Due to dense population, it is difficult to maintain the social distancing, difficulty in making home quarantine due to lack of space for keeping distance. Majority of the NULM beneficiaries are the people who have migrated for their livelihoods. Due to the impact of COVID-19, most of the NULM beneficiaries lost their current livelihoods resulted in various hardships for them and their families. Largely, this vulnerable population was deprived of immediate healthcare and basic needs, potable water, sanitation facilities etc. He concluded his presentation by mentioning that the state governments need to cater to these facilities during the pandemic.



Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPSP, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

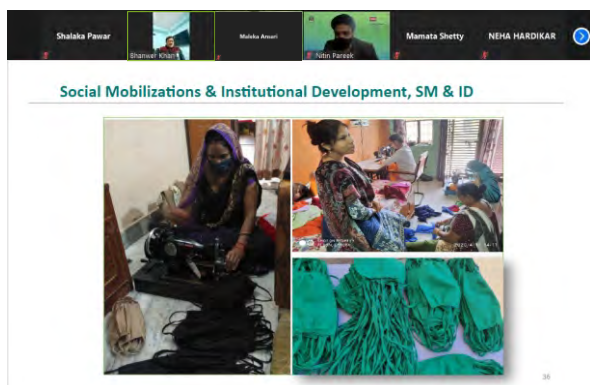
The session on 'Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and other NULM Beneficiaries' was delivered by Mr. Nitin Pareek, State Mission Manager (Financial Inclusion & Micro Enterprises), NULM, Government of Rajasthan. While discussing the NULM components, he focused on shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH). He showed pictures of shelter homes running with essential facilities across Rajasthan State. The monitoring of these shelter homes was being done under State Mission Management Unit (SMMU). He further stated that the NULM beneficiaries can avail the subsidized loan maximum of Rs. 2 lakh at 7% interest to set up the micro enterprises under Self Employment Programme (SEP) of NULM. In this scheme, the

interest subsidy claims are done through PAISA portal. He then explained newly launched scheme PM SVANidhi by MoHUA, GoI for street vendors, by mentioning the entire process of filling application to acquire the loan under SVANidhi scheme. He concluded his session by explaining the process of availing subsidized loan to NULM beneficiaries.



Mr. Nitin Pareek, State Mission Manager (Financial Inclusion & Micro Enterprises), NULM, Government of Rajasthan addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and other NULM Beneficiaries' was conducted by Mr. Bhanwer Khan, State Mission Manager, SMID, NULM, Rajasthan.

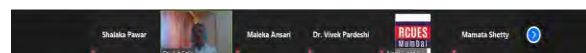


Mr. Bhanwer Khan, State Mission Manager, SMID, NULM, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

He informed the participants the crisis situation during lockdown across Rajasthan State and how urban poor lost their livelihoods and became more vulnerable. He further said that the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of vulnerable women were formed under Social Mobilizations & Institutional Development (SM & ID) component of NULM mission. During this pandemic, mission officials with the help of City Livelihood Centres (CLCs) trained these women to stitch masks to generate livelihoods. These masks were purchased in bulk by Municipal Corporations of Rajasthan State and distributed free of cost to street vendors, sanitation workers, SWM workers etc.

Moreover, SHGs were engaged in the supply of groceries and other food items to be delivered at door-to-door basis. This activity also generated livelihood to urban poor.

The next session on 'Enhancing Sanitation and Waste Management Based on Livelihood Opportunities' was conducted by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai.



Livelihood Opportunities

- To cater all services related to Sanitation & Waste Management during Pandemic, ULBs needs additional unskilled, Semiskilled workforce.
- Lots of low cost material such as Masks, Face Shields etc required during Pandemic . Some of the ULBs got it done through local workers (Women's Group) by providing them required Raw Material
- Operation & Maintenance of Public Toilets, Community Toilets, Composting Plants, Dry Waste collection centre can be done through NGOs .

Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Initially, Dr. Salvi spoke on cleanliness of surfaces and precautions to be taken in community sanitation. While elaborating on precautionary measures at community level, he mentioned that the precautions and interventions by community members as well as caretakers executed properly can help control the spread of the disease. He further explained that common shared surfaces like handles, knobs, doors etc. are major sources of disease spread in a community. He recommended the use of foot operated pedaled hand washing stations at shared community spaces to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently without touching the tap which will control the spread of disease. He mentioned that these are globally adopted measures during epidemics for controlling the spread of the disease.

He further said that community toilets may lead to spread of the disease due to lack of hygiene and poor maintenance. Dr. Salvi emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure that soaps or hand sanitizers are available at the toilet premises and encourage its usage to the toilet users. Caretakers should also clean the toilets frequently with disinfectant. While doing all these, caretakers must strictly adhere to the use of safety gears. He then mentioned about the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures for sanitation workers to be followed by state

governments as well as contractors employing sanitation workers. He further said that, ULBs are advised to put in place Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure health and safety of sanitation workers including lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practiced while performing their duties on field every day. Sanitation workers are required to be provided with appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons and the usage of these must be ensured by ULBs and contractors to minimize their risk to the virus. He mentioned that the WHO released an interim guidance document on 19th March, 2020, which supplements the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) documents by summarizing WHO guidance on water, sanitation and health care waste relevant to viruses, including corona viruses. He further stated that based on this document, the MoHUA, Gol has published an Advisory on 'Safe Management of Water Supply and Sanitation Services during COVID-19 Crisis' in April 2020. He shared some practices followed by ULBs to avoid transmission of virus in dense communities in the urban areas which, he recommended to be replicated suitably.

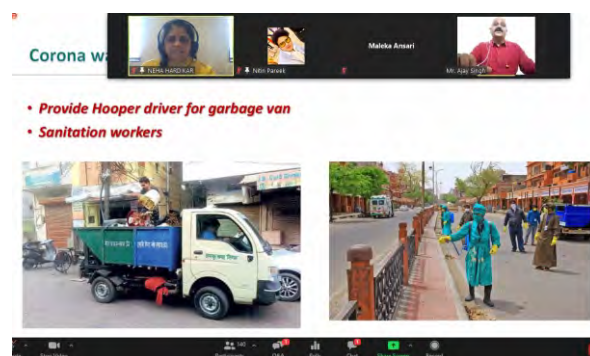
At the conclusion of his session, he suggested for generation of livelihood opportunities for the NULM beneficiaries in relation to sanitation and waste management works during pandemic of COVID-19 as ULBs needs additional unskilled, semi-skilled resources. One of the suggestions he made related to encouraging the SHGs in making masks, face shield by providing raw material to them so as to create livelihood opportunities. Moreover, operation and maintenance of public toilets, community toilets, composting plants, dry waste collection centres can be done through unskilled NULM beneficiaries so as to provide livelihood opportunities to them.



Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation,, Gujarat addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Post Pandemic Approach of NULM - Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and Other NULM Beneficiaries' was conducted

by Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC), Gujarat. She informed the participants about SMC's efforts in creating new livelihood opportunities in the city. During lockdown, SMC encouraged SHGs formed under NULM to make masks after providing raw material by other stakeholders. Through these SHGs, made 4 lakh masks which were distributed in the local hospitals through SMC. Also, Area Level Federation (ALF) took a lead and used their revolving fund amount to purchase the material. SMC ensured hygienic standard during production of mask through training of SHGs and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures such as compulsory gloves, use of sanitizer and social distancing. SMC also involved SHGs in roti making project with the help of NGOs during lockdown. SHG women were involved in making rotis and packaging them. Around 100 SHGs of Surat city were involved in roti making project to create new livelihoods opportunity. She said that the COVID-19 pandemic and consequent lockdowns have adversely impacted the livelihoods of street vendors. The MoHUA, Gol has launched PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi called PM SVANidhi. Under this scheme, Rs. 10000 credit was given as a working capital to street vendors to restart their livelihoods. She further added that the SHGs were involved in quick survey to identify street vendors in various parts of Surat. SHGs were also involved in rakhi making and Ganpati idol making projects. She concluded her session by mentioning that SMC has implemented several projects through SHGs and NGOs that created new sources of livelihood to NULM beneficiaries during pandemic situation.



Mr. Ajay Singh Gaur, Chief Executive Officer in Government of Rajasthan and State Coordinator, CLC, Jaipur, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Good Practices under NULM Mission - New Livelihood Opportunities During & Post Pandemic' was taken by Mr. Ajay Singh Gaur, Chief Executive Officer in Government of Rajasthan and State Coordinator, City Level Centre (CLC), Jaipur, Rajasthan. He discussed new livelihood opportunities

during pandemic through CLCs. He discussed and spoke about survival challenges for the migrant labours. He further said that this challenge was unprecedented and varied from individual to individual. These challenges impacted both on mental health and physical health. He was proactively involved in converting shelter homes into quarantine centres during lockdown through CLCs of Rajasthan State. Due to extended lockdown, most of the NULM beneficiaries lost their livelihoods. Government of India executed MoU with Amazon and Flipkart to scale up a market for the products developed by SHGs to regenerate their livelihoods. CLC played a vital role to encourage SHGs to make and market new products. At the conclusion of his presentation he elaborated upon several livelihood opportunities which can be generated for the migrant workers in different industry, sanitation work in Hospitals etc.

In the Question & Answer session, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai encouraged the participants to exchange their views with the trainers. The participants asked several questions on issues faced while availing loan from banks under NULM mission. The trainers guided them about the procedures to resolve the issues.



Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

SUMMING-UP

At the end, Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai concluded the online training programme by proposing a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished trainers and the participants.

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **DISASTER MANAGEMENT AT ULB LEVEL**

10th - 11th December 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants were imparted knowledge about preparedness required to face calamities and mitigation measures to be taken during disasters. The participants were explained plans and strategies to develop preparedness and mitigation plan for their cities.

BACKGROUND

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 (DM Act 2005) lays down institutional and coordination the mechanism for effective Disaster Management (DM) at the national, state, district and local levels. As mandated by this Act, the Government of India created a multi-tiered institutional system consisting of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. In every ULB, there is supposed to be one nodal agency, for coordination of disaster management, which is referred to in the plan as 'Disaster Management Department' (DMD). The institutional arrangements have been set up consistent with the paradigm shift from the relief-centric approach of the past to a proactive, holistic and integrated approach for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) by way of strengthening disaster preparedness, mitigation and emergency responses. COVID-19 pandemic impacted nations across the world, disrupting lives, economies and societies. Outbreaks of virus and its fast movements of rapidity directed the whole country under the shadow of lockdown. Most cities of our country were not completely prepared for fighting

against such a massive disaster.

Considering this, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Disaster Management at ULB Level' on 10th & 11th December 2020 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to develop the measures to tackle the disasters occurred during COVID times and develop disaster preparedness plan of action at ULB level.

PARTICIPATION

This web-based training programme had 206 participants comprising Executive Officers, Civil

Engineers, Assistant Engineers, Safety Managers, Duty Officers Safety Officers, City Project Officers, Assistant Project Officers, Nodal Officers, Sanitary Inspectors of Maharashtra Rajasthan, Gujarat and Assam states.

INTRODUCTION

This web based training programme commenced with introduction and welcoming the distinguished trainers and the participants, by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai. She explained the objective of the web-based training programme by saying the importance of preparedness and mitigation strategies to face and tackle the calamity and ensure safety to the public and mitigating the hardships. She gave introduction of the trainers, which was followed by the technical sessions.

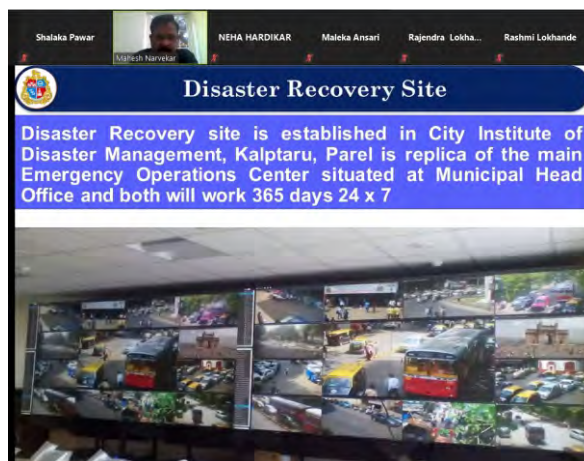


Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Overview of Disaster Management' was conducted by Mr. Mahesh Narvekar, Director, Disaster Management Department, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. He started his session by saying that Mumbai being a coastal city is vulnerable to various hazards, including flooding. He further stated that according to a UN Report, more than 50% people in the world live in cities. Mumbai is not originally a planned city and because of its peculiar features the city does not have the desired resilience to better face the disasters. He then explained that natural disasters across the country cannot be avoided but during disasters loss of life and damage to property and social assets can be minimized through proper planning, preparedness and mitigation. He highlighted the importance of community participation in disaster management. He further explained that disaster risks can be reduced through systematic efforts by analyzing and

managing the causative factors of disasters, including exposure to hazards, through lessening vulnerability of people and property, judicious management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for adverse events.



Mr. Mahesh Narvekar, Director, Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He further spoke about institutional development required in disaster management. The Disaster Management Act 2005 provides for the legal and institutional framework for disaster management in India at the National, State and District level. He said that IT enabled systems are very effective in disaster management. He added that MCGM, Mumbai has installed 60 automatic rain gauges at 58 locations, of which transmit rainfall data to the Disaster Control Room of MCGM every 15 minutes. Many of the rain gauges have been installed at Fire Brigade stations as they are the first respondents during disasters and are on 24-hour alert. The rain gauges also have a console capable of giving an audible alarm if preset rainfall intensity exceeds 10 mm in 15 minutes. He further said that IT enabled documentation plays a vital role in disaster management. He concluded his session by citing example of Mumbai Development Plan (DP) 2034 which envisions till mapped hazardous vulnerability, flood prone areas and rescue transport routes through IT enabled system.

The next session on 'Disaster Management Cell at ULB Level – Experience Sharing of Mumbai' was conducted by Ms. Rashmi Lokhande, Chief Officer (i/c), Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai. She commenced her session by stating legal and regulatory provisions of the Disaster Management Act. She continued that in the year 2011, Greater Mumbai Disaster Management Authority was constituted in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1), (2) and (4) of section 25

of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (53 of 2005) and rule 2 of the Maharashtra District Disaster Management Rules by appointing Municipal Commissioner of MCGM as ex-officio Chairman of the Authority. In the year 2018, as per the Government Resolution and the orders of the Hon'ble High Court the District's Disaster Management Authorities for the Mumbai City and Mumbai Suburban are constituted. Later, she explained the functions of Disaster Management Department in which she described as being the single-point source for all issues related to disaster management, hazard vulnerability and risk assessment, coordination for prevention, preparedness and mitigation, coordination for recovery and reconstruction, arrangement of temporary transport for victims, coordination for setting up temporary shelters. She further explained the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) established at Disaster Management Department of MCGM, Mumbai. This Centre is functional 24x7 equipped with the latest communication systems and early warning system. The control room contains 58 hot lines connected with various stakeholders, VHF network with 53 various stakeholders etc.

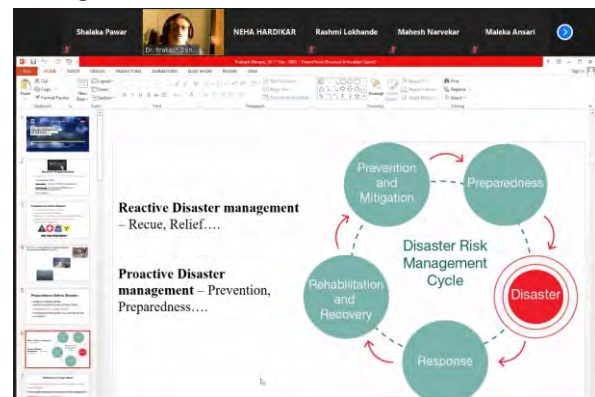


Ms. Rashmi Lokhande, Chief Officer (i/c), Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She further explained about War Ward Room by mentioning that existing Ward Disaster Control Rooms are additionally acting as COVID War Room from June 2020 and are working in all 24 Administrative wards on 24x7 basis. A dedicated land line number is assigned to Ward War Room.

Each Ward War Room is provided with 15 to 20 ambulances for transporting patients from their residence to COVID Care Centres (CCCs) or COVID hospitals. Adequate staffs like doctors, para-medics and operators are provided in Ward War Room. She also added that the actions are taken by the Emergency Operation Centres (EOCs) and Ward War Room (WWR), if any person is found positive. She

explained the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), in which she discussed the methodology to decentralize IVR system during pandemic. She also emphasized on importance of coordination meetings with several stakeholders like police, fire brigade, civic authorities, NGOs etc. for effective functioning of EOCs. She also explained the Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), in which transport is a crucial part. She also talked on Disaster Recovery Site at Parel which is a replica of the main Emergency Operations Center situated at MCGM, Fort, Mumbai. She concluded her session by stating that community participation is significant feature in disaster management.

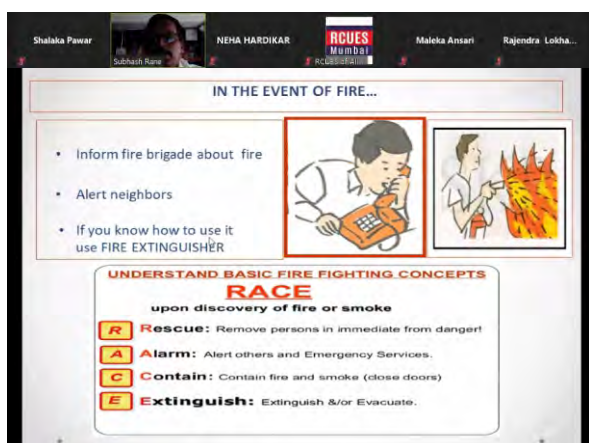


Dr. Prakash Dongre, Associate Professor, N. K. College Malad and Faculty for MCGM and Garware Institute for Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Disaster Preparedness' was taken by Dr. Prakash Dongre, Associate Professor, N. K. College Malad and Faculty for MCGM and Garware Institute for Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management, Mumbai. He commenced his session by talking on preparedness before occurrence of disasters with a view to avoid loss of life and property. He explained the Disaster Risk Management Cycle and elaborated upon the Reactive Disaster management i.e. Recue, Relief and Proactive Disaster management with Prevention and Preparedness as the key factors. He spoke about legal frameworks formulated and guidelines issued at national, state, district and ULB level to develop disaster resilient cities across the country. He added that considering the importance of disaster management as a national priority, Government of India set up a High-Powered Committee (HPC) in August 1999 and a National Committee after the Gujarat Earthquake, for making recommendations on the preparation of Disaster Management Plans and suggesting effective mitigation mechanisms. The Tenth Five-Year Plan document also had, for the first time, a detailed chapter on Disaster Management. The Twelfth

Finance Commission also mandated review of the financial arrangements for Disaster Management. He also said that the Government of India enacted the Disaster Management Act 2005, which envisaged the creation of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) to provide for and implement a holistic and integrated approach towards Disaster Management across the country. He discussed on disaster preparedness tools such as community preparedness, early warning systems, vulnerability and capacity assessment, contingency planning and logistic preparedness. He spoke about important communication systems like social media, cell phones, satellite phones, and police scanners etc. which are effective support systems in tackling disasters. Lastly, he talked on emergency disaster preparedness and development of emergency plans in coordination with other concerned stakeholders.

On the second day, the session on 'Fire and Human Safety' was conducted by Mr. Subhash Rane, former Divisional Fire Officer, Mumbai Fire Brigade, MCGM, Mumbai. He commenced his session by explaining the responsibilities of statutory authorities in maintenance of fire services, which are vested with local self-government institutions as per the provisions made in respective statutes. He later spoke about the National Building Code in which Part 4 contains Fire and Life Safety provisions and important Indian Standards (IS) of fire extinguishing systems, smoke detection system, electric installations and safety colors safety signs, fire protection safety signs and LPG gas installations etc.



Mr. Subhash Rane, former Divisional Fire Officer, Mumbai Fire Brigade, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

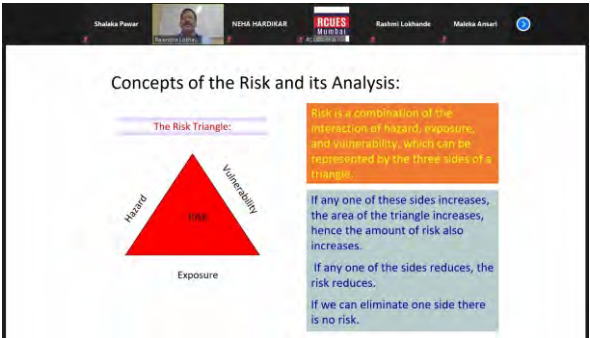
He discussed importance of building bye-laws which mandate construction of buildings in sound and safe manner. They lay down guidelines to be followed by architects/engineers involved in the preparation of

building layout and plans to ensure safety. He then explained provisions of the Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety Measures Act 2006 & Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety Measures Rule 2009 and their effective implementation. He showed images of several buildings catching fire. He also discussed fire protection plan and said that fire drills are periodically conducted. It is very important to have a fire safety plan to prevent and extinguish any fire in the building with details about the precaution to be observed by each occupant, he said. Among other things, telephone numbers of all emergence services are indicated in the plan. While explaining fire and life safety audit, he said that it is required to be carried out for all buildings having a height of more than 15 meters. Such audits shall preferably be conducted once in 2 years by a third party auditor having requisite experience in fire and life safety inspections. He concluded his session by explaining fire prevention measures such as safety audit, performance assessment, education and training, implementation of safety standards, etc. to minimize the number of accidents.

The next session on 'Disaster Mitigation and Prevention with reference to COVID-19' was conducted by Dr. Shailesh Mohite, HOD, Forensic Department, Nair Hospital, Mumbai. He started his session by briefly talking on COVID and its symptoms including its prevention and mitigation. He explained the steps of mitigation with reference to COVID-19. He added that the preventive measures like social distancing, wearing of masks, personal sanitization reduce the risk. He spoke about the steps of mitigation in COVID-19. They include early detection of cases from community, provision of medicines, supportive treatment, role of ICUs and early CT scan/X rays etc. He further explained how to develop an organization's preparedness plan in terms of social distancing, use of mask, hand hygiene, transportation of employees in safe manner etc. He also explained conducting risk assessment through identification of areas at the work places, where there is a possibility of virus transmission through potential interactions among workers, customers, visitors, etc. He concluded his sessions by focusing on vaccination and improved health care infrastructure at district level as a preventive measure to bring down the risk of Coronavirus.

The next session on 'Community Resilience Indicators' was taken by Mr. Rajendra Lokhande of the Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai. He started his session by saying that

community is a first respondent in the disaster situations and community resources are the key in forming community's resilience. He explained the difference between hazard and vulnerability and also elaborated on risk triangle. The risk triangle involves hazard, vulnerability and exposure. He mentioned that presence of any of these elements increases risk. He said that disaster management is required to save lives, minimize damages and bring normalcy. He also discussed disaster management cycle and role of government authorities in disaster management to build a proactive and technology driven strategy for effective response to disasters. He explained the importance of community resilience which includes awareness of vulnerabilities and planning for ways to protect continuation of important services when protective measures do not work as anticipated. A major goal of a resilient community is to minimize the occurrence of disaster, he said. He concluded his session by explaining contents and use of survival kit which has to be kept ready before occurrence of any emergency.



Mr. Rajendra Lokhande, Shift Incharge of the Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

After the technical sessions, Question and Answer session was taken by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai. The participants asked various questions on EOC established at Disaster Management Department of MCGM, Mumbai which were replied. The participants showed interest in replication of EOC in their city to reduce the vulnerability of disasters.

SUMMING-UP

At the end of the sessions, the participants asked several queries in respect of raising revenues of ULBs. The distinguished trainers addressed their queries. The feedback was taken from the participants, followed by a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Hardikar to the distinguished trainers and the participants.

13

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **COVID-19 AND VULNERABLE URBAN COMMUNITIES**

16th - 17th December, 2020

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was the technical sessions conducted by distinguished trainers. The participants learnt how to tackle the challenges of vulnerable urban communities during COVID times.

BACKGROUND

In January 2020 the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus as a Public Health Emergency of international concern. Since then WHO has declared it as a Pandemic affecting more than 115 countries around the globe. The COVID-19 outbreak affected all the segments of the population and was particularly detrimental to members of social groups in the most vulnerable situations. It continues to affect vulnerable communities including street vendors, homeless, slum dwellers, labours and migrants across the country. The frontline workers and landless agricultural labourers are also among these sections, who have insecure, temporary and vulnerable livelihood in cities. It is critical to address the issues of these vulnerable communities for bringing health and economy of Indian States, back to normalcy.

Considering this background, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialised Web-Based

Training Programme on 'COVID-19 and Vulnerable Urban Communities' on 16th & 17th December 2020. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss and address the issues related to impact of COVID-19 on urban vulnerable communities and discuss the areas of intervention during and post COVID-19 scenario.

PARTICIPATION

In all 28 participants comprising Presidents, Municipal Elected Representatives, City Municipal Engineers, Sanitary Inspectors, City Mission Managers, Officers on Special Duty, Multi-Purpose Health Workers, Social Workers, Assistant Project Officers, Coordinators, Community Organizers from

the states of Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, and Rajasthan were present for this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai welcomed the resource persons and the participants and explained the scenario of the urban poor during COVID-19. She introduced the trainers who are working at the grass-root level and have the direct experience of the critical situations, and requested them to share with the participants the status of how the pandemic has impacted the lives and livelihood of the urban poor. She opined the participants to take this opportunity to recognize the pandemic situation in slums and suggest probable recommendations to address these challenges.

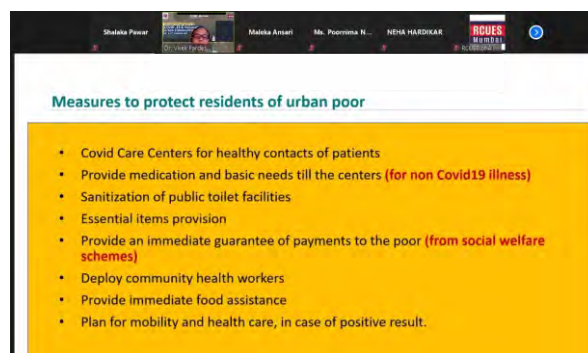


Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The technical session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19 - with respect to Vulnerable Urban Communities' was conducted by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP), WHO, Mumbai. He explained the symptoms and development pattern of COVID-19. He further explained why it is crucial to know the ways the virus spreads. He mentioned that the MoHUA, GoI has published info-graphics which show the nine ways the Coronavirus spreads. He then explained the actions such as keeping physical distance, 14 days quarantine when required, look for instant health care, avoid going to public spaces and wearing of mask- the necessary measures to be taken to lessen the spread of COVID-19. He further stated that hygiene practices are indispensable during pandemic of COVID-19. He also said that the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India (GoI) has issued the guidelines for hygiene methods to be adopted to contain the spread of the virus. The MoHFW, GoI's guidelines explain the DO's

and DON'T's instructions to be followed for proper respiratory hygiene, right use of mask and hand hygiene, which are vital to contain spread of the virus. Further he explained severe impact of COVID-19 on urban vulnerable groups on account of high density of population in the communities and their dwellings. Most of the community dwellers depend on community toilets which makes it difficult to maintain desired distancing.

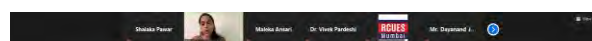


Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPSP, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He also talked about the impact of pandemic on migrants who depend on street food stalls. He was of the opinion that state governments along with multiple stakeholders should make integrated efforts to provide essential services like food and medical assistance, increase quarantine facilities, immediate sealing of the containment areas and deploy community health workers to protect urban vulnerable in pandemic situation. He concluded his session by highlighting on public-private support to be given in providing services to urban vulnerable population, organizing health care camps for them, conducting high risk population surveys, additional care for child, women and elderly population to safeguard their lives in pandemic situation.

The next session on 'Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on the Health and Nutrition Needs of the Urban Slum Communities' was taken by Ms. Poornima Nair, Director, Health and Disability, Apnalaya, Mumbai. She spoke about the stepwise priorities needed in slum communities and how they are affected due to impact of pandemic of COVID-19. She said that their vulnerability can be seen from the fact that about 42% of the households had to take loan for buying ration to fulfill their basic need. The second priority being healthcare which is essential to provide cost-effective health facilities to the urban vulnerable groups. The pandemic has created an extreme burden on healthcare facilities. Later, she explained the health and nutrition challenges of the urban vulnerable. She elaborated on food insecurity leading to poor food

intake during pregnancies, unavailability of Iron and Folic Acid (IFA) and calcium supplements and increased financial burden for the families availing services at private practitioners. She further enumerated various vulnerabilities which include high risk pregnancies cases remaining unidentified, missing of essential immunizations during pregnancy, disruption in the Take Home Ration (THR) distribution through Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), increased numbers of home deliveries, increased risk of maternal and newborn deaths, increased risk of premature deliveries and low birth weight babies, increased risk to COVID-19 infection due to sharing infrastructure with quarantine centres and lack of post-natal care which were commonly seen as health and nutrition challenges. She also talked on community related challenges such as lack of information about COVID-19 and treatment facilities, inadequate basic amenities like water and food availability, deficiencies of public toilets etc. After talking about the challenges posed on urban vulnerable groups, she spoke on the necessity to strengthen the healthcare facilities by focusing on capacity building and better service delivery in various sections namely, community based services, ensuring availability of water for appropriate hygiene and sanitation practices, ensuring sufficient public toilets, adequate ICDS infrastructure.



Maternal and newborn health

- Reduced access and utilization of essential maternal health services
- Food insecurity leading to poor food intake during pregnancies
- Unavailability of IFA and calcium supplements
- Mothers missing out on essential immunizations during pregnancy
- High risk pregnancy cases going unidentified
- Increased financial burden as the families availing services at private practitioners
- Disruption of THR distribution through ICDS

Ms. Poornima Nair, Director, Health & Disability, Apnalaya, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She concluded her session by emphasizing on building a strong relationship of trust with the community and fortifying their healthcare facilities. Multi-sectoral convergence is required to strengthen these facilities, she stated.

The next session on 'Impact of COVID-19 Pandemic on Vulnerable Children' was conducted by Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation, Gujarat. She cited a number of reasons for increase in dropout from schools in the

State of Gujarat. One of the major challenges of digital education is that majority of the vulnerable children cannot afford the internet access required for digital education which was the only mode of teaching in these times. She later explained that the impact of COVID-19 on mental health of vulnerable children. Children from slums and low income households are at higher risk due to the stigma around mental health, accessibility and affordability of mental healthcare.



Mask Making Project



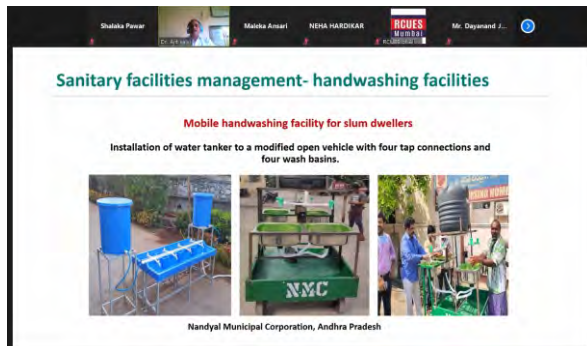
- Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) has stepped up its effort to increase production of three-ply masks with the help of self-help groups (SHGs) and Area Level Federation (ALF) registered under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM).
- The objective of Project is to satisfy demand of Mask for SMC Health Staff, Patients and other people at reasonable rate and generate revenue for these poor and needy women
- Surat Corporation ensured hygiene standard during production of mask through training of SHGs & IPC measures such as compulsory glove, boxing strategy, use of sanitizer & Social distancing

Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation, Gujarat addressing the participants.

She also explained how the pandemic has the potential for rise in child labour, loss of household livelihoods, and increase in the risk of child trafficking, child labour in hazardous jobs which is strictly prohibited by law. She concluded her session by giving a few recommendations to tackle this pandemic challenges. According to her, special focus should be given to children-at-risk like street children and orphans. The integrated efforts of NGOs, CBOs and other multiple stakeholders in building awareness and need assessment of vulnerable communities will certainly go a long way in tackling pandemic challenges of urban vulnerable.

On the second day, the session on 'Preparedness of Sanitation and SWM Activities for Vulnerable Communities: During and Post COVID-19' was conducted by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. Dr. Salvi commenced his session on community sanitation in which he explained the cleanliness precautions to be taken in communities. While discussing on precautionary actions to be implemented at community level, he explained that the spread of virus can be controlled by suitable interventions implemented by the community members and the caretakers. He further explained that commonly used things touched by the hand like handles, knobs, are main causes of the spread of virus in the community. It is recommended to use foot-

operated pedaled hand washing stations at shared community spaces in order to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently, without touching the tap so as to avoid the spread of disease.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He then explained that, the community toilets are the major sources of spreading of virus as toilets are hygienically ill-maintained. Dr. Salvi again emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure availability of soaps or hand sanitizers for toilet users and that caretakers should arrange to clean the toilets frequently with disinfectants by they themselves using the safety gears for self-protection. He further mentioned about the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures for sanitation workers whose implementation is to be ensured by state governments as well as contractors-employed sanitation workers. He further added that Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are guided to develop the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure health and safety of sanitation workers including the lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practiced while performing their daily responsibilities on the field. Sanitation workers are required to be provided with appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons and the usage of these items must be ensured by ULBs and contractors with a view to minimize their risk to the virus. In conclusion, he explained the role and responsibilities of ULBs with respect to sanitation and waste management by enlisting various measures like sanitizing of buildings, the streets, community and public toilets, COVID and health centres and observing special protective care in collection of municipal solid waste from quarantine homes during Pandemic.

The next session on 'Recovering from COVID-19: Housing, Labour and Governance' was conducted by Ms. Roshni Nuggehali, Executive Director, Youth for Unity and Voluntary Action (YUVA), Mumbai. At the beginning, she explained the long term



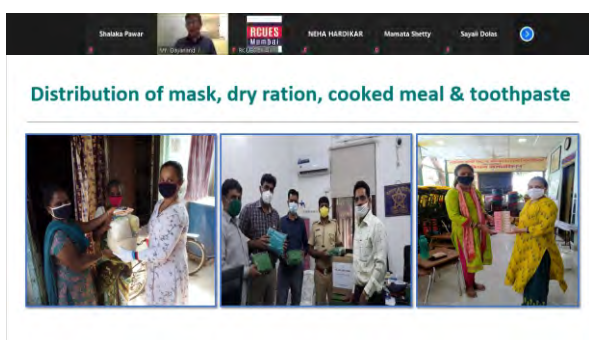
Ms. Roshni Nuggehali, Executive Director, YUVA, Mumbai addressing the participants.

consequences of pandemic on vulnerable communities and added that in future once the need for social distancing subsides, it is essential to envision midterm and long term interventions to rehabilitate communities and build resilience to tackle any unseen crisis. The required interventions include up-gradation of sanitation and hygiene facilities in communities such as low-income schools, Anganwadis, community spaces, hospitals, etc. She then explained the significance of health education in slums, screening and awareness generation on WASH. She further explained the impact of loss of livelihoods on daily wagers / migrants and the measures necessary for restoring their livelihood so as to ensure their lives return to normalcy in this critical situation. She made some recommendations required in slums. Most of the slums which are non-notified re evicted at any time, which makes the slum population unstable and most vulnerable. It will therefore be necessary to fast-track slum notification process and provide them with basic facilities like water and sanitation especially in post COVID-19. She also suggested regulating rental housing component under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY) relating to resettlement housing for vulnerable population and providing shelter homes to homeless people. Moreover, she suggested recommendations for migrant labour as they are among the most vulnerable. She explained legal provisions to protect the rights of vulnerable communities relating to shelter and livelihood.

ULBs' PRESENTATION

After the technical sessions, ULBs presentation was taken to make the participants informed of the efforts taken by the ULBs in slums during and post pandemic. This presentation was conducted by Mr. Dayanand Jadhav, Executive President, Triratna Prerana Mandal, Mumbai. He explained 'Flush the Virus' initiative in Dharavi slum with support from UNICEF

Maharashtra. He stated that, this initiative was implemented in some municipal wards of MCGM especially in G/North ward where Dharavi is located. This drive was extensively focused on 150 community toilets and 50 MCGM schools which were used as quarantine centers. The drive introduced non-touch pedal hand washing stations at community toilets, elbow operated taps in municipal schools, megaphone awareness campaign at communities, distribution of mask, face shield and toothpaste, ration etc. He shared some pictures and videos of the elbow operated taps and distribution of ration and masks in Dharavi area. He concluded his session by explaining that the most important challenges during the COVID-19 epidemic have been those of maintaining social distancing, keeping the toilets clean and ensuring that users practice hand and personal hygiene in places where access to water and toilet facilities are limited. These measures needed to be addressed on priority.



Mr. Dayanand Jadhav, Executive President, Triratna Prerana Mandal, Mumbai addressing the participants.

SUMMING UP

The feedback was followed by the conclusion of the training programme. Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai, concluded the training programme by giving a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished trainers and the participants.

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **CAPACITY BUILDING OF ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES**

22nd - 23rd December 2020

Key Highlights

The key highlights of this web-based training programme were that the elected representatives were updated about their role in providing urban service delivery in an efficient manner to the people and converting challenges into opportunities through effective leadership.

BACKGROUND

It is time to reimagine capacity building by creating a municipal capacity building management system for all the stakeholders, including municipal employees, municipal elected representatives and citizens. Administrative / Executive Wing and Deliberative Wing of municipal councils / municipal corporations work together for delivery of civic amenities, infrastructure development and effective implementation of policies at the city level. Similarly, various laws, urban governance programmes, reforms, etc., introduced through policy intervention such as JNNURM, AMRUT, Swachh Bharat Mission, Smart Cities, NULM, PMAY and HRIDAY etc. necessitate elected representatives to play a major role to accelerate the implementation of urban development projects and programmes. Hence the capacity building of the municipal elected representatives is a need of the hour. They are significant mediators and a vital link between the administration and the community.

Considering this background, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIILSG), Mumbai

had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Capacity Building of Elected Representatives' on 22nd & 23rd December 2020. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of this web-based training programme was to enhance capacities of municipal elected representatives towards urban good governance, urban service delivery at Urban Local Bodies (ULB) level.

PARTICIPATION

In all 28 participants comprising Presidents, Municipal Elected Representatives, State Mission Managers, City Project Officers, Community Organizers, and Health Workers from Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Assam participated in this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai welcomed the trainers and the participants and explained the objective of the training programme. She advised the elected representatives to actively participate by exchanging their knowledge and experience with the other participants for effective cross learning and to have a look at the challenges of their cities and those of other cities. There is a saying that every cloud has a silver lining- every new problem and challenge can be faced by tackling it and looking into any new solutions and opportunities that it throws up. Such a broad understanding will help them to convert the challenges into opportunities for the people of their cities and will generate valuable experience for the future. She further requested trainers to start the technical sessions.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The session on 'Role and Responsibilities of Municipal Elected Representatives' was taken by Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai and Member of AYUSH Task Force, Government of Maharashtra. She started her session by stating that elected representatives need to understand the challenges of their municipal ward/ area. She presented a case of Mumbai which experienced rapid depletion of green cover at the time of her tenure as a Mayor of Mumbai and also explained how the Mumbai city has changed over the years for good and with new issues. She had taken several initiatives to save the environment. She had launched a campaign to save the mangroves by fighting against illegal constructions so as to save the natural habitats of aqua life, water birds, etc. Mangroves have immense benefits for the environment besides being shield against tidal waves. She had taken another initiative of rehabilitation of more than 300 hutments as a special project after 26th July 2005 heavy downpour disaster. She also

talked on initiatives taken through using art to create mass awareness for saving the rivers of Mumbai. Although these examples related to Mumbai city, she cited these examples to convey the message to the participant elected representatives so that they may take up such valuable development projects for their ward / area. She further stated that elected representatives and administrators of ULBs have to work in coordination with each other. He concluded her session by saying that community participation is of utmost importance for successful implementation of any development project in their respective areas. The elected representatives are local leaders and thus are in a key position to elicit community participation effectively as they act as a mediator between the citizen and the administrators of the city.



Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai and Member of AYUSH Task Force, Government of Maharashtra addressing the participants.

The next technical session on 'Municipal Finance and Resource Mobilization- Status, Concern and Issues' was conducted by Mr. Prashant Pisolkar, former Chief Municipal Auditor, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM) and Sr. Faculty, AIILSG, Mumbai. Citing from history he explained the fiscal status and the measures to mobilize financial resources to increase the revenue of ULBs before the 1937 Act came in to existence. The Government of India Act, 1919 which came into force in 1921 provided for levying taxes such as toll, tax on land and land values, tax on building, tax on vehicle and boats, octroi, terminal tax etc. After the enforcement of 1937 Act, the longstanding list of taxes enforced was rationalized. He further added that every ULB was given a liberty to decide the taxes to be imposed for their city. The Standing Committee decides the taxes to be levied in the city. ULBs mobilize financial revenue through internal resource also. He highlighted that elected representatives can play a vital role in implementing development projects after mobilization of revenue. He then talked on Municipal Budget under the Maharashtra Municipal

Corporations Act. The budget formulated by Standing Committee is approved in the General Body. He concluded his session by mentioning that elected representatives have to play a crucial role in the formulation of the municipal budget after reviewing the development projects to be implemented in their respective areas.

Constitution of India & Local Govt. – Power of Taxation

- During the period 1921-37 the Local Government was endowed with separate tax domin.
- Govt. of India Act, 1919 Which comes into force in 1921. Local List comprising the following Tax.
 1. Toll
 2. Tax on land & land values.
 3. Tax on Building.
 4. Tax on vehicle & boats
 5. Tax on menials & domestic servants.
 6. Tax on animals.

Mr. Prashant Pisolkar, former Chief Municipal Auditor, MCGM and Sr. Faculty, AIILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Municipal Acts and its Implementation' was conducted by Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra.

TIMELINE OF URBANISATION

Year	Urbanisation
1800 AD	1% Urbanisation
2008 AD	30% Urbanisation
2016 AD	~35% Urbanisation and 50% Landmass
2050 AD	~50% Landmass and 75% Urbanisation
2100 AD	~80 to 90% Urbanisation

The additional 10,000 Indian cities will be taken up for urbanisation over the next 20 to 30 years. India has a population of 1.3 billion and is expected to reach 1.5 billion by 2030.

Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra addressing the participants.

In his session, he mentioned about the growth rate of urban population by depicting figures in percentages and estimated urban population expected to increase by 2030 as urbanization in India is taking place at a faster pace than ever before. He spoke about the future of urbanization in India vis-à-vis urban agglomerations in India and how the cities are facing scarcity of resources like space, water. He added that the country's urban population is likely to reach 600 million by 2030. Cities are growth hubs for India, and the country's transformation depends directly on their governance and sustainable urbanization. He further explained that, according to the Niti Aayog, India requires an INR 40-trillion investment till 2030 to overhaul its infrastructure, whereas the revenue of all

the municipal corporations put together is not more than INR 1.2 trillion, which is approximately one percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). He concluded by explaining probable key measures like resource mapping, planning horizon of 50 years, spatial planning, resource generation for development, governance and institutional planning, and time-bound robust implementation.

On the second day, the session on 'Reform Agenda in Urban Sector' was conducted by Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department (Economics), SNDT College, Mumbai. He started his session by mentioning threats of urbanization which spurs a set of issues pertaining to urban life in terms of inadequate housing, lack of water and sanitation facilities, health and transport facilities.

Institutional Arrangements

The institutional arrangement for municipal governance and urban service delivery mainly comprises the Constitutional provisions, State Municipal Laws, role of State Finance Commission (SFC) and Central Finance Commission (CFC), and status of ULBs and parastatals.

Constitutional Provisions	Central Finance Commission	State Finance Commission	ULBs and Parastatals
Municipal institutions in India have a history of over 300 years. Article 243 & Sub-section (a) (ii) of article 243-W clearly the functions. However, the Constitution did not make local self-government in urban areas a clear-cut constitutional obligation. As a consequence of inadequate Constitutional provision for Local Self Government, democracy in municipal government was not viable.	Article 280 deals with CFCs. The sub-section 3(c) in this article should be amended so that CFCs provide grant-in-aid to ULBs linked to net proceeds of taxes (and not ad-hoc grants).	As per 74th CAA, state governments have set up SFCs. Most SFCs have formulated the fiscal packages without access to a clear directive on the functional jurisdiction of municipalities.	State Municipal laws in India are very old and often do not enable ULBs to implement reforms. Therefore, the Government of India (GOI) has developed a Model Municipal Law (MML) in 2003 to guide States to enact municipal legislations.

Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department (Economics), SNDT College, Mumbai addressing the participants.

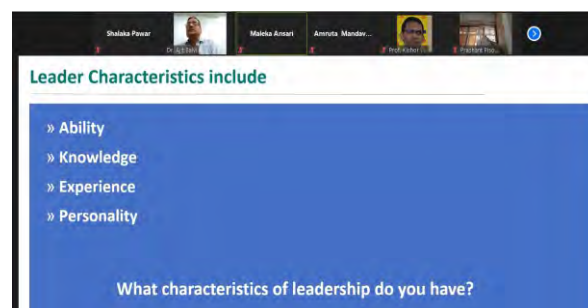
He further explained institutional arrangements made for municipal governance and urban service delivery which mainly comprises the constitutional provisions, state municipal laws, role of State Finance Commission (SFC) and Central Finance Commission (CFC), and status of the ULBs. He said that MoHUA, GoI has initiated institutional, fiscal financial reforms to overcome the constraints and challenges. The 13th Finance Commission brought in an element of performance based grant in addition to basic grant, in which the onus is placed on the State Governments to empower the local bodies by carrying out identified urban reforms. He further added that capacity building of elected representatives is a need of the hour. Elected representatives need to make themselves abreast of the government schemes and convey the information to the concerned beneficiaries to avail the benefit of the government schemes. He concluded his session by saying that, in short, elected representatives should transform the issues and challenges into opportunities for the benefit of people of their respective municipal wards.

The next session on 'Government Schemes and its Implementation at Local Level' was taken by Mr. Prashant Pisolkar. He explained various

government schemes like Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM), Smart City Mission (SCM), and Digital India. He further explained the objective of AMRUT mission which is to create infrastructure to provide basic services to households and build civic amenities. This is aimed at improving the quality of life of all, especially for the poor and the disadvantaged. He added that the infrastructure makes for provision of better services to people. He also explained the thrust areas of the Mission and, fund allocation to the cities covered under AMRUT Mission etc. He further spoke about the SBM where focus is on Solid Waste Management (SWM) and Open Defecation Free (ODF) cities. He said that majority of cities across the country are declared as ODF cities during the first phase of SBM and are moving towards ODF++ cities / Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM). He further talked on NULM mission and emphasized on the need of generating livelihood opportunities for urban poor. He elaborated on the importance of convergence of NULM and SBM Mission. He later spoke about the SCM and Digital India programme. He said that Digital India initiatives and schemes like Aadhaar, digital lockers and computerization of land records are gaining momentum in the country and playing a major role in the Smart Cities Mission. He added that ULBs provide user-friendly smart solutions and improved infrastructure for sustainable and livable cities through Digital India programme. He concluded his session by mentioning that the Government of India has launched various missions to improve the urban service delivery, infrastructure and livelihood opportunities and which would go a long way to have a much improved urban governance.

The last session of this training programme on 'Motivation and Communication Skill' was conducted by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), MCGM, Mumbai. He explained the significance of motivation and communication skills which need to be inculcated as traits in the elected representatives so that a good rapport is established between them and the people in their wards. This way they will play far more effective role in their respective municipal wards. Essentially, the position of the elected representatives is that of a mediator between the citizens and the municipal administration. He further elaborated that the leadership is an effective quality to motivate and inspire others. Elected representatives need to embody this quality within themselves to achieve utmost performance in their

work tasks. Effective leader should have ability, knowledge, experience and personality to elicit citizen participation. He said that effective communication skills help in building good relationship and trust amongst the citizens. He emphasized on effective communication by explaining its steps such as clarity of ideas, purpose of communication, empathy, appropriate language etc. He concluded his session by mentioning the prominence of team work and elected representatives role in building team for effective implementation of tasks in their respective municipal wards.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

SUMMING UP

The feedback was followed by the conclusion of the training programme. Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai, concluded the training programme by giving a Vote of Thanks to the trainers and the participants.

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **URBAN TRANSPORTATION AND ROAD SAFETY: AWARENESS AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

06th - 07th January 2021

Key Highlights

The key highlights of this web-based training programme were that the participants were acquainted with the updates on street designs as good practices across India. These street designs have been formulated as a result of experience gained over a period of time can be replicated in other cities. The trainers also emphasized upon the participants to promote non-motorized transport so as to ensure sustainable urban transportation and reduce road accidents.

BACKGROUND

Rapid urbanization in developing countries presents tremendous challenges to the transport systems of growing cities if they are to meet the access and mobility needs of their communities and provide them with a sustainable, safe and healthy environment. The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transportation (AMRUT) scheme, launched on 25th June 2015, is aimed at providing basic services focuses on ensuring safe and secure urban transport facility. Recognizing the obstacle that road traffic injuries present to development efforts, a specific Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) was added to the 2030 Agenda. The goal calls for a 50% reduction in road traffic deaths by 2020. The SDGs also identify solutions to the road safety challenge in urban areas (SDG 11). SDG 11.2 recognizes the importance of having access to a safe and sustainable urban transport system for all, making specific reference to improving road safety, notably by expanding public transport. The absence of adequate infrastructure in our cities, together with continual rise in vehicle population makes the exponential rise in the number of road accidents. The expedient public transport facility aims to reduce dependence on the private car

by encouraging use of public transport. This can potentially improve safety by reducing the populations' exposure to unsafe travel. The role of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in reducing road casualties is crucial. However, despite the need to improve the situation, a comprehensive road safety strategy is a prerequisite at ULB level.

Considering this, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Urban Transportation and Road Safety: Awareness and Infrastructure' on 6th & 7th January 2021 (11.30 to 13.00 hrs.). This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (Gol).

KEY OBJECTIVE

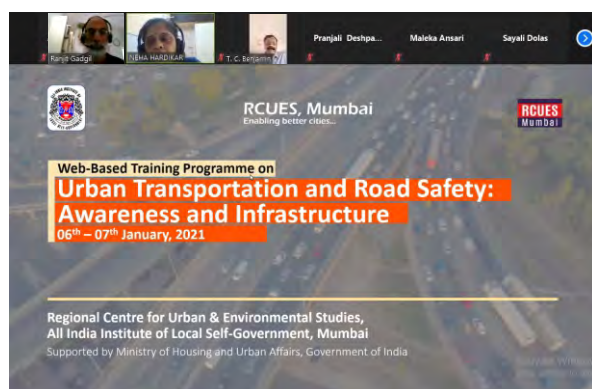
The key objective of this web-based training programme was to develop the strategies to reduce the road accidents and ensure road safety and promote urban transportation at city level.

PARTICIPATION

In all 29 participants comprising Elected Representatives, Municipal Engineers, City Level Technical Cell (CLTC) Engineers, State Mission Managers, City Project Officers, Community Organizers, Health Workers, City Coordinators, Management Information System (MIS) / IT Experts, Revenue Inspectors, Sanitary Inspectors, Social Workers of ULBs from Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Assam were present for this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai gave a brief background about the RCUES and its activities relating to research and training. She welcomed distinguished trainers and the participants and explained the objective of the web-based training programme. She said that Urban Transportation is one of the important thrust areas under AMRUT mission. The Government of India launched this Mission to improve the urban service delivery and infrastructure to make the cities sustainable and livable. The training programme was divided into two parts. On the first day, the focus was given on urban transportation, non – motorized transportation and good practices across India in urban transport and street designs. On the next day, the focus was on Road safety. She gave introduction of the trainers and requested them to commence the sessions.

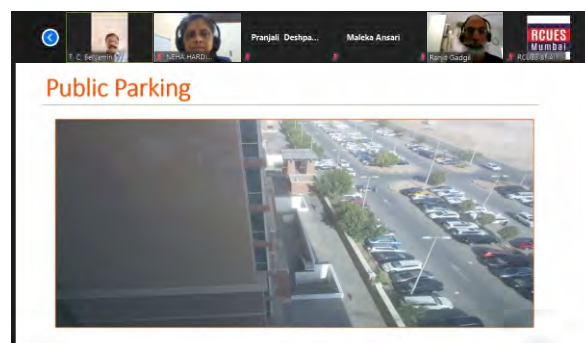


Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The technical session on 'Overview of AMRUT Mission with reference to Urban Transportation' was conducted by Mr. T. C. Benjamin, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, State Appraisal Committee, Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF), Maharashtra. Mr. Benjamin commenced his session by saying that

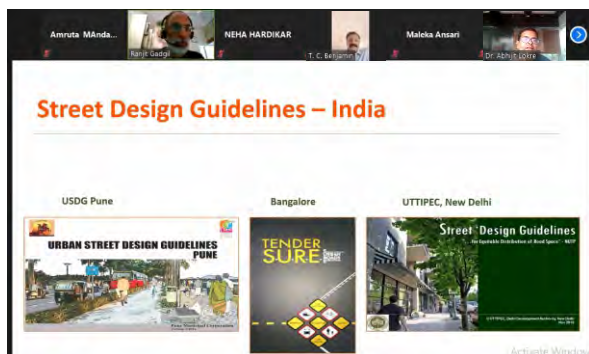
urban transportation is an important component in improving quality of life in cities. He explained contents of the 'National Urban Transport Policy 2006', and emphasized on promoting public transport. He talked on problems of pollution and congestion in which he said that homogeneous traffic increases speed and decreases congestion. Cities across India have heterogeneous traffic that increases the congestion. The solution for heterogeneous traffic can be facilitated under AMRUT mission. Later he talked on segregation of traffic by three ways: segregation in relation to destination where he mentioned about bypass roads and elevated roads, segregation by type of traffic where he focused on Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), cycle tracks, pedestrian ways and elevated footways and expressways and lastly segregation of moving vehicles from parked vehicles. He gave examples of provision of off street parking-basement parking and provision of off-street parking –no-shop-frontage streets. He said that parking should not hinder the traffic. He concluded his session by encouraging the participants to develop the sustainable projects to be implemented under the AMRUT mission with a view to reduce urban transport problems.



Mr. T. C. Benjamin, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, State Appraisal Committee, Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF), Maharashtra addressing the participants.

The next technical session on 'Raising Public Awareness about Sustainable Urban Transport' was conducted by Mr. Ranjit Gadgil, Programme Director, Parisar, Pune. He started his session by focusing on sustainable urban transport for "People-Friendly" city. He talked on scenario of cities' mobility crisis comprising severe congestion, conflict between multiple modes and average speed being less than 10 km/hr. in many areas of cities. He pointed out the health crisis due to traffic congestion which leads to 4.2 million premature deaths occurring every year due to the adverse effects of the air pollution. (Ref: World Health Organization, 2016). He then spoke about the safety crisis of cities where 1000 accidents and more than 200 deaths occurred in which most of

the victims are pedestrians, cyclists, or two-wheeler riders. He added that recently cities have become unattractive to live in due to decreasing open spaces and green cover that impedes the quality of life of people. He talked on thought of administrators, which are obvious as they suggest increasing road spaces, making more parking spaces available and ensuring adequate fuel supply for increased number of vehicles in cities. He said that solution to traffic congestion is not limited to the number of vehicles, but on various factors. The urban designers look at traffic and transportation in a comprehensive way of urban life in a new emerging perspective. He quoted the mantra that a city should design for people not for vehicles. Later he talked on non-motorized transport (NMT). He elaborated that urban transport policy envisages restrictions on personal motorized vehicles and improvement of public and non- motorized transport.



Mr. Ranjit Gadgil, Programme Director, Parisar, Pune addressing the participants.

He showed several pictures of national and international cities which are having 'people friendly' urban transport. The urban designer focuses on a number of things - utilities on footpaths, location of streetlights, signage, traffic signals etc., location of street vendors, bus stops, crossings (locations, zebra, and pedestrian refuge), and auto-rickshaw stands while designing the roads in cities. He concluded his session by saying that people should be encouraged to use public transport and non-motorized transport (NMT) to reduce the pollution through awareness campaigns and that has to address safety concerns of pedestrians and cyclists.

The next session on 'Best Practices in Urban Transport / Street Designs' was taken by Ms. Pranjali Deshpande, Independent Cosultant, World Bank & French Development Agency, Pune. She started her session by showing graphical presentation of Indian cities' mode of transport in which the percentage of those using public transports is relatively less than other modes of transports. Through pictures she



Ms. Pranjali Deshpande, Independent Cosultant, World Bank & French Development Agency, Pune addressing the participants.

showed how the situation changes for good - comparing the situations before and after the implementation of good practices. Thereafter, she talked on the Urban Street Design Guidelines which aim at ensuring that appropriate street types and design elements are implemented with a view to create better streets for people. She further gave an overview of various elements that go into designing streets for making them universally accessible and also to provide standard templates for different sizes and uses of streets. She said that street design guidelines provide a mandate for city engineers and planners for designing and making streets to meet local needs, instead of the conventional approach. She later explained various requirements for designing streets with the objectives that all people should be able to move safely, smoothly and conveniently while using street elements such as walkways, cycle tracks, bus stops etc. She later talked about the safety element of street designs such as pedestrians crossing, speed breakers, traffic signals, street lights and street furniture which make streets safe, clean, attractive and comfortable. She continued elucidating upon multi-utility zones which includes plantation, utility and services, storm water management, garbage containers and public toilets which are essential items for inclusion in designing the streets. She presented some selected cases of street designs as good practices across India. She said that multi-utility concept is successfully implemented in Nanded and Pune in Maharashtra State and in Chennai. She then explained the street design process which requires study of land use and transportation and takes into consideration NMT network plan and street design guidelines. Sufficient allocation of funds and effective implementation of the entire street design process are crucial for this purpose, she emphasized.

On the next day, the technical session on 'Road Safety and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)' was

taken by Dr. Abhijit Lokre, Founder & Partner, The Urban Lab, Ahmedabad. He said that as a part of India's commitment, road safety is an important sustainable development goal included in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, aiming at the reduction of global road traffic deaths and injuries by 50 percent by 2020; and by 2030, to provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all, improving road safety, notably by expanding capacity of the public transport, with special attention to the needs of those in vulnerable situations, women, children, persons with disabilities and older persons.



Dr. Abhijit Lokre, Founder & Partner, The Urban Lab, Ahmedabad addressing the participants.

Thereafter he explained various initiatives taken in India. The National Road Safety Policy was launched in 2010, where focus is given on strengthening legal institutional and financial framework for road safety with a view to ensure safety aspect in road designs. In 2015, India signed the Brasilia Declaration on road safety. Financial assistance for administering Road Safety Advocacy was initiated in 2017. Further, India took an initiative by setting up Driving Training Centre (DTC). Along with this, guidelines were issued for promoting setting up of the Inspection and Certification (I&C) Centres to inspect and issue fitness certificate as per the provisions of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR) 1989 and doing safety and emission inspection for all vehicles. Further in 2019, the Motor Vehicles Act was amended for including mandatory safety measures viz., helmet, seat belt, speed limits etc. In 2020, India participated in the 3rd High Level Global Conference on Road Safety for achieving global goals 2030. In 2021, various activities will be conducted nation-wide in coordination with State Governments/UT administrations, and other stakeholders. He later talked on infrastructure planning in road safety by explaining its key approaches. While elaborating on the key approaches in road safety, he explained that the safe system approach is aimed at facilitating the exchange of

ideas and experiences for improving road safety and to promote a shared vision towards zero road accident deaths in the country. Safe vehicles play a crucial role in reducing road accidents and the associated traumas. Along with this, appropriately designed vehicles will go a long way to prevent crashes and reduce or absorb some of the causes of the crashes. He also spoke about Road Safety Audit (RSA), which is the second key approach of road safety. He mentioned that majority of the accidents occur due to over speeding, and that audit system is a prerequisite to restrict it. He also mentioned that audited projects are five times more effective at reducing crashes than the unaudited projects. He later talked on introducing deterrent measures and adding, two more key approaches of road safety in sustainable modes. He concluded his session by saying that the key to achieving SDG targets lies in reducing the rate of motorization which leads to increase in travel demand stresses, necessitating investment in sustainable modes, especially in public transport.

The next session on 'Legal Frameworks and Institutional Mandates of Road Safety in Urban Transport' was conducted by Mr. Amarnath Karan, Scientist, Sustainable Development in Urban Programmes, Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Pune. He commenced his session by explaining safe systems approach to road safety through road safety network. He added that road safety is a requirement public health which needs to be pursued by and advocating for appropriate legislation based on safe systems approach, transparent and accountable implementation of road safety action plans, periodic review of action plans for proper implementation through active participation of people. He presented the figures showing the rate of accidents allied to mortality. He talked on mortalities due to non-use of safety devices by adding that about 30% of total deaths can be attributed to non-use of helmets and 14% of total deaths can be attributed to non-use of seat belts. He said that Maharashtra State is reported as the 6th highest State in the number of accidents and 2nd highest State in mortalities due to accidents. He emphasized that road safety is a part of the SDGs in which the key objective is to provide access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all and improving road safety especially to vulnerable section. He said that the Government is fully committed to safety of our citizens by reducing mortalities by 50% by 2030. He focused on 4Es of Road Safety and emphasized that only a 'safe system approach' will show positive results in the long run. The approach of alignment of

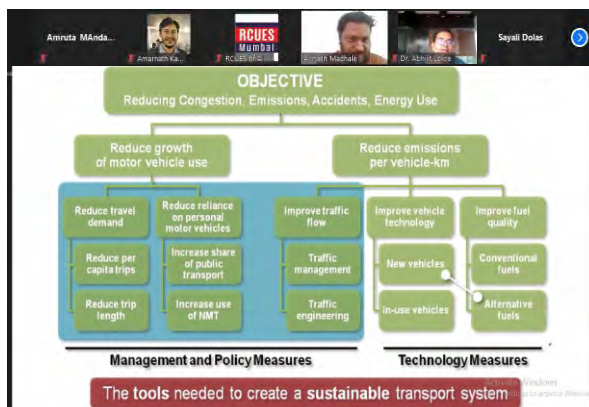


Mr. Amarnath Karan, Scientist, Sustainable Development in Urban Programmes, CEE, Pune addressing the participants.

SDGs with road safety adopted by the United Nations is particularly relevant for countries like India, where the problem of safety is also linked to social equity.

He added that a large number of pedestrians, cyclists and motorized two-wheelers compete for space on roads, therefore, the road safety requirements of these vulnerable sections need to be kept in mind while designing and developing transport strategies. He explained legal mandates by saying that in Indian cities, safety standards are specified under the Central Motor Vehicles Rules. He further added that section 200 of Motor Vehicles Act empowers State authorities to set fines, compounding the offences committed by the violator by the officer on the spot in the form of receiving penalty from the violator. This substantially reduces litigation. It is also an effective measure to enforce traffic rules on the ground. He concluded his session by mentioning that deaths due to road accidents can be prevented speed through regulation, enforcement of helmet and seat belts and enforcement of distracted and drunk driving.

The last technical session on 'Development of Urban Public Transport Infrastructure Services' was taken by Mr. Avinash Madhale, Programme Officer, Centre for Environment Education (CEE), Pune.



Mr. Avinash Madhale, Programme Officer, CEE, Pune addressing the participants.

He commenced his session by explaining how daily transportation experience is unhealthy, unsafe and congestive. He emphasized that growth of motorized traffic is a problem, and cited example of six largest cities in India like Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and Hyderabad, where the growth of vehicles is eight times more than the population growth. Thereafter he focused on the tools needed for sustainable transportation for reducing congestion, emission, accidents etc. He explained that according to the National Urban Transport Policy (2006), people should be able to move safely. For this purpose, emphasis should be on public transport along with non motorized transport and comprehensive mobility plan. He further explained the components of comprehensive mobility plan which includes road designs, traffic management, public transport, walkways and cycle tracks, travel demand management, road management and maintenance and commercial terminals etc. He further elaborated upon the importance of cities' investment in public transport with a view to reduce congestion, improve air quality, control sprawl and mobility choices. He concluded his session by making mention of the financing options like National Bus System Fund, State Road Safety Fund which can be utilised to implement comprehensive mobility plan for sustainable urban transport.

The sessions were followed by Question and Answer session (Q and A session) where the participants were allowed to ask questions to the trainers for clarifying their doubts, if any and to elicit any particular information they desire. In Q and A session, the trainers' emphasized the participants to implement street design process in their respective cities and the good practices implemented in Indian cities, as presented in the sessions.

SUMMING UP

The feedback was taken at the conclusion of the training programme. Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai, concluded the training programme by giving a Vote of Thanks to the trainers and the participants.

16

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **WOMEN'S HEALTH, SAFETY AND LIVELIHOOD DURING & POST COVID-19**

13th - 14th January, 2021

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants learned and updated themselves about several initiatives implemented in various cities to tackle women's health, social and economic issues. They were also informed of the efforts undertaken to make vulnerable communities self-reliant through newly livelihood generating opportunities for women during the ongoing pandemic. Exchange of experience was also a valuable take-away for the participants.

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a deep impact on the whole gamut of life activities. Some sections of society particularly the staff of local authorities, doctors, paramedic staff, health workers, marginalized sections, especially women among them had to bear the burden to a greater degree. The past experiences of epidemic outbreaks had shown evidence of increased maternal mortality and other health and economic issues because during epidemics, resources and priorities are re-allocated to the containment of the virus/epidemic which affects the regular delivery of services. In addition to inadequacy of access to proper health care facilities, women also suffered from social and economic impact of COVID-19 including an increase in domestic violence in families, neglect of own care and unequal share in domestic resources, going through financial difficulties and lack of awareness. A gender-inclusive policy planning and implementation is the need of the hour to manage the corona virus pandemic by improving health services and social security measures.

Considering this scenario, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Women's Health, Safety & Livelihood during & post COVID 19, on 13th & 14th January 2021 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss gender-inclusive policies and actions in addressing challenges faced during the Pandemic and ensuring health and safety.

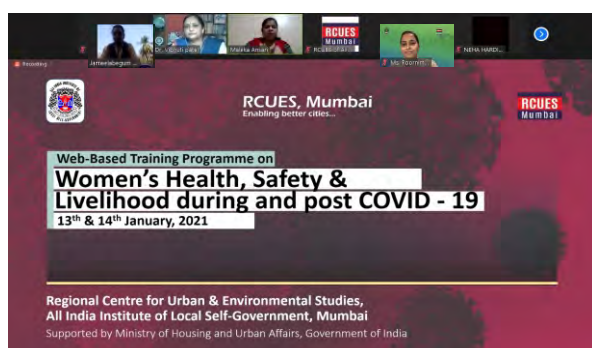
PARTICIPATION

In all 40 participants, comprising former Mayors, Presidents, municipal corporators / councillors, social

workers, community organizers, sanitary inspectors, assistant project officers, MIS experts, global advisor, city project officers, city coordinators, project coordinators of urban local bodies (ULBs) of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Assam participated in this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION

At the outset Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai gave an introduction of the web-based training programme and welcomed the trainers and the participants. She explained the objective of the training programme. She gave introduction of the trainers and requested them to commence the sessions.

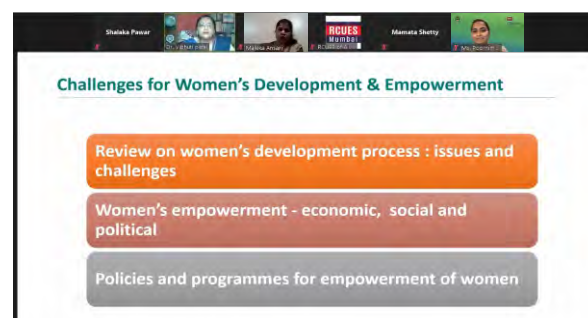


Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first technical session on 'Women's Development and Empowerment' was taken by Dr. Vibhuti Patel Professor (Retd.), Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. She began the session by briefly explaining women's development process including the issues and challenges she faces in traditional society, notwithstanding the changing trend of modernization in India, which aim at bringing about betterment in her life. She also discussed the policies and programmes introduced for women's socio, economic and political empowerment. She explained how women tackled health emergencies throughout the lockdown and extended lockdown periods, which started from March 2020 and continued with extensions and partial relaxations. She emphasized that, COVID-19 pandemic is not just a health issue but impacts the lives adversely. It is a profound shock to our society and economy where women are at the heart of providing family care and they respond to the newly emerged situations with all the limitations. Like the front-line health workers, municipal personnel, health professionals, community volunteers, transport and logistics managers, scientists, who are

making crucial contributions to deal with the outbreak of COVID-19, women come in this line of responders. She further said that, women workers have been disproportionately affected by loss of jobs/works, reduced working hours with curtailment of income and financial crisis. She added that it is a fact of life that women spend about ten times more time on unpaid care work than men. This unequal distribution of care-giving responsibilities is linked to stereotypes of gender roles and deeply rooted in the traditions of our society, which need to change, albeit changing slowly. She also said that women as health care providers, form almost 70% among the frontline health care workforce as doctors, nurses, sanitary workers, Anganwadi workers (ICDS) and ASHA workers (NRHM), school teachers, etc. and are equally susceptible to high risk of infection. Moreover, women are facing increased domestic care burdens in the wake of children and earning members being confined to home during the lockdown. Middle and upper-class educated employed women were working from home as they had information technology-enabled communication channels. She further said that the pandemic had appalling implications for the vulnerable sections of the population like women-headed households, people with disability, pregnant women, homeless people, street children, lonely elderly, socially stigmatized transgender community and sex workers.



Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Professor (Retd.), TISS, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She further explained the consequences of reverse migration without in the absence of most of the normal travelling modes which were accentuated on account of barriers in inter-state cross-over resulting in dangerous routes used by the migrant families, which resulted into the most unfortunate instances of getting mowed down by bus, truck, train, etc. Violence against women was escalated due to social isolation under the lockdown. She elaborated upon the Government COVID-19 Relief Package offered during the COVID times. At the end of the session, she explained that there was a need for reduction of socioeconomic inequalities through innovative public

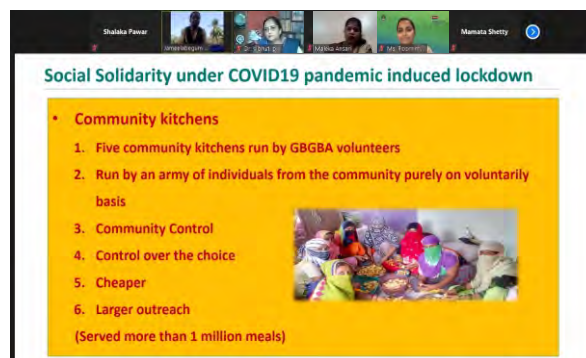
economics policies and gender responsive participatory budgeting. She highlighted need for economic and social development for women, more so during the pandemic.

The next session on 'Impact of COVID-19 on Women's Health & Health Practices' was taken by Ms. Poornima Nair, Director (Health & Disability), Apnalaya, Mumbai. She discussed the impacts of the pandemic on women health from top to bottom stratum of the society. She stated that the maximum impact of COVID-19 was borne by women, children and adolescents. Further she said that women are more likely to bear the impact of social and economic consequence of the pandemic due to increased workload of domestic chores like childcare, cooking, cleaning, laundry, looking after sick or elderly family members, etc. Generally, women lack access to sufficient health care facilities. Besides this, there was an increased incidence of physical and emotional abuse against women. Pregnant and lactating mothers and children were susceptible to contracting COVID infections. She also explained that, women are economically impacted more due to the deepening of pre-existing gender inequalities. Further she explained the impact on the reproductive health of a woman during epidemics and this pandemic. She elaborated upon the impact on reproductive health occurred due to reduced access and utilization of essential maternal health services, food insecurity leading to poor food intake during pregnancies, unavailability of Iron Folic Acid (IFA) and calcium supplements, mothers missing out on essential immunizations during pregnancy, increased financial burden for the families availing services of private practitioners, high-risk pregnancy cases going unidentified, disruption of Take Home Ration (THR) distribution through Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) and inability to access services for termination of unwanted pregnancies. In her presentation, she also focused on the impact on the reproductive health of women from vulnerable



Ms. Poornima Nair, Director, Health & Disability, Apnalaya, Mumbai addressing the participants.

communities which occurred due to increased number of home deliveries in vulnerable communities, lack of transport facility during emergencies, increased risk of premature deliveries and low birth-weight babies, increased risk to COVID infection due to sharing facilities with COVID treatment facilities and lack of healthcare service providers for non-COVID related health problems. During the pandemic, due to several reasons including fear of COVID, unpaid work at home, financial crisis, unavailability of health care facilities, women went through mental stress, and showed symptoms like stress, anxiety, anger, insomnia, ability to focus, etc. After explaining the impact on women's health, she talked about opportunities to address the issues of women's health. She explained that the healthcare system needs to be strengthened by focusing on primary health and nutritional programmes. She concluded the session by emphasizing to safeguard the health system and focusing on gender-sensitive response and addressing stigma towards mental health.



Ms. E. Jameela Begum Pathan, Founder Member, Ghar Bachao Ghar Banao Andolan, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Mrs. E. Jameela Begum Pathan, Founder Member, Ghar Bachao Ghar Banao Andolan (GBGB), Mumbai took the next session on the topic of 'COVID-19 Pandemic and Safety of Women and Girl Child'. She started the session by pointing out the scenario of the slums in Mumbai city where most of the migrants live to pursue their livelihoods and were forcibly compelled to stay in the small space of the slums with their families in unhygienic conditions and having poor access to primary services. A few NGOs dedicatedly provided relief during pandemic including the total lockdown. At the outset of pandemic lockdown, GBGB had started running a community kitchen to provide food to the migrants and jobless people as a social solidarity measure in slums. GBGB arranged and served more than 1 million meals to the needy, during the lockdown. She

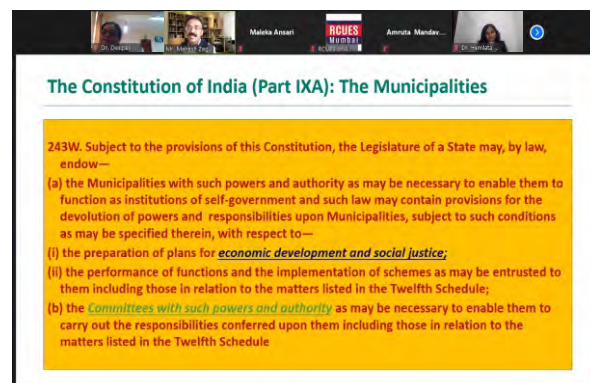
also informed about the relief camps which were provided for 300 migrants & homeless in the western parts of Mumbai city. GBGB, Mumbai also supported these people by taking care of their cooking, cleaning, and other daily chores. Special measures for women were taken like separate toilets in the camp to maintain the health and hygiene of women workers. She further added that representatives of GBGB helped these migrants to return to their home towns safely during the pandemic.

Concluding the session, she said that GBGB had implemented emergency relief activities in the majority of the communities by providing cooked meals through community kitchens, dry ration, sanitary napkins, PPE kits, masks, gloves, and sanitizers to hospitals, nurses training during the pandemic. At the end of the session, she appealed for constitution of area wise relief committees, by government to effectively tackle the pandemic crisis.

On the second day, the technical session on 'Preparedness and Response Mechanism at ULB Level: Recovering from COVID-19' was taken by Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra. He discussed the role of ULBs in urban administration especially in emergency management and the manner of empowering ULBs for prevention and control of calamity like COVID-19. He emphasized upon the empowerment of ULBs by citing reference of the article 243W of the Constitution inserted by the 74th Constitutional Amendment Act (74th CAA). He said that, if ULBs which are adequately empowered to act as vibrant Local Self Government units which was the goal of the 74th CAA, they can perform a far more effective role through the devolution of powers and responsibilities to them.

He further discussed the 12th Schedule of the Constitution of India inserted by the 74th CAA through which ULBs as local government are enjoined to formulate economic development and social justice plans. He mentioned that the Government (Central as well as State) spends only 1.25 to 1.5% of its GDP on Public health. {Ref: Report by the World Health Organization (WHO)}. He further stated that the Women & Child Development Committees (WCDC) of local bodies can play a far more effective role in women and child development activities by making sufficient budget provisions. The budget provisions will allow WCDC to formulate promotive and curative health programmes, to tackle the morbidity like COVID at the city level. He added that most of the ULBs are unaware of gender budget provisions and their appropriate usage for women

and child development activities. He further said that ULBs need to strengthen their infrastructure instead of resorting to privatization or engage in Public-Private Partnership (PPP). Thereafter he discussed the role of the Disaster Management Department and by adopting an integrated urban and regional planning approach. In an integrated planning approach, ULBs have to include peri-urban areas while planning for the development of infrastructure. He concluded his session by stating the importance of social engagement in preventive measures of COVID.



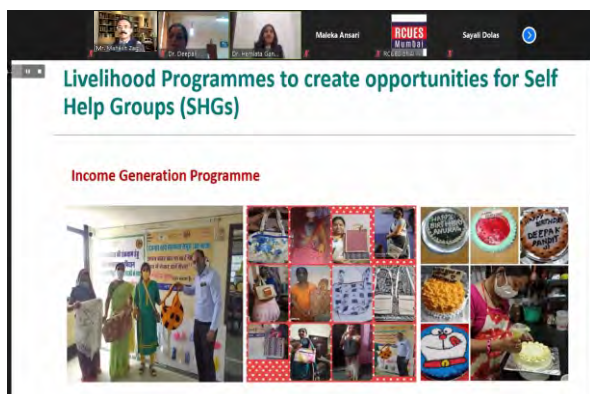
Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra addressing the participants.

ULBs' PRESENTATION

After the technical sessions, ULBs made presentations related to the post-pandemic challenges for women and efforts taken at the city level to tackle them and ensure health and safety for women.

The first ULB presentation on 'Efforts are taken in Cities during Pandemic' was made by Dr. Hemlata Gandhi, SM&ID Manager, NULM, Brand Ambassador SBM & BBBP Kota, Rajasthan. At the beginning of her session, she spoke about the impact of the pandemic crisis in Kota city by highlighting on the situation as prevailed during first phase of COVID- 19. She drew attention of the participants on the present scenario relating to the good habits developed in the context of compulsorily uses of face mask, keeping social distances, hand hygiene, etc.

For achieving successful COVID control programme, various drives were launched and successfully implemented through Self Help Groups (SHGs) under the NULM mission and SHGs played a dynamic role in tackling pandemic. KMC took efforts to generate livelihood opportunities through SHGs as most of the people in informal sector lost their jobs during the pandemic in Kota city. She mentioned that 39 women Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in Kota have provided more than 51,000 masks to frontline workers. She further



Dr. Hemlata Gandhi, SM&ID Manager, NULM, Brand Ambassador SBM & BBBP Kota, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

said that SHGs also made face shield, PPE kits, gowns, lab coats for front line workers and staff, and generated income sources for their livelihoods. SHGs also made food products to be provided to needy people and implemented an income-generating initiative with financial support from KMC.

The second ULB presentation on 'Efforts are taken in Cities during Pandemic' was delivered by Ms. Deepali Naik, Director and Ex-Officio Joint Director, Directorate of Women and Child Development, Panaji, Goa.



Ms. Deepali Naik, Director & Ex-Officio Joint Director, Directorate of Women & Child Development, Panaji, Goa addressing the participants.

She said that spreading awareness of this Corona virus is a crucial need of the hour. Anganwadi workers organized awareness programmes by keeping social distancing and observing precautions. The awareness programmes were conducted in which people were explained the importance of social distancing, hand hygiene, health issues, etc. Later, she said that Anganwadi workers were asked to distribute Take Home Ration (THR) after Anganwadi centers were shut in the wake of widespread COVID-19 and that Anganwadi centers conducted cleanliness drives, which played a significant role in maintaining cleanliness. She emphasized upon time management

during the pandemic to tackle the crisis. She concluded that SHGs in the state contributed to tackling the crisis during the pandemic by stitching more than 1 lakh masks which were distributed at very reasonable prices among the people of the lower-income group and front-line workers.

In Question & Answer session, participants took part with interest by raising questions relating to safeguarding and providing livelihood activities among vulnerable women, health security of women sanitation worker etc. After this session, the feedback was taken from the participants. The participants discussed with the trainers in order to resolve their queries in respect of their respective cities as regards livelihood opportunities and safety.

SUMMING UP

At the end, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai proposed a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished trainers and the participants and concluded the training programme.

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **BIOMEDICAL AND MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT IN URBAN AREAS**

21st - 22nd January 2021

Key Highlights

The key highlights of this web-based training programme were that the participants learned how to tackle SWM challenges during the COVID time through technical sessions and how to make the city clean through various approaches and initiatives taken by ULBs, which were presented as success stories of waste management.

BACKGROUND

Safe and scientific management and disposal of municipal solid waste is a major concern worldwide and particularly in developing countries like India. Following the SWM Rules 2016, it is a mandate for the urban local bodies (ULBs) in India to achieve 100% segregation of waste at source, composting or recycling at local place and further series of actions for safe disposal. Likewise, the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has issued guidelines for biomedical waste management. Sudden outbreak and spread of COVID-19 has thrown many challenges for the waste management services, particularly because of large scale generation of hazardous medical and bio-medical wastes through testing and treatments in hospitals. In this situation, when there is no respite from the spread of the pandemic it has become all the more necessary for the ULBs to ensure greater safety and stringent measures under the MSW Rules, and the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules, 2016.

Considering this, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had

organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Biomedical & Municipal Waste Management in Urban Areas' on 21st & 22nd January 2021 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss the challenges in safe municipal and biomedical waste management at the local level and suggest probable solutions, especially in response to the given COVID times.

PARTICIPATION

In all 59 participants comprising Dy. Commissioners, Asst. Commissioner, Chief Officer, Executive Officers, Nodal Officers, Consultants, City Coordinators, Community Organizers, Sanitary Inspectors, Multi-Purpose Health Workers, MIS/IT Experts Computer Operators and Social Workers of ULBs from

Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Tripura attended this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION

At the outset, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, welcomed the trainers and the participants and gave introduction of the expert trainers. She explained the challenges faced by ULBs during this pandemic and gave outline of the contents of the training programme. She said that as is the practice of the RCUES, the training programme and every technical session will conclude with interaction with the participants.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first technical session on 'Municipal Solid Waste Management in Urban Areas' was taken by Dr. Milind Kulkarni, former Professor, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) & Environmental Expert, Mumbai. He discussed the importance of solid waste management (SWM) and the Solid Waste Management Rules 2016. He spoke about the present scenario of waste management by pointing that cities are generating more and more waste, which is increasing by the day. In such a scenario, cities need to re-invent waste management practices in the country. Further, he focused on scientific land filling. In majority of the cities, landfills are not planned scientifically, he said. Unscientific landfills create harmful impacts on the environment due to the emission of air pollutants, greenhouse gases, foul smells, contamination of groundwater due to leachate, flies, etc., which are causative factors for spreading the diseases.

He briefly mentioned SWM aspects in the context of COVID-19. He said that the CPCB has issued guidelines for handling, treatment and disposal of waste generated during treatment, diagnosis and quarantine of COVID-19 patients which should be

strictly followed by the health institutions, isolation wards, quarantine centers, sample collection centers, laboratories, ULBs, and Common Biomedical Waste Treatment and Disposal Facilities (CBWTFs). At the end of the session, he explained the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on segregation of waste at source. These SOPs give emphasized segregation at the source which should be collected, transported, and are disposed of in a segregated manner and cast responsibility on all the stakeholders to ensure the segregation of waste during the entire SWM chain.

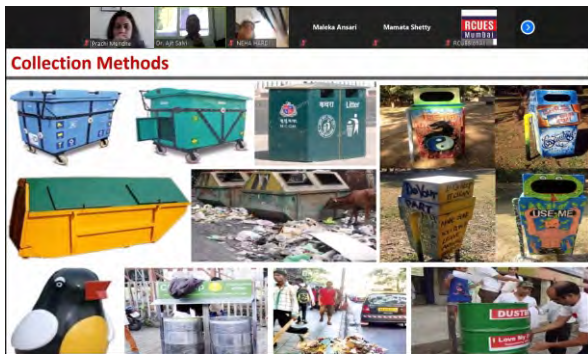


Dr. Milind Kulkarni, former Professor, IIT & Environmental Expert, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Challenges Faced by ULBs in Handling Solid Waste during Pandemic' was taken by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. He began his session by mentioning the scenario of solid waste management. He said that if waste is not lifted, it forms a heap of waste which is detrimental to environment and generates diseases. He further added that, due to the pandemic of COVID, the ratio of waste generated has become high which poses an extra burden to ULBs in handling solid waste. While elaborating on challenges faced by ULBs, he explained that, due to COVID-19, the additional burden has come on municipal staff and field staff in respect of collection of waste from quarantine centers, sanitizing the infected homes, sanitization of buildings and streets, supply of food packets to containment zones and quarantine centers, etc.

He further discussed about various extra measures added to the sanitation works including maintaining the safety equipment's like masks, hand gloves, sanitizers etc., organization of medical checkup of all workers, provision of PPE kits, temperature scanning facility at the workplace, the supply of homeopathic medicine as suggested by AYUSH. NGOs, CBOs, and other stakeholders are also engaged in the process of handling the pandemic situation. He also suggested

that creating awareness among the people is a primary need of the hour while tackling with COVID-19. In his concluding remarks he highlighted on Do's and Don'ts for sanitation workers before and after work, and precaution and safety measures to them.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The session on 'Solid Waste Management Practices in Indian Cities during Pandemic' was taken by Ms. Prachi Mendhe, Research Associate, AILSG, Mumbai. In the beginning, she gave a brief background of what has changed in SWM under COVID-19 as COVID-19 response initiatives and efforts of several Indian cities which were tracked during the entire lockdown period of three months; i.e. April-June, 2020. She presented research-based evaluation conducted as 'Response of Indian Cities towards Tackling COVID-19 in Sanitation Perspectives'.

She then discussed the common challenges faced by the ULBs since the outbreak of COVID-19 Pandemic. The ULBs adopted new measures like the formation of a separate mechanism for waste collection and disposal relating to the wastes of bio-medical hazards generated in the procedures of COVID-19, monitoring of the SWM system, formation of a dedicated team for SWM activities at the administrative level. She explained that dedicated mechanism for SWM collection and transportation was required due to increased quantities of domestic hazardous waste such as gloves, masks, etc. Separate vehicles for collection and transportation of Bio-Medical Waste (BMW) and daily MSW, proper disposal of infected waste, monitoring of the process from collection to disposal of waste were the substantial additions of activities in many cities. She further added that many of the field staff also faced problems like attending duty in lockdown due to the unavailability of public transport facilities.

After explaining the challenges faced at various levels, she explained the initiatives undertaken by city



Ms. Prachi Mendhe, Research Associate, AILSG, Mumbai, addressing the participants.

administration to overcome the challenges. She explained the efforts taken by Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC). PCMC had established a separate waste collection mechanism for quarantined households. The route mapping of the houses was done based on GIS database analysis. All the waste generated from the quarantined households was collected by the Bio-Medical Waste Team and not through regular waste collection mechanism. This was to avoid any spread of infection while handling the waste. Bio-medical waste management committees are constituted in all the health care facilities to ensure safe disposal of COVID-19 related waste. The geo-tagged waste collection vehicles are used for collecting bio-medical and municipal solid waste which are closely monitored on the map through geo-location. At the end, she concluded by depicting the snapshots of several cities' efforts like route mapping, capacity building, etc. to tackle the challenges of MSWM in cities during COVID time.

On the second day, the first technical was delivered by Dr. Shilpa Narayanan, Director, Training, Appa Patwardhan Tantraniketan, Dehu Village, Pune on 'Biomedical Waste Management (BMW) in Urban Areas'.

This session began with a brief discussion of the BMW Rules, 2016 and guidelines issued by the MoHUA,



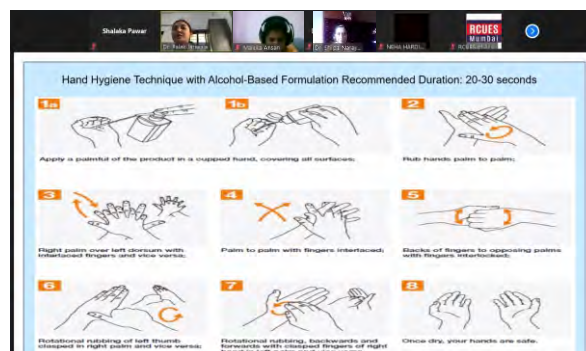
Dr. Shilpa Narayanan, Director, Training, Appa Patwardhan Safai / Paryawaran Tantraniketan, Pune addressing the participants.

Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), and CPCB, by covering detailed explanation of different types of waste generated and collected from the hospitals, health care centers, quarantined households, and the proper procedure required to handle each category of waste, and type of disposal. Further she mentioned about the roles and responsibilities of authorities in managing COVID-19 facilities while dealing with the waste generated, safety precautions, and SOPs that are to be followed by healthcare workers, categories of waste generated from different sources, and their disposal methods.

She also stated that ULBs are required to ensure the facilities as needed for treatment and disposal of BMW are kept available. While elaborating on SOPs for BMW management, she stated that, for proper and safe handling of waste the handler must ensure the use the recommended PPE and follow the hand hygiene practices. On this account she explained that in addition to the use of PPE, it is essential to ensure disinfection and safe handling of all the items as are used in the diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19 patients.

She emphasized upon the participants that as per the BMW Rules, 2016, biomedical waste is to be segregated in four colour-coded bags/ containers. Waste generated needs to be segregated, collected, transported, and disposed of as per the relevant procedure of each of the categories of biomedical waste i.e. masks and hand gloves from these areas (both patient/non-patients) must be collected in a yellow bag as a biomedical waste and should be handed over to an authorized BMW Common Treatment Facility (CTF) collection vehicle. In her concluding remark re-iterated and stressed on the collection and treatment of COVID-19 biomedical waste by following BMW norms and that it must be disposed of through BMW CTF operators only.

Dr. Palak Jariwala, M. S. in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Community Health Centre, Pal, Surat took the next session on 'BMWM – Current Practices in Urban Areas'. She started her session by comparative analysis of Municipal Solid waste & Bio Medical Waste management. She also drew the attention of the participants to the Bio-Medical Waste Management Rules 2016 (BMWM), in which she discussed the color coding of bags and the types of biomedical waste to be collected as per the nature of waste in the prescribed manner. She also stressed on the importance of periodic trainings which are needed to be organized for the concerned staff who handle biomedical waste at various stages up to final stage of disposal. She referred to the BMWM process which



Dr. Palak Jariwala, M. S. in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Community Health Centre, Pal, Surat addressing the participants.

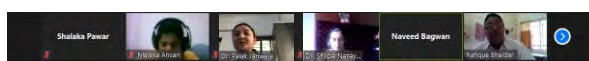
is required to be implemented through regular follow-ups and monitoring mechanism channelized for collection, segregation and transportation of biomedical waste. Thereafter she spoke about the preventive measures to be taken by front line workers, who handle biomedical waste frequently. She explained the steps of wearing and removing the entire PPE kit. Concluding her session she suggested necessity of keenly following the existing system of waste management by strict implementation of BMWM Rules 2016, and guidelines.

ULBs' PRESENTATION

After the technical sessions, ULBs made presentations to the participants on the initiatives undertaken by them in waste management for tackling the pandemic crisis.

ULB presentation was made by Mr. Rafiq Bhaldar, Deputy Engineer, Sanitation & SWM, Karad Municipal Council (KMC), Maharashtra. Karad city is the recipient of the award as Cleanest City in Swachh Survekshan (SS) 2020 under the category of less than 1 lakh population. Mr. Bhaldar explained the strategy adopted and efforts taken in waste management during SS- 2020 by mentioning the entire chain of activities. He also informed the participants about waste management channelized on the principle of Reuse, Reduce and Recycle (3 R's). Karad City had achieved 100 % segregation of municipal waste at source. Municipal officials in collaboration with NGOs, CBOs, and other stakeholders created awareness among citizens about the segregation of municipal waste. Citizens were enjoined to segregate waste at source through demonstrations, door-to door awareness campaigns, and monitoring of the whole chain of activities. He further explained the process of 100 % collection of segregated solid waste through Ghantagadis and monitoring it through a GPS tracking system. Mr. Bhaldar then explained the SOPs

developed by KMC for wet waste processing and types of wet waste processing like Windrow Composting and making biogas from it. He further added that KMC had established the Material Recovery Facility (MRF) Centre for dry waste and plastic processing unit. KMC also had taken the green initiative by developing value-added products from waste. He concluded his session by mentioning that, during this entire journey consisting of various initiatives, KMC had bagged many awards like Swachh City Award, Star Rating Certificate and Vasundhara Puraskar by Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) etc. and thus wrote a success story in cleanliness and SWM.



Transformation of Garbage Vulnerable Location



Mr. Rafique Bhaldar, Deputy Engineer, Sanitation & SWM, KMC, Maharashtra addressing the participants.

In the Question & Answer session, Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai encouraged the participants to discuss their queries with the trainers. After this session, the feedback was taken from the participants. The participants discussed with the trainers and obtained clarification and guidance to resolve their queries of their respective cities relating to livelihood opportunities and safety.

SUMMING UP

In the end, Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai proposed a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished trainers and the participants and announced conclusion of the training programme.

18

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **ROLE OF ULBs IN TACKLING CHALLENGES: DURING AND POST PANDEMIC**

27th - 28th January, 2021

Key Highlights

The key highlights of this web-based training programme were that the participants learned strategic planning to be implemented at the ULB level with a view to augment the health delivery services during the crisis generated by COVID-19, and adopting new strategies to tackle the challenges including those measures for raising revenues by ULBs during the pandemic of COVID-19.

BACKGROUND

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic has profoundly impacted lives of people and cities around the world and raised fundamental questions about urban development. The multi-dimensional impact of the pandemic, for example, resulted in lockdown measures, the closure of offices and workplaces, businesses, schools and other places of learning public spaces, and cultural institutions, and the rise of unemployment, as well as collapse of tourism and related incomes in cities notably. It is a prodigious challenge for local governance on the frontline. The measures taken to contain the spread of the virus are having massive implications on Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) due to their economic structure, their preparedness for such an emergency, especially public health and service delivery systems. These challenges made us rethink in various dimensions like social, cultural, economic, and environmental. ULBs were amongst the first to respond to this unprecedented calamity and in rethinking and reinventing their strategies to be more sustainable through strategic planning. To discuss the strategies

in enhancing ULBs' capacities during and post-pandemic challenges, it is important to find new innovative ways to raise the resources and pool in finances at the local level. This is also the time to push for decentralized governance and strengthen local administration to make successful planning and their implementation during and post-pandemic.

Considering this, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Role of ULBs in Tackling Challenges: During and Post Pandemic' on 27th & 28th January 2021 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of this training programme was to discuss the strategies for enhancing ULBs' capacities

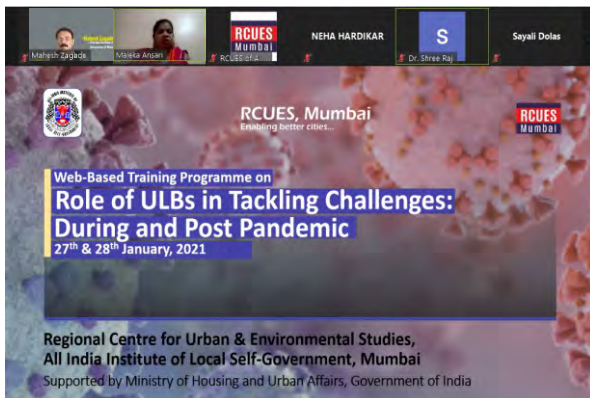
in tackling post-pandemic challenges and ensuring self-reliant governance.

PARTICIPATION

Total of 36 participants comprising Elected Representatives, Deputy and Assistant Municipal Commissioners, City Project Officers, City Coordinators, Sanitary Inspectors, MIS/IT Experts and Social Workers from Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Assam participated in this online training programme.

INTRODUCTION

At the outset, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, welcomed the trainers and the participants and gave introduction of the expert trainers. She explained the challenges faced by ULBs during this pandemic and gave outline of the contents of the training programme. She said that as is the practice of the RCUES, the training programme and every technical session will conclude with interaction with the participants.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first technical session on 'Urbanization: Past, Present and Future' was taken by Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra. In his session, he mentioned about the growth rate of urban population by depicting figures in percentages and estimated urban population expected to rise by 2030, as urbanization in India is taking place at a faster pace than ever before. According to the Global Cities report estimates, 17 of the 20 fastest growing cities in the world between 2019 and 2035 will be from India. The urbanization of India is taking place at a faster rate than in the rest of the world. By 2030, 40.76 percent of India's

population will be living in urban areas compared to about 28.4 percent in the present situation. He briefly discussed on rapid urbanization by highlighting how the cities are facing scarcity of resources like water. He added that the country's urban population is likely to reach 600 million by 2030. Cities are growth hubs for India, and the country's progress depends directly on their governance and sustainable urbanization. He further explained that according to Niti Aayog, India requires an INR 40-trillion investment until 2030 to overhaul its infrastructure whereas the revenue of all the municipal corporations put together is not more than INR 1.2 trillion, i.e. approximately one percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). He concluded his session by highlighting amendments of 74th CAA and its related provisions with special reference to mahila balkalyan samiti.



Mr. Mahesh Zagade, IAS (Retd.), former Principal Secretary, Government of Maharashtra addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Role of ULBs in Tackling Challenges and Preparedness in the Effective Service Delivery – Water and Sanitation' was taken by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. He discussed about community sanitation by referring to the cleanliness of surfaces and precautions needed to be taken. He elucidated the responsibilities of ULBs in respect of water supply and sanitation by discussing water supply management, centralized and decentralized system of wastewater management and sanitation management of public and community toilets. He further stated that community toilets and their maintenance is very crucial in maintaining hygienic conditions in order to avoid spread of multiple diseases. Sanitation necessarily implies regular monitoring of cleanliness arrangements, availability of adequate water, status of electric power points, status of minor repairs, major repairs, waste disposal system, behaviour of staff with users of toilets, level of maintenance of building, etc. Monthly monitoring

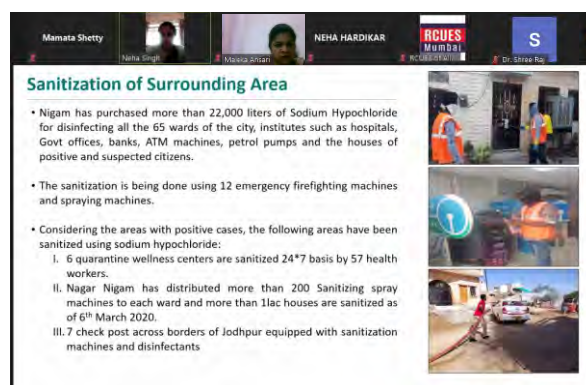
should be conducted by the local authority which provides land and financial support for the toilet facility. He further emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure that soaps or hand sanitizers are available at the toilet premises and encourage its use to the toilet users. While elaborating on precautionary measures at the community level, he mentioned the precautions and interventions by community members as well as caretakers, if executed properly, will go a long way to control spread of the disease. He further explained that common surfaces at shared hand wash facilities like handles, knobs, doors, etc. are a major source of spread of diseases in a community. He recommended the use of foot-operated pedaled hand washing stations at shared community spaces to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently without touching the tap as an effective measure to control spread of diseases. He mentioned that these were globally adopted measures during epidemics for controlling the spread of diseases. Caretakers should also keep themselves sanitized by using disinfectants in a regular manner. While doing all these, caretakers must strictly adhere to the use of safety gear.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He then referred to the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures for sanitation workers to be followed by state governments as well as contractors employing sanitation workers. He stated that, ULBs are enjoined to put in place Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in order to ensure health and safety of sanitation workers including lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practised while performing their duties in the field every day. Sanitation workers are to be provided with appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons, and the usage of these items must be ensured by ULBs and contractors with a view to minimize their risk to the virus. He said that the WHO has released an interim guidance document on 19th

March 2020, which supplements the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) documents by summarizing WHO guidelines on water, sanitation, and health care relevant to viruses, including corona viruses. He further said that based on this document, the MoHUA, GoI has published an Advisory on 'Safe Management of Water Supply and Sanitation Services during COVID-19 Crisis in April 2020. He concluded his session by sharing some practices followed by ULBs to avoid transmission of the virus in densely populated communities in the urban areas, which need to be suitably replicated at other places.



Ms. Neha Singh, Research Officer, SWM & SBM, Jodhpur Municipal Corporation, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

Last session was delivered by Ms. Neha Singh, Research Officer, SWM & SBM, Jodhpur Municipal Corporation (JMC), Rajasthan on Efforts taken in Tackling Pandemic at the ULB level in the City of Jodhpur in order to present an example of good practice. She explained the efforts taken by JMC in SWM during the pandemic. She said that till last year the door-to-door waste collection mechanism was not started in the city. This year, this mechanism was implemented and is in operation in all the 65 municipal wards of Jodhpur city. She further explained that JMC has focused on IEC activities and behavior change awareness programs including a range of activities like wall paintings on the importance of segregation, municipal ward level Rangoli competition on SS 2020, beautification of old slums, banners and hoardings on cleanliness, plastic ban, waste segregation, distribution of blue and green dustbins use of dustbins, rallies, campaigns, etc. on various parameters of Swachh Survekshan (SS) - 2020. These activities helped JMC to score better rank in SS 2020. She then stated that JMC had allotted separate vehicles for the collection of C&D waste, installed separate dustbins on all D2D vehicles for the collection of domestic hazardous waste, installation of smart dustbins, and litter bins in all market areas. Besides these activities, strict enforcement on the use

of plastic bags was done and biodegradable plastic bags were distributed to vendors. She concluded her session by mentioning that, JMC had concentrated on documenting their efforts in waste management as a case study.



Dr. Shreeraj Talwadekar, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, KEM Hospital, Mumbai addressing the participants.

On the second day, the technical session on 'Role of ULBs in Social Development during Pandemic and Decentralized Strategies for Sustainable Health Infrastructure' was taken by Dr. Shreeraj Talwadekar, Asst. Professor, Microbiology, KEM Hospital, Mumbai. He mainly focused on Awareness campaign on health and hygiene. Further he explained the common symptoms of COVID-19 like cough, cold, fever, difficulty in the breathing and its pattern of progression, which are considered a serious public health concern. He portrayed the graphics relating to the number of COVID-19 cases across the country in order to understand the severity of the disease, its route of infection, mode of transfer. He further explained the norms for physical distancing, hand hygiene, consistent use of masks and PPE, safe waste management, and surface cleanliness to prevent the infection. The infection can be controlled by educating the people at large about preventive measures, immediate isolation of the patients, early diagnosis, and treatment. He elaborated upon the role of ULBs and the Government of Maharashtra in tackling during and post-pandemic situations. ULBs have played a vital role in controlling the disease by developing and providing infrastructure facilities to COVID patients. ULB officials made a provision of quarantine centers, provided food and sanitation facilities through linkages with other stakeholders. ULBs also encouraged Self Help Groups (SHGs) to provide masks, PPE kits to front line workers and other medical staff. He concluded that need to develop and implement strategies for sustainable health infrastructure at ULB level.

The next technical session on 'Financial Reforms for ULBs to Provide Sustainable Solutions to the

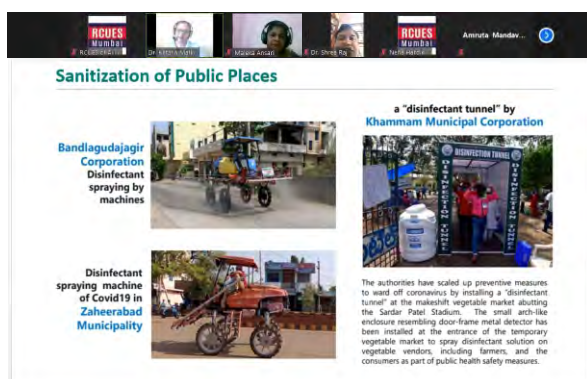
Pandemic' was delivered by Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department of Economics, SNTD College, Mumbai. He began his speech by speaking on the status of ULBs and stated that ULBs are broadly concerned with public health, welfare, regulatory functions, public safety, public infrastructure functions, and development activities. He further stated that the main sources of revenue of ULBs are collection from taxes and non-tax sources under the Municipal Acts, devolution of shared taxes and duties as recommended by the State Finance Commission (SFC). In addition to this, grants are received from the Government of India under centrally sponsored schemes. He added that some of these reforms were done with limited success under Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) in 2005-2013. Further, these reforms were carried forward in the Atal Mission or Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) of 2015-2022. He then explained the reasons for the changes in the financial condition of ULBs such as limitation of public investment in basic services, absence of ULBs own revenue book, limited availability of state and central schemes, steps for state and central tax reforms, etc. He then emphasized ULBs and COVID-19 Pandemic. He concluded his session by explaining the changes needed in the financial status of ULBs while tackling pandemic challenges and the need for revised financial reforms at the ULB level.



Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department of Economics, SNTD College, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Role of ULBs in Tackling Challenges and Preparedness in the Effective Service Delivery' was conducted by Dr. Ketna Matkar, Founder and Managing Director, Cipher Environmental Solutions LLP, Climate Reality Leader, Mumbai. At the beginning, she explained 'Ro value Prediction and Assessment of Corona Infections and Transmission in India' updated on 24 January 2021 by highlighting the current status of COVID patients and their recovery rate across the country. She then explained the life span of the Coronavirus on various surfaces like paper, copper, wood, surgical mask, etc.

She emphasized seven-steps approach for developing a municipal solid waste management plan. She elaborated upon the main requirements in SWM such as source segregation, collection, transportation, treatment, disposal, data management, and update and financial assistance during and post-pandemic. She expressed her concern about biomedical waste being mixed with other wastes. During COVID times, the average biomedical waste generated from hospitals and COVID centers has increased in a huge quantity. She mentioned that the CPCB has issued guidelines on the disposal of COVID waste. These guidelines must be followed by all stakeholders including isolation wards, quarantine centers, sample collection centers, laboratories, ULBs, and Common Biomedical Waste Treatment and Disposal Facilities (CBWTFs), she explained the SOPs on segregation of waste at source. These SOPs emphasize segregation at source which should be collected, transported, and are disposed of in a segregated manner and casts responsibility on all the stakeholders to ensure the segregation of waste during the entire SWM chain. At the end of the session, she discussed about the seven step approach for developing municipal solid waste management plan by ULBs.



Dr. Ketna Matkar, Founder and Managing Director, Cipher Environmental Solutions LLP, Climate Reality Leader, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Feedback on the online training programme was taken by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai which was designed on the basis of technical sessions delivered during the programme.

SUMMING UP

At the end, Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai proposed a Vote of Thanks to the distinguished trainers and the participants and announced conclusion of the training programme.

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED
WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON
**HEALTH AND SAFETY OF FRONT-LINE
WORKERS / SANITATION WORKERS
DURING AND POST COVID-19**

06th, 13th, 20th and 27th February 2021

Key Highlight

The key highlight of the series of these web-based training programmes was that the SWM workers gained knowledge relating to their welfare activities including health, safety and significant facets of living a happy life.

BACKGROUND

The outbreak of coronavirus has put the world in a grave public health crisis. Health and safety of individuals will now remain one of the top priorities. The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the escalation of cases have put the world in multi- sectorial crisis. The provision of safe water supply, sanitation and waste management services is essential to protect human health in normal times as well as during epidemics. Provision of these services requires a well-organized system in which a number of stakeholders are involved. Enhancing capacities of key stakeholders will assist them in taking appropriate precautions in effectively addressing any new challenges. The Front-Line Workers (FLWs) / Sanitation Workers play a crucial role in this period of crisis, and the need is to safeguard their health and safety first.

Considering this background and special request from Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a series of Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programmes on 'Health and Safety of Front-Line

Workers / Sanitation Workers During and Post COVID-19' in the month of February 2021 for Solid Waste Management (SWM) workers of 24 municipal wards of MCGM, Mumbai. These training programmes are supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

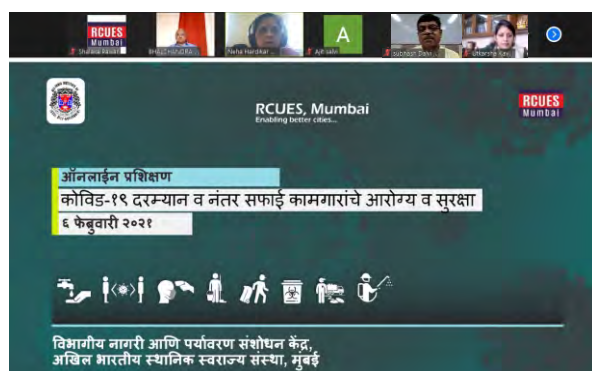
The key objective of these training programmes was to understand and address the challenges in ensuring health and safety of front-line workers (FLWs) / sanitation workers and service providers in sanitation at city level.

PARTICIPATION

Total 4261 participants comprising Assistant Health Engineers, Health Supervisors and Solid Waste Management (SWM) Workers, from 24 municipal wards of MCGM, Mumbai from the state of Maharashtra participated in these training programmes. The following table shows the programme-wise details of the participants who attended the training programme -

Sr. no	Date of Trg.Prog	No. of Participants
1	6 th February 2021	1079
2	13 th February 2021	996
3	20 th February 2021	1089
4	27 th February 2021	1097
	Total	4261

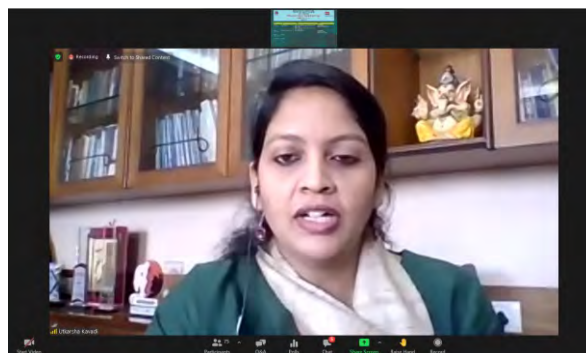
INTRODUCTION



Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

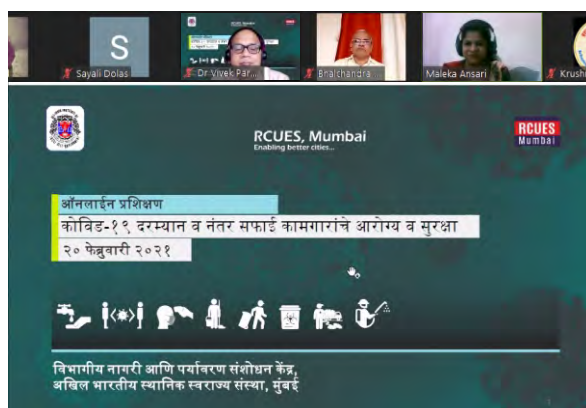
Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai welcomed the distinguished trainers and the participants. Thereafter she talked about the objective and functions of the Institute and explained the objective of this training programme. She expressed thanks to the SWM Department, MCGM, Mumbai for providing this opportunity to impart training to SWM workers from 24 municipal wards at a time. She further said that expert trainers will provide valuable information regarding health and safety of SWM workers. She requested Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to address the participants.

Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi also welcomed the expert trainers and the participants. She also expressed thanks to the SWM Department of MCGM, Mumbai for giving the opportunity to interact with SWM workers through this virtual platform. She also extended thanks to the expert trainers and mentioned their background and expertise in the subject. She concluded her welcome address by encouraging the participants to take benefit from the training in order to face the day-to-day challenges in their work with confidence.



Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Director, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai and Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai jointly coordinated this series of web-based training programmes.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

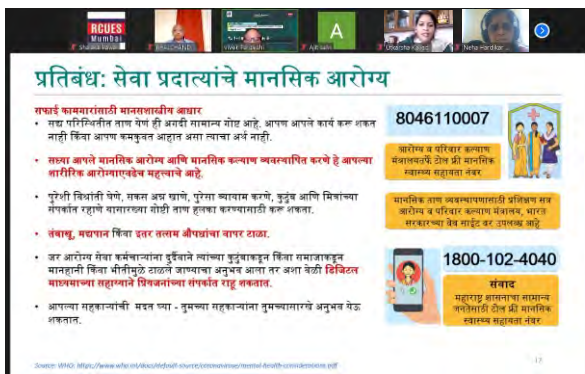
The first technical session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19 and Emergency Preparedness and Response' was conducted by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP), World Health Organization (WHO), Mumbai. Dr. Pardeshi explained the symptoms of COVID-19 pandemic and its progression pattern. He further spoke about the scenario of COVID cases across the country and stated that it is crucial to understand the modes of transmission of the virus and its pattern of spreading. He said that the MoHUA, GoI has published infographics which describe the nine-common means of spread of the virus. He then explained the measures to be taken to reduce transmission of Corona virus. The measures are: (i) to keep physical distancing, quarantine for 14 days, (ii) to seek immediate health care, (iii) to avoid going to public areas and to wear masks when they are around other people. He further explained that it is essential to follow hygiene

practices like wearing a mask, hand washing, and other measures prescribed as precautions against COVID-19. He also stated that in respect of the hand and respiratory hygiene measures the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), GoI has published guidelines for hygiene measures to be observed to restrict further spreading of the virus. He further stated that the MoHFW, GoI's guidelines illustrate DO's and DON'T's for appropriate respiratory hygiene, appropriate use of mask and hand hygiene which are crucial to control spread of the virus. He emphasized that SWM workers have to take additional precautions after reaching home. SWM workers are at high risks as they directly handle COVID waste. Thus, they should strictly follow given measures to safeguard themselves and their families. He also spoke about the stigma attached to the person tested positive in this pandemic situation.

discussions with multiple stakeholders involved in the process of preventive measures of COVID-19. He concluded his session by giving information of vaccine campaigns and necessity of taking this vaccine by front line workers / SWM workers.



Mr. Subhash Dalvi, Officer on Special Duty (SWM) and Chief Nodal Officer, Swachh Mumbai Prabodhan Abhiyan (SMPA), MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.



Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPS, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He concluded his session by emphasizing on taking COVID vaccine. He also provided the information on COVID vaccine by stating that vaccination programme has started from 16th January 2021 at various centres and that the vaccine is safe and effective. MCGM, Mumbai will start giving vaccine to SWM workers and every worker should avail of this facility to ensure health and safety.

The next session on 'Safe Sludge Management (Open Drains)' was conducted by Mr. Bhalchandra Salvi, former Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), MCGM, Mumbai. Mr. Salvi commenced his session by explaining preventive measures to be taken at workplaces. He further talked on personal hygiene, hand hygiene, keeping social distance at work place, using masks and sanitizers, use of home made healthy food and pure drinking water etc., to maintain health and safety of sanitation workers. He explained in detail eight types of Do's and Don'ts which include using gloves, cleaning hands with soaps, social distancing, disinfecting of tools used for cleaning the open drains, prohibiting people to go near open drains. He concluded his session by focusing on the need of strictly observing prescribed preventive measures in order to maintain safety of sanitation workers.

The next session on 'Safe Solid Waste Management during COVID-19' was conducted by Mr. Subhash Dalvi, Officer on Special Duty (SWM) and Chief Nodal Officer, Swachh Mumbai Prabodhan Abhiyan (SMPA), MCGM, Mumbai. Initially he presented an overview of SWM workers, front-line workers such as doctors, medical staff, sanitation workers and significant role played by them during COVID times. He stated that SWM workers from 24 municipal wards were continuously working with high risk during COVID times. He further added that during COVID times, concerned municipal officials of MCGM, Mumbai conducted frequent meetings and



Mr. Bhalchandra Salvi, former Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Health, Safety and Welfare of Sanitation Workers' was conducted by Dr. Ajit Salvi,

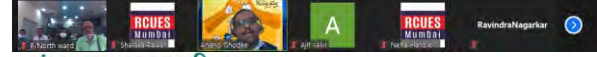
Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai. He began his session by focusing on individual perspective of SWM workers in terms of health and safety. He highlighted reasons of accidents of SWM workers at work place. He stated that accidents occur due to negligence and having casual approach towards work, unsafe conditions of work, absence of safety measures at work place, etc. He added that accidents at work place can be avoided by conducting regular safety drills, imparting knowledge of handling safety gears, avoiding shortcuts at work place and training the SWM workers. Further he talked about absenteeism of SWM works and their impact on their work. He mentioned that the reasons behind absenteeism at work place could be health issues, financial problems and family issues, etc. He further stated that good healthy life style is of utmost importance for a happy life and further added that according to the World Health Organization (WHO), individual with good physical, mental and social health can work effectively at work place. He elucidated that healthy diets, good thoughts, regular exercises, proper sleep, time management, financial planning, stress management and management of time after retirement are important facets to live a happy life. He encouraged the SWM workers to focus on these aspects. He concluded his session by mentioning measures to be taken by SWM workers at work place during and post COVID times.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The last session on 'Way Forward - Post Training Action Plan' was taken by Mr. Anand Ghodke, WASH Officer, UNICEF, Maharashtra. He began his session by emphasizing on inevitability of online training during COVID time. The training provides knowledge of the subject and its effective implementation. He further stated that subsequent to training, follow up action needs to be taken at individual and institutional level. He said that the knowledge gained through training needs to be disseminated to others in family,

friends and colleagues etc. He said that along with this, other aspects relating to periodic training, review of work culture, change in protocol if needed, and availability of safety tools, health care and compilation of health data should be monitored and corrective measures should be taken whenever a deficiency is noticed. He summarized his session by stating that post training action plan is vital to assess the effectiveness of training in terms of way forward.

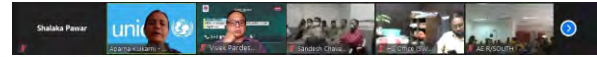


संस्थात्मक पातळीवर

- वारंवार प्रशिक्षण व आढावा
- प्रोटोकॉल अथवा पद्धतीमध्ये आवश्यकतेनुसार बदल
- सुरक्षा उपकरणे व उपलब्धता - वेळ आणि सहजता साध्य करणे
- आरोग्याची काळजी - आरोग्य तपासणी व डेटाबेस (संकलित माहिती)
- वेगवेगळे उपक्रम
 - आवश्यक बदल अभ्यास
 - शैक्षणिक भेट
 - वेस्ट वर्कर संकल्पना
 - कुटुंबांसाठी संधी: शैक्षणिक, रोजगार, कौशल्य विकास, विमा.

Mr. Anand Ghodke, WASH Officer, UNICEF, Maharashtra addressing the participants.

The same session was conducted by Ms. Aparna Kulkarni Gowande, State Communication Consultant for Water, Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene at UNICEF, Mumbai in the third web-based training programme of the series.



वैयक्तिक पातळीवर

- माहितीचा उपयोग - वैयक्तिक व इतरांना
- 'मीच माझा रक्षक' संकल्पना - सवय आणि सुरक्षा (व्यसन, साहित्य, मदत)
- लक्ष्य ठेवणे - सर्व साथीदार / सहकारी व कुटुंबातील सदस्य
- माझी जबाबदारी - कार्यालयीन, कौटुंबिक व सामाजिक
- विमा

Ms. Aparna Kulkarni Gowande, State Communication Consultant for Water, Sanitation and Menstrual Hygiene at UNICEF, Mumbai addressing the participants.

SUMMING UP

After the technical sessions Question and Answer session was taken. Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai concluded these training programmes by proposing a Vote of Thanks to the expert trainers and the participants.

ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKERS FROM 24 WARDS OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF GREATER MUMBAI (MCGM), MUMBAI IN THE SERIES OF CITY SPECIFIC WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMMES ON 'HEALTH & SAFETY OF FRONT-LINE WORKERS / SANITATION WORKERS DURING AND POST COVID-19' CONDUCTED IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2021, ARRANGED WITH SUPPORT FROM SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (SWM) OF MCGM, MUMBAI.



ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKERS FROM 24 WARDS OF MUNICIPAL CORPORATION OF GREATER MUMBAI (MCGM), MUMBAI IN THE SERIES OF CITY SPECIFIC WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMMES ON 'HEALTH & SAFETY OF FRONT-LINE WORKERS / SANITATION WORKERS DURING AND POST COVID-19' CONDUCTED IN THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 2021, ARRANGED WITH SUPPORT FROM SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT (SWM) OF MCGM, MUMBAI.



REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **ROLE OF ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

10th - 11th February 2021

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the features of the best practices which emerged as effective in tackling COVID-19 and came to be known as Bhilwara Model and Dharavi Project were presented. These best practices serve as model to be replicated in other cities to control the disease.

BACKGROUND

In January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the outbreak of a novel coronavirus to be a public health emergency of international concern. Since then WHO declared it as a pandemic affecting more than 115 countries around the globe. With cases were rising steadily, it was realized that the Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) have a key role to play in tackling this unprecedented challenge and that leadership and involvement of elected representatives of the ULBs is going to be crucial in the coming days, to face post-COVID-19 challenges.

Importance of continued efforts on training and capacity building of stakeholders has been recognized, especially in order to face the challenges during this pandemic. Hence, as per various guidelines of the Government authorities, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai has continued providing capacity building support through web-based tailor-made training programmes for the respective target groups. It also acts as a platform for various stakeholders to raise queries and also to share their experience and knowledge. It needed an earnest attempt to

encourage the participants through the web-based platform instead of face to face training programmes after the extended lockdown due to COVID-19 and recent pandemic situation across the country.

Considering this background, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Role of Elected Representatives in Response to COVID-19' on 10th & 11th February 2021 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss role of municipal elected representatives in addressing post pandemic challenges at city level.

PARTICIPATION

In all, 22 participants comprising President, Elected Representatives, Sanitary Inspectors, Community Organizers from Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat and

Rajasthan attended this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

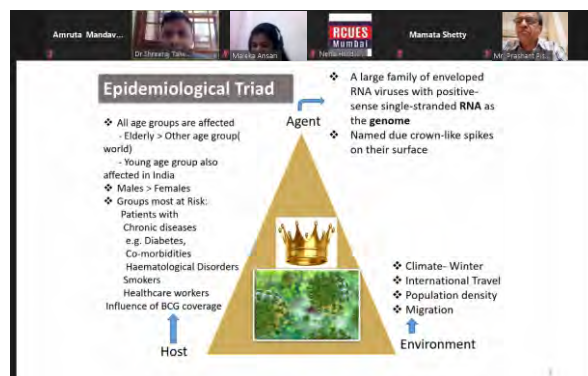
Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai started the web-based training programme by welcoming the distinguished trainers and the participants. She explained importance of the role of elected representatives and its significance in tackling the challenges of the pandemic in cities. She added that the RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai is taking efforts in experience sharing through expert trainers across the western region and encouraging the participants to use this platform to raise and resolve their queries and also to share their experience and knowledge with their counterparts in other cities.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19' was delivered by Dr. Shreeraj Talwadekar, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, KEM Hospital, Mumbai. He started his session by depicting the numbers of cases affected due to Corona virus across the country to indicate the spread of the disease. He explained the clinical signs of COVID-19 like cough, cold, and fever, difficulty in breathing, fatigue, expectoration and loss of smell and taste and its progression pattern which leads to public health concern. He further explained preventive measures by explaining cough etiquette, hand hygiene, facial hygiene, social distancing, correct and consistent use of masks and PPE, safe waste management and surfaces cleanliness to be taken to prevent the infection. He said that infection can be controlled through early diagnosis and proper treatment of COVID cases. Thereafter he talked on significant role of elected representatives in controlling and preventing the disease by knowing the disease and understanding its transmission. It is incumbent upon the elected representatives to



Dr. Shreeraj Talwadekar, Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology, KEM Hospital, Mumbai addressing the participants.

create awareness amongst the citizens for wearing masks, ensuring physical distance in shops, malls, public places, ensuring availability of soap, water and sanitizers with 70% alcohol, ensuring safe waste disposal in their communities etc. He also talked on stigma attached to COVID-19 and measures that are being taken to tackle it. He explained SOPs of preventive measures for shopping malls, restaurants, religious places etc. He concluded his session by explaining the current government guidelines prescribed by Government of India to take preventive and curative measures.

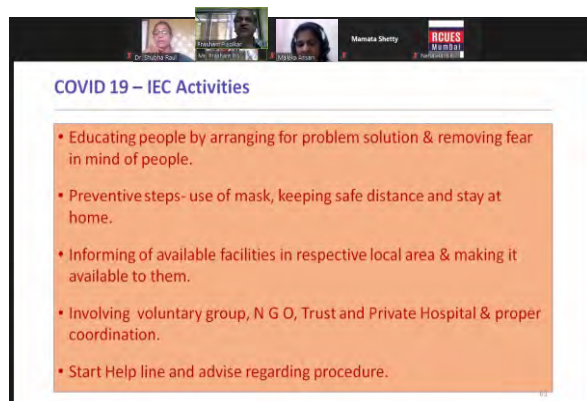


Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai, and Member of AYUSH Task Force, GoM addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Advisory of AYUSH for Meeting Challenges arising due to Spread of Coronavirus (COVID-19) in India' was delivered by Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai and Member of AYUSH Task Force, Government of Maharashtra (GoM). She explained preventive measures such as personal hygiene, hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and social distancing etc. to check the spread of COVID-19 in the community. She highlighted efficacy of Ayurveda medicines during the post pandemic situation. She noted that they help in enhancing immunity and maintaining a healthy life. She made mention of the AYUSH self-care guidelines for preventive health

measures and advancing immunity with special mention of respiratory health. She further mentioned many Ayurvedic and Homeopathic medicines which are useful as a preventive measure. She also emphasized importance of physical exercises, breathing exercise to boost the immunity. She concluded her session by highlighting the substantial role of elected representatives in preventive measures of the disease. She concluded that the elected representatives can work as a task force in respect of AYUSH guidelines.

The next session on 'Role of Elected Representatives in Response to COVID-19' was delivered by Mr. Prashant Pisolkar, Sr. Faculty, AILSG, Mumbai. He explained the importance of IEC activities for the awareness of preventive measures among citizens, involving local representatives and NGOs during and post pandemic situation. He further explained the active role of elected representatives in identifying COVID patients in their respective municipal wards to provide them required assistance in getting treatment facility in health centres and ensuring cost effective testing facility at local level. The elected representatives also can play a key role in number of ways, including helping COVID patients to get admitted in quarantine centres or hospitals in their wards, ensuring availability of ambulance at reasonable rates, arranging treatment facilities for non COVID chronic patients and looking after the last rites of arrangements of dead bodies. At the end, he explained that the provision of additional budget can be made for any emergency management by municipal authorities to save the lives of citizens during such situations.



Mr. Prashant Pisolkar, Sr. Faculty, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The session on 'Prevention and Control in Addressing Challenges at Community Level' was taken by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai.



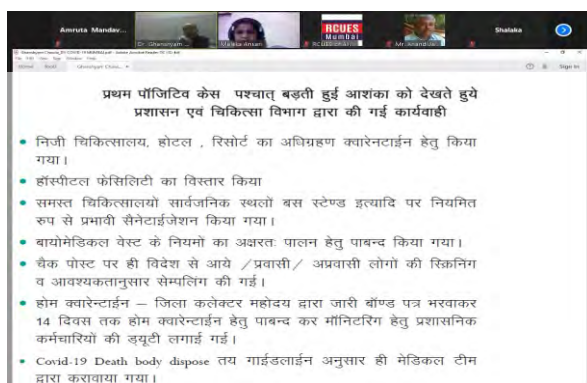
Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He explained various activities to be taken at individual as well as community level to control the spread of the virus and address community level challenges and dispel myths and misconception about COVID-19. He further talked about responsibilities of ULBs related to water supply and sanitation through water treatment and distribution, maintenance of WTPs and distribution network, maintenance of sewer lines, public and community toilets etc. He emphasized that preparedness and response activities should be conducted in a participatory, community-based ways that are established and regularly improved according to community feedback by identifying and responding to concerns, rumors and misinformation. He also added that changes in preparedness and response interventions should be developed based on community perspectives. He further said that after understanding the community perspective, responsive and transparent messages in local language should reach the community through trusted channels of communication, using community-based networks and also through elected representatives. He concluded his session by explaining post COVID management of water supply and sanitation services through certain recommendations and those households should be encouraged to maintain sanitation in their toilets. He further said that monitoring of fecal sludge management chain needs to be strengthened.

ULBs' PRESENTATIONS

After the technical sessions, the virtual platform was opened for the best practices to be shared. The idea of sharing and discussing the best practices was to provide opportunities to the participants of other cities to gain information for replication and adoption in their cities. Dr. Ghanshyam Chawla, Dy. Chief Medical Health Officer, Bhilwara Municipal Council, Rajasthan explained how the Bhilwara District fought

back against COVID-19 and became the best model in the State of Rajasthan. He said that, initially Bhilwara district was an epicentre of new coronavirus in Rajasthan until aggressive containment measures were taken by Bhilwara Municipal Council to control the spread of Coronavirus. The ruthless containment strategy followed by Bhilwara district consisted of strict imposition of curfew, mass screening, identification of potential clusters etc. Around 2000 team members carried out door-to-door screening of around 28 lakhs population across Bhilwara district and enforced home quarantine to those who were found symptomatic. He further explained that Bhilwara district administration developed a three pronged strategy to combat the cluster spread. The first step taken by Bhilwara was effective implementation of curfew, sealing the borders of containment zones and ensuring zero vehicular movements. The second step taken was identifying potential clusters and carrying out intensive mapping of contacts, isolating high risk people and the third step taken was extensive screening of the entire population of Bhilwara district. After the three pronged strategy, quarantine centres were developed at private hospitals, hotels and resorts to ensure accessibility of health facilities at a large scale.



Dr. Ghanshyam Chawla, Dy. Chief Medical Health Officer, Bhilwara Municipal Council, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

At the end, he explained the significant role played by elected representatives in awareness generation for proper use of mask and gloves, sanitization and implementation of social distancing, disposal of bio medical waste as per BMW Rules 2016 etc. As Bhilwara proved to be a model in fighting against corona virus, other states are trying to replicate containment strategy used by Bhilwara district to curb the spread of Coronavirus in their cities.

Another best practice on COVID-19 Intervention, field experiences from Dharavi, Mumbai was explained by Mr. Anand Jagtap, former Officer on Special Duty (OSD), MCGM and Sanitation Expert, Mumbai.



Mr. Anand Jagtap, former Officer on Special Duty (OSD), MCGM and Sanitation Expert, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He started his presentation by explaining major risk factors such as higher transmissibility, higher prevalence of infectious diseases, higher concentration of marginalized, migrants and forcibly displaced population, low awareness on certain prevention behaviors for the people living in informal settlements. Thereafter he explained 'Flush the Virus' Project which was conceptualized with two major interventions namely (i) risk communication and community engagement and (ii) Infection prevention and control. The objectives of Flush the Virus project were to create an enabling environment, ensuring availability of WASH services, development of SOPs, check lists and training materials and leverage partnerships to mobilize resources. He explained that activities under Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) are carried out by social messaging through megaphone on 100% mask use, emphasizing on physical distancing and respiratory hygiene, demonstration of hand washing techniques and installation of IEC materials in key areas. He concluded his presentation by depicting photos of COVID-19 awareness programme showing coordinators communicating with public about key measures for safety against COVID-19 transmission. He explained various measures taken to restrict the spread of the disease. These measures can be replicated in other cities as a best practice.

SUMMING UP

At the end of the technical sessions, trainers replied to the queries raised by the participants, followed by proposed a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to the trainers and the participants.

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **DISASTER MANAGEMENT AT ULB LEVEL**

17th - 18th February, 2021

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants gained knowledge about vigilance and preparedness required to be maintained in order to tackle the disasters and the mitigation measures to be taken during disasters. The participants were encouraged and emphasized to develop Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) in their respective cities to tackle the disasters.

BACKGROUND

The Disaster Management Act, 2005 (DM Act 2005) lays down institutional set up, coordination measures and the mechanism for effective Disaster Management (DM) at national, state, district and local levels. As mandated by this Act, the Government of India created a multi-tiered institutional system consisting of the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) headed by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India and similar authorities at State level and district level. In every ULB, there is supposed to be one nodal agency, for coordination of various activities relating to disaster management, which is referred to in the plan as 'Disaster Management Department' (DMD). The institutional arrangements have been set up consistent with the paradigm shift from the relief-centric approach of the past to a proactive, holistic and integrated approach for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) by way of strengthening disaster preparedness, mitigation and emergency responses. COVID – 19 pandemic impacted nations across the world, disrupting lives,

economies and societies. Outbreak of the virus and its rapid spread brought the whole country under the shadow of lockdown. Most of the cities of our country were not completely prepared for fighting against such a massive calamity.

Considering this background, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Disaster Management at ULB Level' on 17th & 18th February 2021 at 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of this web-based training programme is to develop the measures to tackle the disasters occurred during COVID times and develop disaster preparedness plan of action at ULB level.

PARTICIPATION

In all, 77 participants comprising City Coordinators, Control Room Operators, Firemen, Fire Officers, Fire Superintendents, Municipal Engineers, Audit Officer, Office Superintendents, Head of the Department of Fire Department of Maharashtra attended this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

This web based training programme commenced with introduction and welcoming the distinguished trainers and the participants by Mrs. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai. She explained the objective of the web-based training programme by elucidating the significance of preparedness and mitigation strategies to tackle the disaster and ensure safety to the public and mitigating the adversities. She gave introduction of the trainers which was followed by technical sessions.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Overview of Disaster Management' was conducted by Ms. Rashmi Lokhande, Chief Officer (i/c), Disaster Management Department, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. She commenced her session by saying that Mumbai being a coastal city is vulnerable to various hazards, including flooding. She further stated that according to a UN report, more than 50% of people in the world live in cities. Mumbai is not originally a planned city and because of its peculiar features, the city does not have the desired resilience to tackle the disasters. She explained that natural disasters across the country cannot be avoided, but during disasters loss of life and damage to property and social assets can be minimized through proper planning, preparedness and mitigation. She highlighted the importance of

community participation in disaster management and further explained that disaster risks can be reduced through systematic efforts by analyzing and managing the causative factors of disasters, including exposure to hazards, through lessening vulnerability of people and property, judicious management of land and the environment, and improved preparedness for facing adverse events. She further spoke about institutional development required in disaster management. The Disaster Management Act 2005 provides for legal and institutional framework for disaster management in India at the National, State and District level. She said that IT enabled systems are very effective in disaster management and added that MCGM, Mumbai has installed 60 automatic rain gauges at 58 locations, which transmit rainfall data to the Disaster Control Room of MCGM every 15 minutes. Many of the rain gauges have been installed at Fire Brigade stations as they are the first respondents during disasters and are on 24-hour alert. The rain gauges also have a console capable of giving an audible alarm if preset rainfall intensity exceeds 10 mm in 15 minutes.

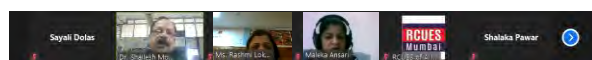


Ms. Rashmi Lokhande, Chief Officer (i/c), Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She further said that IT enabled documentation plays a vital role in disaster management. She concluded her session by citing example of Mumbai Development Plan (DP) 2034 which envisions mapped hazardous vulnerable locations, flood prone areas and rescue transport routes through IT enabled system.

The next session on 'Disaster Mitigation and Prevention with reference to COVID-19' was conducted by Dr. Shailesh Mohite, HOD, Forensic Dept., Nair Hospital, Mumbai. He started his session

by briefly talking on COVID and its symptoms including its prevention and mitigation. He explained the steps of mitigation with reference to COVID 19. He added that the preventive measures like social distancing, wearing of masks, personal sanitization reduces the risk. He spoke about the steps of mitigation in COVID -19. They include early detection of cases from community, provision of medicines, supportive treatment, role of ICUs and early CT scan X rays etc. He further explained how to develop an organization's preparedness plan in terms of social distancing, use of mask, hand hygiene, transportation of employees in a safe manner etc. He also explained conducting risk assessment through identification of areas at the work places, where there is a possibility of virus transmission through potential interactions among workers, customers, visitors, etc. He concluded his sessions by focusing on vaccination and improved health care infrastructure at district level as a preventive measure to bring down the risk of Coronavirus.



Post COVID Sequelae

- Apart from patients, some of whom will have complications due if they suffer from COVID-19 after recovering.
- There will a change even in the conduction of businesses.
- Work from home will be the norm.
- Encourage public sanitization methods, as a routine practice.
- Urgent need for reduction of population
- Improvement of Health Care Infrastructure at district levels to prevent urban migration, better health care facilities at all levels with ICU

Dr. Shailesh Mohite, HOD, Forensic Department, Nair Hospital, Mumbai addressing the participants.

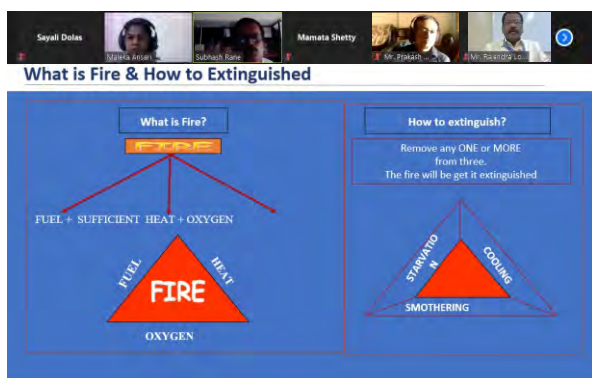
The next session on 'Disaster Management Cell at ULB Level - Experience Sharing of Mumbai' was conducted by Ms. Rashmi Lokhande, Chief Officer (i/c), Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai. She started her session by stating legal and regulatory provisions of the Disaster Management Act. She said that in the year 2011, Greater Mumbai Disaster Management Authority was constituted in exercise of the powers conferred by sub-sections (1), (2) and (4) of section 25 of the Disaster Management Act, 2005 (53 of 2005) and rule 2 of the Maharashtra District Disaster Management Rules by appointing Municipal Commissioner of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai as ex-officio Chairman of the Authority. In the year 2018, as per the Government Resolution and the orders of the Hon'ble High Court, the District Disaster Management Authorities for the Mumbai City and Mumbai Suburban were constituted. Later she explained the functions of Disaster Management Department which she

described as being the single-point source for all activities related to disaster management, hazard vulnerability and risk assessment, coordination for prevention, preparedness and mitigation, coordination for recovery and reconstruction, arrangement of temporary transport for victims, coordination for setting up temporary shelters. She further explained the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) established at Disaster Management Department of MCGM, Mumbai. This Centre is functional 24X7, equipped with the latest communication systems and early warning system. The Control Room contains 58 hot lines connected with various stakeholders, VHF network with 53 various stakeholders etc.

She further explained the role of Ward War Room (WWR) by mentioning that existing Ward Disaster Control Rooms are additionally act as COVID War Room from June 2020 and are working in all 24 Administrative wards on 24x7 basis. A dedicated land line number is assigned to Ward War Room. Each Ward War Room is provided with 15 to 20 ambulances for transporting patients from their residence to COVID Care Centres (CCCs) or COVID hospitals. She further mentioned about various actions taken by the EOCs and WWR, if any person is found positive. She explained the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), in which she discussed the methodology to decentralize Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system during pandemic. She also emphasized on importance of coordination meetings with several stakeholders like police, fire brigade, civic authorities, NGOs etc. for effective functioning of EOCs. She also explained the Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), in which transport is a crucial part. She also talked on Disaster Recovery Site at Parel in Mumbai which is a replica of the main Emergency Operations Center situated at MCGM, Fort, Mumbai. She concluded her session by stating that community participation is significant feature in disaster management.

On the second day, the session on 'Fire Safety' was conducted by Mr. Subhash Rane, former Divisional Fire Officer, Mumbai Fire Brigade, MCGM, Mumbai. He began his session by explaining the responsibilities of statutory authorities in maintenance of fire services, which are vested with local self-government institutions as per the provisions made in respective statutes. He later spoke about the National Building Code in which Part 4 contains Fire and Life Safety provisions and important Indian Standards (IS) of fire extinguishing systems, smoke detection system, electric installations and safety colors safety signs, fire protection safety signs

and LPG gas installations etc. He highlighted importance of Building Bye-laws which mandate construction of buildings in sound and safe manner. They lay down guidelines to be followed by architects / engineers involved the building layout and plans to ensure safety. Thereafter he explained provisions of the Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety Measures Act 2006 & Maharashtra Fire Prevention and Life Safety Measures Rule 2009 and their effective implementation. He showed images of several buildings catching fire.



Mr. Subhash Rane, former Divisional Fire Officer, Mumbai Fire Brigade, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He also discussed fire protection plan and said that fire drills are periodically conducted. It is very important to have a fire safety plan to prevent and extinguish any fire in the building with details about the precaution to be observed by each occupant, he said. Among other things, telephone numbers of all emergence services are indicated in the plan. While explaining fire and life safety audit, he said that it is required to be carried out for all buildings having a height of more than 15 meters. Such audits shall preferably be conducted once in 2 years by a third party auditor having requisite experience in fire and life safety inspections. He concluded his session by explaining fire prevention measures such as safety audit, performance assessment, education and training, implementation of safety standards, etc. to minimize the number of accidents.

The next session on 'Disaster Preparedness' was taken by Dr. Prakash Dongre, Associate Professor, N. K. College Malad and Faculty for MCGM and Garware Institute for Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management, Mumbai. He commenced his session by talking on preparedness before occurrence of disasters with a view to avoid loss of life and property. He explained the Disaster Risk Management Cycle and elaborated upon the Reactive Disaster management i.e. Recue, Relief and Proactive Disaster management with Prevention and



Dr. Prakash Dongre, Associate Professor, N. K. College Malad and Faculty for MCGM and Garware Institute for Post Graduate Diploma in Disaster Management, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Preparedness as the key factors. He spoke about legal frameworks formulated and guidelines issued at national, state, district and ULB level to develop disaster resilient cities across the country. He added that considering the importance of disaster management as a national priority, Government of India set up a High-Powered Committee (HPC) in August 1999 and a National Committee after the Gujarat Earthquake, for making recommendations on the preparation of Disaster Management Plans and suggesting effective mitigation mechanisms. The Tenth Five-Year Plan document also had, for the first time, a detailed chapter on disaster management. The Twelfth Finance Commission also mandated review of the financial arrangements for disaster management. He further said that the Government of India enacted the Disaster Management Act 2005, which envisaged the creation of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and State Disaster Management Authorities (SDMAs) to provide for and implement a holistic and integrated approach towards disaster management across the country. Further, he discussed disaster preparedness tools such as community preparedness, early warning systems, vulnerability and capacity assessment, contingency planning and logistic preparedness. He spoke about important communication systems like social media, cell phones, satellite phones, and police scanners etc. which are effective support systems in tackling disasters. Lastly, he talked on emergency disaster preparedness and development of emergency plans in coordination with other concerned stakeholders.

The next session on 'Community Resilience Indicators' was taken by Mr. Rajendra Lokhande of the Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai. He started his session by saying that community is a first respondent in any disaster

situation and community resources are the chief means in forming community's resilience. He explained the difference between hazard and vulnerability and also elaborated on risk triangle. The risk triangle involves hazard, vulnerability and exposure. He mentioned that presence of any of these elements increases risk. He said that disaster management is necessary in order to save lives, minimize damages and bring normalcy. He also discussed disaster management cycle and role of government authorities in disaster management with a view to build a proactive and technology driven strategy for effective response to disasters. He explained the importance of community resilience which includes awareness of vulnerabilities and planning for strategies to protect continuation of important services when protective measures do not work as anticipated. A major goal of a resilient community is to minimize the occurrence of disaster, he said. He concluded his session by explaining contents and use of survival kit which has to be kept ready before occurrence of any emergency.



Mr. Rajendra Lokhande, Shift Incharge of the Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

SUMMING UP

After the technical sessions, the feedback was taken from the participants, followed by a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to the trainers and the participants.

25

REGIONAL SPECIALISED WEBINAR ON **IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON VARIOUS URBAN DEVELOPMENT MISSIONS AND CHANGED PERSPECTIVES**

3rd March 2021

BACKGROUND

The COVID-19 pandemic has had an unprecedented adverse impact all around the world. It is also a fact that Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) have been at the forefront in facing this calamity of Covid-19 and like a proverbial silver lining in the cloud, they have come out stronger and experienced out of the crisis, and as a result of this they are likely to see lasting changes in their approaches and functioning. Despite many challenges faced by ULBs, COVID-19 has proved to be a catalyst in improving upon the current practices of service delivery for creating better managed neighbourhood, communities and cities. The webinar intends at supporting ULBs, organizations and individuals involved in urban development spectrum by presenting best practices adopted by cities in India under various missions.

In Indian cities several efforts are being taken under flagship missions of Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM), Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT), Smart Cities Mission (SCM), Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY), National Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY) and National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM). These schemes/missions are launched with

definite purposes, but fact is that they have also been crucial for lessening the impact of the pandemic. For instance, smart cities have been effectively dealing with the ongoing pandemic aided by various IT tools to monitor COVID-19 cases, extrapolate trends, arrange supplies, monitor hotspots etc. to ensure situation is critically managed.

Under SBM, ULBs have undertaken multiple initiatives like maintaining COVID healthcare facilities as per prescribed norms, sanitization of public spaces and public infrastructure to contain spread of COVID-19, safe collection and disposal of solid waste including bio-medical waste.

Maintaining appropriate physical distance which is critical to reduce the impact of COVID-19, has altered the way people travel. Under AMRUT, which contains the component of public transportation, ULBs have to suitably modify existing public transportation system in order to provide citizens with safe mode of transport. Along with altering existing transportation system, it is also essential to take lessons from the pandemic and make provision for more personal and sustainable mode of transportation through the

provision of adequate infrastructure for cycling.

The COVID-19 shock has created a massive impact on the employment and self-employment especially on the urban informal sector. Under the DAY-NULM mission, efforts have been made by the ULBs to create livelihood opportunities for the marginalized section of the society. The DAY-NULM mission which supports and operates with grass-root level organizations such as area level federations and Self Help Groups (SHGs), have been involved in COVID-19 relief work.

The pandemic is being handled by the combined efforts of several government and non-government efforts, the sanitation and health workers, municipal staff, police and para medical staff, Self Help Groups, Community Organisations, CSRs and NGOs under the umbrella of various urban development missions.

With an aim to create an interactive platform for cities under the pandemic crisis and to impart training and create a platform for exchange of experience in the fight against the Corona, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organised a Regional Specialised Webinar on 'Impact of COVID-19 on Various Urban Development Missions and Changed Perspectives' on 3rd March, 2021. This Webinar was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

This Webinar witnessed 38 participants comprising Mayor, Chief Officer, Elected Representatives, Municipal Engineers, City Mission Managers, Research Associates, Project Managers, Assistant Project Officers, City Coordinators, SMID Experts, Regional Directors, and Community Organizers from Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, and Rajasthan.

At the beginning, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai spoke on the background of the Webinar and said that this Webinar facilitated a dialogue among the ULB officials for sharing initiatives taken to tackle COVID-19 under various urban development missions through best practices presented by the city representatives and subject experts on strategies formulated by State Government for the implementations of various mission in an integrated manner.

Inaugurating the Webinar, Mr. Samir Unhale, Joint Commissioner, Directorate of Municipal Administration (DMA), Government of Maharashtra (GoM) welcomed the eminent speakers and the participants. He appreciated the efforts taken by the RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai in conducting this Webinar.



Mr. Samir Unhale, Joint Commissioner, DMA, GoM addressing the participants.

He stated that pandemic of COVID-19 hugely impacted existing schemes under various urban development missions and the total cities' perspective is changed. He further added that cities are utilizing existing available infrastructure to fight against this unprecedented crisis by stating that more than 50 cities across the country utilised COVID war room by converting city command control room of their city for emergency preparedness. He wished success to the Webinar, while concluding his inaugural remark.

SURAT, GUJARAT UNDER NULM MISSION



Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation, Gujarat addressing the participants.

The first presentation on 'Livelihood Opportunities created for the Marginalized Section and COVID-19 Relief Activities undertaken by SHGs formulated/ supported in Surat city under the NULM Mission' was conducted by Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation, Gujarat. At first, she talked on scenario of fast growing Surat city by mentioning its special features relating to diamond and cloth markets. She further talked on special projects effectively implemented under NULM mission. She elaborated on the special projects launched by Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC) by considering topography and cultural diversity, local

demands, use of local resources, support to existing industries and sustainable livelihood of Surat city. She talked on SMC's success in generating new livelihood openings in the city. During lockdown, SMC encouraged the SHGs formed under NULM to make masks after providing raw material by other stakeholders. SHGs made more than four lakh masks which were distributed in the local hospitals through SMC. SMC also involved SHGs in roti making project with the help of NGOs during lockdown. SHG women were involved in making rotis and packaging them. Around 100 SHGs of Surat city were involved in roti making project to create new livelihood opportunity. She also mentioned that SHGs were involved in rakhi making and Ganpati idol making projects. She concluded her presentation by showing video on roti making project and mentioning that SMC has executed several such projects through SHGs and NGOs which generated new sources of livelihood for marginalised section of the society during COVID time.

INDORE, MADHYA PRADESH UNDER SBM MISSION



Dr. Asad Warsi, Advisor, SBM, Indore Municipal Corporation, Madhya Pradesh addressing the participants.

Dr. Asad Warsi, Advisor, SBM, Indore Municipal Corporation, Madhya Pradesh gave presentation on Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) in which he spoke on 'The Strategies Formulated by the State Government for Swachh Bharat Mission and its Implementation at the City Level – Indore City'. He spoke on how Indore city's drainages were turned into playgrounds for residents and considered as cleanest city across the country. He added that the whole process from waste collection to its disposal has been given a new dimension in Indore by creating a new drainage model. He further elaborated that large outfalls have been identified by Indore Municipal Corporation under the river-drain outfall tapping work which stops the sewage falling into the primary sewer line of the city. Because of this change the sewage flowing in the drains is now transferred directly to the Sewage

Treatment Plant (STP). He mentioned that now Indore city has emerged with 100% sewer line connectivity and nallas are converted into recreation centres during COVID time which also helped in reducing exposure to the water borne diseases. Dr. Warsi also talked about how Municipal Solid Waste in the city is converted into Bio-CNG through Biomethanation process. He concluded his presentation by describing the efforts taken by Indore city to formulate and implement the strategies of municipal solid waste and sanitation through decentralised systems at city level under SBM.

AGRA, UTTAR PRADESH UNDER SCM MISSION



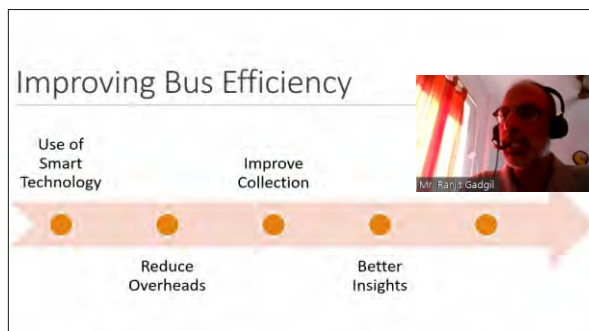
Mr. Anand Menon, Lead Consultant, Agra, Uttar Pradesh addressing the participants.

In the next presentation, Mr. Anand Menon, Lead Consultant, Agra, Uttar Pradesh presented Agra model under Smart City Mission (SCM) in which he spoke on 'Convergence of Existing ICT Infrastructure Available with Smart Cities to Tackle the Pandemic in the City of Agra'. He spoke on the several initiatives such as use of ICCC as 'War Room', bringing multi-disciplinary teams and rapid innovation together, focus on health and containment for COVID-19 and essential services, support and engagement for citizens taken by Agra city administration to prevent the spread of COVID-19. He spoke on innovative measures adopted by the city administration for Information collection, management and dissemination with respect to control of the spread of corona positive cases, healthcare facilities, food, medical supplies etc. He added that Agra Model has successfully tackled cluster containment and citizen services delivery by launching a web-portal (<http://agrasmartcity.in/EssentialItemSupplier.aspx>) to allow the citizens to select nearest available vendors of groceries, fruits, and vegetables etc. Moreover a helpdesk was set up at the COVID war room to answer the queries and guide citizens for doorstep delivery and to provide information and assurance on availability of essential goods so as to

avoid possible panic situations among citizens. About 10,000 people have taken advantage of the service.

He also spoke on other innovative measures implemented to enable two-way communication between city and its citizens by formulating innovative digital and AI based solutions deployed for citizen services. Under this strategy, Nigrani samitees were formed in the city as a part of citizen initiative for monitoring at local level and monitoring mechanism was put in place by setting up CCTV surveillance system throughout the city. Besides, PPE kits were procured through various means such as involvement of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and making use of the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives for sanitation workers. He also added that Agra city has created a GIS dashboard which shows various hotspots, heat map, positive cases, recovered cases etc. by which citizens could keep a daily update on the status through Agra COVID tracker. More than 3450 citizens have availed of this facility. Another initiative taken was of launching of Agra lock down monitoring App. Similarly, E-doctor seva services were commenced free of cost to citizens, which were availed by more than 650 citizens. Agra city administration has also developed Sarvam Setu, an AI driven Hyper Local SOS and Emergency Response Management platform for citizens which allows citizens to raise geo-tagged requests for emergency help in nine different categories. He concluded his speech by mentioning way forward strategies in tackling post pandemic crisis by ongoing practices of use of improved SOPs, processes, tools and dashboards and new strategic vision.

PUNE, MAHARASHTRA UNDER AMRUT MISSION

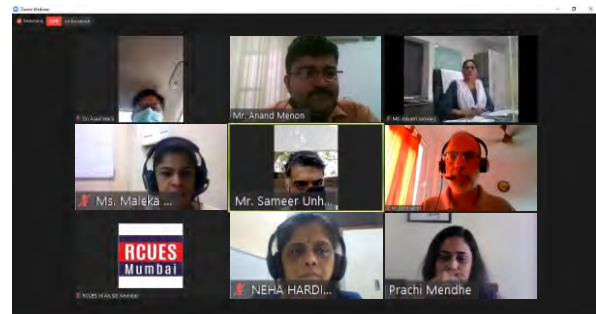


Mr. Ranjit Gadgil, Programme Director, Parisar, Pune, Maharashtra addressing the participants.

The next presentation on 'Impact of COVID-19 on the Public Transport System and Preventive Measures undertaken for COVID-19 in Pune City under AMRUT' was taken by Mr. Ranjit Gadgil, Programme Director, Parisar, Pune, Maharashtra. Mr. Gadgil spoke about

pre COVID-19 and post COVID-19 scenarios in cities especially highlighting scenario of Pune city. He spoke on Advisory given by MoHUA, GoI to encourage and revive Non-Motorized Transport (NMT) on account of its benefits such as economic viability, reduction in air pollution and GHG emission etc. He also talked on benefits of encouraging citizens towards using public transport as it is the mainstay of travelling within the city. He further spoke on strategies of NMT, in which ULBs are required to develop permanent master plan and taking such measures as removing encroachment, conducting awareness programmes and installing camera based monitoring and enforcement systems, putting restrictions on random parking and widening of footpaths etc. He then elaborated upon various strategies which were developed as preventive measures while using public transport during COVID time. These strategies include separation of driver from passengers, sanitization, mandatory wearing of masks, bus fleet augmentation planning, increase public transport capacity and e-ticketing etc. to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on public transport system and infusing safety measures. He concluded his presentation by focusing on sustainable urban transport for 'People-Friendly' city where people should be encouraged to use public transport and non-motorized transport in order to reduce pollution through awareness campaigns and to address safety concerns of pedestrians and cyclists.

At the conclusion of the webinar, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIIILSG, Mumbai summarized the gist of the presentations presented by the distinguished speakers and emphasized need to create an interactive platform for cities for tackling pandemic crisis on a consistent basis as fight against the Corona through various projects under urban development missions.



26

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **FINANCIAL REFORMS DURING AND POST COVID-19**

4th-5th March 2021

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the participants gained information and knowledge about formulation of the policies and approaches to augment revenue of the ULBs with a view to develop effective health care system during pandemic, imparted through the technical sessions by the expert trainers.

BACKGROUND

The impact of the pandemic on the economy and on the fiscal positions of the Central and State Governments has been large. The magnitude of impact of pandemic on different sectors varies; none of the sectors has remained unaffected. The pandemic has put India's urban public health systems under stress, both in terms of infrastructure and economically. As for the municipalities, the unprecedented expenses incurred on health service delivery to tackle the COVID pandemic have pushed the need to put property tax reforms on the fast track. Property tax remains the only major revenue source in the municipal portfolio and it contributes about 60 percent to municipal tax kitty in India. In addition, the municipal finance sources that support the activities necessary to fight the pandemic at the local level have also come under pressure. Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in India raise finances through a variety of sources: ULBs generate their own revenues from property tax, part of stamp duty they receive, entertainment tax and other local cess, grants from the State and Central governments, loans from banks and other institutions. They also raise finance through municipal bonds, and generate revenues from sundry sources

such as rents from entities that use public premises, unclaimed security deposits etc. Due to ongoing social distancing measures in place and local level restrictions in many places, supply chains are not yet fully restored, which affects recovery process. Given the deteriorating municipal finance, revenue augmentation has become all the more necessary amidst the Covid-19 outbreak. This has led ULBs to urgently reframe fiscal measures.

Considering this background, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai organized a Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Financial Reforms During and Post COVID-19' on 4th & 5th March 2021 at 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of these training programmes was to discuss the strategies by local governments to enhance the finances during COVID recovery times.

PARTICIPATION

A total of 26 participants comprising Mayors, President, Chief Officers, City Coordinators, Municipal Engineers, Medical Health Officers, City Project Officers, Sanitary Inspectors, Community Organizer, Health Workers, Social Workers from the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Assam participated in this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES of AILSG, Mumbai began the web-based training programme by giving welcome address to the trainers and the participants. She further spoke on the requirement of revenue generation to effectively handle the health delivery services during the pandemic. After giving introduction of the trainers, she requested Dr. Vibhuti Patel to start her technical session.

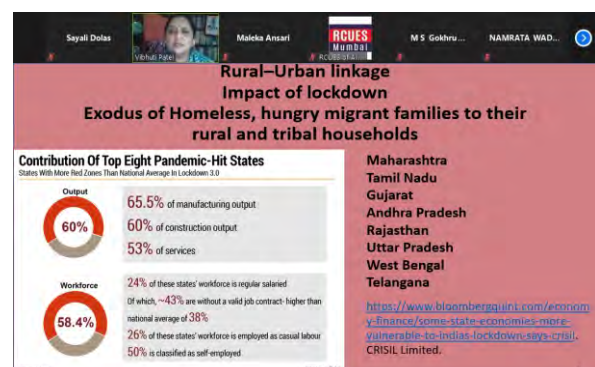


Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Impact of COVID-19 on Indian Economy' was conducted by Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Retired Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. She commenced her session by explaining the effects of lockdown and its impact on Indian economy. She said that several sectors like travel and tourism, household services, platform based services such as Urban Clap, Swiggy, Ola and Uber, and construction services, fisheries were severely affected due to the extended lockdown which adversely impacted Indian economy. She explained how rural urban linkages were affected due to lockdown. Vulnerable communities like construction workers, street vendors etc. went back to their native places as they lost their livelihood in the cities. She added that migration of vulnerable groups had huge impact on the economy. Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Telangana were the affected States

due to reduced workforce and low output of various services. She talked on in-formalization of economy which is more pronounced in female workers. In India, 94 percent of women are employed in the unorganised sector and involved in such works which lack dignity of labour, social security, decent and timely wages. She concluded her session by giving a few recommendations to boost the economy. A few of them are mentioned as reduction of socio-economic inequality through fiscal inclusion, increase in social sector investment, gender responsive participatory budgeting and universal access to health care services and by allocating at least 6 percent of the GDP for public health.



Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Retired Professor, TISS, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Role of Central and State in Amending Financial Reforms During Pandemic Crisis' was taken by Dr. Sanjay Phad, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai. He began his session by explaining about financial provisions for ULBs and necessity of financial reforms to tackle the pandemic situation. He spoke about India's decentralization initiatives in the form of seventy-third and seventy fourth Constitutional Amendments aimed at making local bodies play vibrant role in their spheres. After these Constitutional Amendments, it became mandatory for the (Central) Finance Commission to allocate funds and make recommendations to strengthen functioning of ULBs. He further explained that though quantum of flow of grants to local bodies increased over a period because of allocation of grants by the Finance Commissions, still these funds are not adequate to strengthen these bodies to the extent desired. Considering these issues, he further stated that the percent share of ULB grants in total Finance Commission transfers which was 2.3 percent in the Eleventh Finance Commission increased to 5.05 percent in the Thirteenth Finance Commission and 6.41 percent in the recommendations of Fourteenth Finance Commission. According to him, these

enhancements were welcome steps but not enough to fulfil the objectives of the amendments. He also suggested that it should be ensured that the State Governments transfer the local body grants promptly as per the recommendations made by the (Central) Finance Commission and State Finance Commissions.

Commission	Amount Allocated to ULBs	% Growth in amount	Share of ULB Grants	Total Local Body Grants	% Share in total FC Grants	% share in Total FC Transfer
FC-X (1995-2000)*	1000	-	18.58	5380.93	24.24	2.37
FC-XI (2000-05)	2000	100.00	20.00	10000	17.07	2.30
FC-XII (2005-10)	5000	150.00	20.00	25000	17.53	3.31
FC-XIII (2010-15)	23111	362.22	26.82	86162	33.32	5.05
FC-XIV (2015-20)	87143.8	277.07	30.32	287436	53.49	6.41
FC-XV (2020-21)	29250	9.69 (over 2019-20)	32.50	90000		

Source: Reports of Finance Commissions, Government of India.

Dr. Sanjay Phad, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai addressing the participants.

He further stated that urbanization and economic growth are interlinked as cities provide economies of agglomeration. Currently, cities accommodate 377 million i.e. 31% of India's current population and contribute 63% of the GDP and are expected to accommodate 800 million people in 2050. Hence providing adequate infrastructure requires huge finances. The resource base of ULBs typically consists of their own sources, state government grants, loans from state governments, and market borrowings. He said that ULBs in India have a minimal revenue base and are largely dependent on Central and State grants, which constrain their ability to invest adequately in capital expenditure like creating infrastructure and, thereby, improve quality of life in the cities. Central Finance Commissions have also recommended for financial strengthening of ULBs from time to time. He concluded his session by mentioning that financial self-sufficiency of the ULBs is the need of the hour. This can be achieved through encouraging municipal bonds, review of property tax system, periodically revising the tax rate and to improve efficiency and transparency in collection and mobilization of resources.

The next session on 'Implementing Financial Reforms during Pandemic Crisis - Constraints and Recovery Measures' was taken by Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Retired Professor, TISS, Mumbai. At the outset she stated that extended lockdowns on account of COVID-19, hugely affected India's economy all around the country which leads to impeding of central and state government's revenues. She also focused on the scenario of ULBs in revenue generation and needed

capacity for major urban infrastructure development. She further added that autonomous authorities and boards under state government control were created as supporting mechanisms for ULBs' developmental functions. Later these supporting mechanisms weakened, which impeded revenue generation of ULBs. The poor financial condition of ULBs was a major constraint but these institutions were also the frontline warriors in the COVID-19 crisis. She concluded her session by recommending that improving financial condition of ULBs for coming out of the crisis on account of COVID and enabling them to become financially viable entities, in the long run, requires effective execution of urban governance reforms and continuous monitoring on their implementation.

On the second day, the session on 'Health Financing at ULB Level' was conducted by Mr. Ravi Duggal, Expert, Public Health, Mumbai. He gave his presentation by explaining the economic scenario of ULBs, which have become weak over the period of time because of insufficient revenue generation. He further explained that inadequate revenue generation leads to reliance on state government grants which lead to weak autonomy and decision making powers at ULB level. He then talked on overview of health financing. He added that health has been a predominant engagement of ULBs. Now the expenditure on health care has drastically declined 8.56 percent of the total ULB expenditure in 2021. He also mentioned that ULBs provide various levels of health care facilities ranging from health care by the community health workers to urban health centres, dispensaries and hospitals, including medical college attached hospitals. He further spoke about the issues of urban health financing such as inadequate resources for primary care, tertiary hospitals handling a large proportion of primary care which amounts to improper use of the limited

Urban Health Financing Issues

- Resources are not a constraint - infact there is excess in urban areas, especially Mumbai
- Public health resource use suffers from allocative inefficiencies
- Inadequate resources for primary care
- Tertiary hospitals handle a large proportion of primary care which is wasting limited resources
- Lack of a referral system
- Human Resource Deficits
- Need to restructure resource use
- COVID Context
 - The issues above created chaos and instilled fear during the pandemic
 - The pandemic exposed the weaknesses and vulnerability of the public health system and governance
 - COVID context is a good opportunity which the government needs to seize and reform the healthcare system, including the private sector

Mr. Ravi Duggal, Expert, Public Health, Mumbai addressing the participants.

resources, lack of a referral system, deficits of human resource and need to restructure resource use, etc.

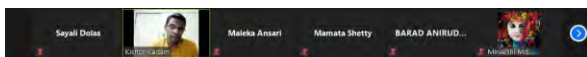
He also elaborated upon 'Financial Reforms for ULBs to Provide Sustainable Solutions to Pandemic', where he mentioned that the issues which have come up have created chaos and inculcated fear during the pandemic of COVID-19. The pandemic exposed the weaknesses and vulnerability of the public health system and governance. He further added that COVID context that the pandemic can be looked upon as an opportunity for the government to reform the healthcare system, including the private sector. He talked on the sustainable solutions to pandemic by suggesting strengthening of primary care services, creating a referral system for secondary and tertiary care, creating innovative financing and payment mechanisms. He concluded his session by explaining the strategy for reorienting financial reforms where he highlighted the cost based allocation of budgets for each level of health care system. He concluded his sessions by adding that sixty percent of the health budget should be assigned for primary care like dispensaries, public health centres etc.

The last technical session on 'Strategies to Encourage Digitalization at ULB Level' was conducted by Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department of Economics, SNTD College, Mumbai. He talked on the need to move towards Digitization by ULBs, as in the wake of urbanization, role of ULBs is increasing in providing service delivery to citizens. He mentioned that over the last decade the private sector has shifted its work on a large scale to online mode. Pandemic of COVID-19 has created opportunities for the ULBs to digitalize their services to achieve proficiency in service delivery at ULB level. He then explained strategic features and various current tools like web portals, apps, video calling and Citizen Service Centre (CSC) leading to digital transformation. These platforms are useful in offering aviation services,

pension, foreign trades, digital courts, travel and expenditure monitoring, and month-end dashboards, automation of tax and revenue management processes for direct and indirect vices, registration of properties and land, shop, birth, death, marriage, etc. He further mentioned examples of Digital Welfare such as education, healthcare, and social care and protection cases etc. He concluded his session by explaining necessity of digitization at ULB level to bring efficiency in service delivery and other services.

SUMMING UP

The feedback was taken from the participants, followed by proposing a Vote of Thanks by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to the distinguished trainers and the participants.



Selected Examples of Digital Welfare

1. Digital Education	
Educational service categories	Examples of emerging digital trends
School administration	Administrative processes of the school – for example, applying to the school, applying for grants and subsidies, registering for exams, and getting exam certificates – are increasingly being digitalized as a part of e-government programmes.
Communication between schools and their constituents	Communication across teachers, parents, students and others is also an area with a high level of digitalization. With easily accessible collaborative platforms, schools can save time and provide easier and more flexible communication online.
Teaching and learning preparation	A steadily increasing digitalization is happening, both by complementing traditional books and prints with online learning resources, and also by organizing preparation and sharing knowledge and practices.
Teaching and learning	The direct interaction between teacher and pupils/students, traditionally taking place in the class room, is evolving more slowly. While insights from distance, blended and collaborative learning are emerging, these insights have yet to crystallize at a larger scale.
Revisions and exams	Revision of papers, tests and exams is also a time consuming part of teaching. This area is currently being digitalized, although the markets appear rudimentary, linked to the digitalization of teaching materials and teaching in general.

Dr. Kishor Kadam, Head of the Department of Economics, SNTD College, Mumbai addressing the participants.

27

REGIONAL SPECIALIZED WEB-BASED TRAINING PROGRAMME ON **NULM - DURING AND POST PANDEMIC APPROACH**

9th -10th March 2021

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this web-based training programme was that the trainers provided immensely useful information to the participants relating to resolving various problems faced by the NULM beneficiaries in availing the loan facility under the NULM mission through systematic approach.

BACKGROUND

National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) was launched by the then Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (MoHUPA), now Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI). The mission focusses on organizing the urban poor through competent grass root level institutions, by creating opportunities for skill development leading to market-based employment/self-employment. The Mission also aims at providing equipped shelter with essential amenities to the urban homeless and addresses livelihood concerns of the urban street vendors. The COVID-19 outbreak affected all the segments of the population and has been particularly detrimental to the members of social groups in the most vulnerable situations. It continues to affect vulnerable communities including street vendors, homeless population, etc. During the post pandemic scenario, it is imperative to take a more holistic approach to build long-term livelihood sustainability of the urban poor, integrating objectives of self-employment generation

and skill building along maintaining hygiene and sanitation.

Considering this background, Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai had organized a Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'NULM - During and Post Pandemic Approach' on 9th & 10th March 2021 between 11.30 to 13.00 hrs. This training programme was supported by the MoHUA, GoI.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of the training programme was to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on NULM beneficiaries and approach of the mission for tackling the same.

PARTICIPATION

A total of 87 participants comprising Municipal

Engineers, State Mission Managers (SM & ID, NULM), District Mission Managers, Technical Experts, Project Officers, Assistant Project Officers, and Community Organizers from the states of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Assam participated in this web-based training programme.

INTRODUCTION

At the beginning, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai welcomed the distinguished trainers and participants. She explained the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on NULM beneficiaries in terms of loss of livelihood, inadequate health facilities, inadequate basic amenities etc. She further added that RCUES, Mumbai has provided a platform to acquire knowledge necessary to tackle current and post pandemic situations in cities. She also gave introduction of the trainers. The technical sessions started after her address to the participants.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The technical session on 'Public Health Aspects of COVID-19 with Emergency Preparedness and Response' was conducted by Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, National Polio Surveillance Project (NPSP), World Health Organization (WHO), Mumbai. Initially, Dr. Pardeshi explained the COVID situation across the country. He added that second wave of COVID-19 is emerging in many countries and some states of India are showing increase in number of daily cases. He also mentioned that many states are putting restrictions on travel, partial lockdowns and imposing curfews. He explained common symptoms of COVID-19 pandemic and its progression pattern. He stated that it is crucial to understand the modes of transmission of the virus in order to control its spread. He explained the measures to be taken to reduce transmission of COVID-19. The measures are: (i) to keep physical

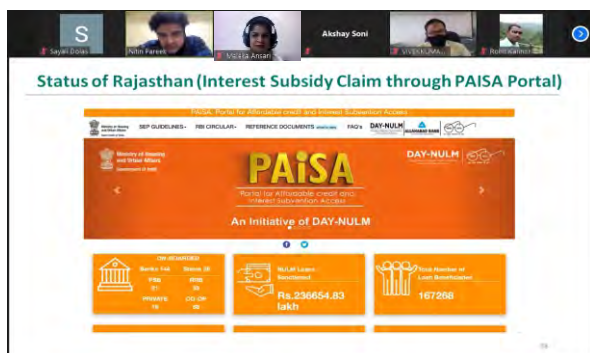
distancing, (ii) quarantine for 14 days and seek immediate health care when necessary, (iii) avoid going to public areas and to wear masks when intermingled with other people. He also stated that hand and respiratory hygiene measures should be followed. The Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), GoI has published guidelines for hygiene measures to be undertaken to contain further spreading of the virus. He said that MoHFW, GoI's guidelines illustrate DO's and DON'T's for appropriate respiratory hygiene, appropriate use of mask and hand hygiene, which are crucial to restrict spreading of the virus. He further deliberated upon the management of risk of contracting COVID-19 in urban poor populations. He explained the challenges faced by urban poor who reside in slums. In slums, majority of the population depends on community toilets and other basic facilities, which make it difficult to track contacts. Similarly, most of the population comprises migrant workers who depend upon outside food. There are other limitations on maintaining social distancing and access to immediate health care. He then explained the measures such as COVID Care Centers for healthy contacts of patients provide medication and basic needs till the centers (for non COVID-19 illness), sanitization of public toilet facilities, deploy community health workers, and provide immediate food assistance to protect urban poor. He further explained 360 degree approach of supportive government in providing essential services during COVID times. He concluded his session by providing information on safety vaccine of COVID-19 and encouraged the participants to avail this facility provided by government.



Dr. Vivek Pardeshi, Surveillance Medical Officer, NPSP, WHO, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The session on 'Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and other NULM Beneficiaries' was taken by Mr. Nitin Pareek, State Mission Manager (Financial Inclusion & Micro Enterprises), NULM, Government of Rajasthan. While discussing the NULM components, he focused on Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH). He

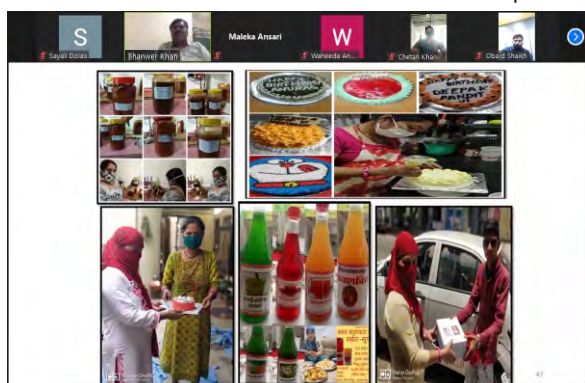
showed pictures of shelter homes running with essential facilities across Rajasthan State. The monitoring of these shelter homes was being done under State Mission Management Unit (SMMU). He further stated that the NULM beneficiaries can avail the subsidized loan maximum of Rs. 2 lakh at 7% interest to set up the micro enterprises under Self Employment Programme (SEP) of NULM. In this scheme, the interest subsidy claims are made through PAISA portal.



Mr. Nitin Pareek, State Mission Manager (Financial Inclusion & Micro Enterprises), NULM, Government of Rajasthan addressing the participants.

He then explained newly launched scheme PM SVANidhi by MoHUA, GoI for street vendors, and mentioned the whole process from filling application to receive the loan under SVANidhi scheme. He concluded his session by explaining the process of availing subsidized loan to NULM beneficiaries.

The next session on 'Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and other NULM Beneficiaries' was conducted by Mr. Bhanwer Khan, State Mission Manager, SMID, NULM, Rajasthan. He informed the participants the crisis situation during lockdown across Rajasthan State and how urban poor lost their livelihoods and became more vulnerable. He further said that the Self-Help Groups (SHGs) of vulnerable women were formed under Social Mobilizations and Institutional Development



Mr. Bhanwer Khan, State Mission Manager, SMID, NULM, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

(SM & ID) component of NULM mission. During this pandemic, mission officials with the help of City Livelihood Centres (CLCs) trained these women to stitch masks to generate livelihoods. These masks were purchased in bulk by municipal corporations of Rajasthan State and distributed free of cost to street vendors, sanitation workers, SWM workers etc. Moreover, SHGs were engaged in the supply of groceries and other food items to be delivered at door-to-door basis. This activity also generated livelihood to urban poor.

The next session on 'Enhancing Sanitation and Waste Management Based Livelihood Opportunities' was conducted by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, Mumbai Sewerage Disposal Project (MSDP), Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai. Initially, Dr. Salvi spoke elaborated on precautionary measures to be taken at community level. He further said that common shared surfaces like handles, knobs, doors etc. are major sources of spread of infection in the community and suggested the use of foot operated pedaled hand washing stations at shared community spaces to enable the residents to wash their hands frequently without touching the tap so as to avoid the spread of disease. He mentioned that these are globally adopted measures during epidemics for controlling the spread of the disease. He further said that community toilets may lead to spread of the disease due to lack of hygiene and poor maintenance. Dr. Salvi emphasized that the caretakers of community toilets should ensure that soaps or hand sanitizers are available at the toilet premises and encourage its use to the toilet users. Caretakers should also clean the premises frequently with disinfectant. While doing all these, caretakers themselves must strictly adhere to the use of safety gears.

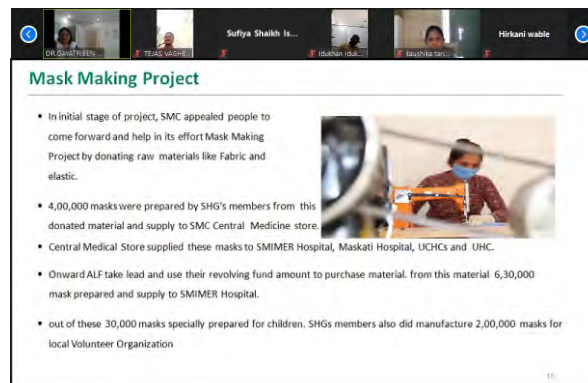
He then mentioned about the Government of India's guidelines on precautions and preventive measures



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

for sanitation workers to be followed by state governments as well as the contractors employing sanitation workers. He further said that, ULBs are advised to put in place Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure health and safety of sanitation workers including lists of DO's and DON'T's to be practiced while performing their duties on field every day. Sanitation workers are required to be provided with appropriate safety gear like masks, gloves, boots, aprons and the usage of these must be ensured by ULBs and contractors to minimize their risk to the virus. He mentioned that the WHO released an interim guidance document on 19th March 2020, which supplements the Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) documents by summarizing WHO guidance on water, sanitation and health care waste relevant to viruses, including corona viruses. He further stated that based on this document, the MoHUA, Gol has published an Advisory on 'Safe Management of Water Supply and Sanitation Services during COVID-19 Crisis' in April 2020. He shared some practices followed by ULBs to avoid transmission of virus in dense communities in the urban areas which, he recommended to be replicated suitably at many places. At the conclusion of his session, he suggested for generation of livelihood opportunities for the NULM beneficiaries in relation to sanitation and waste management works during pandemic of COVID-19 as ULBs needs additional unskilled, semi-skilled resources. One of the suggestions he made related to encouraging the SHGs in making masks and face-shield by providing raw material to them so as to create livelihood opportunities. Moreover, operation and maintenance of public toilets, community toilets, composting plants, dry waste collection centres can be done through unskilled NULM beneficiaries so as to provide livelihood opportunities to the urban poor.

The next session on 'Post Pandemic Approach of NULM - Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and Other NULM Beneficiaries' was conducted by Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC), Gujarat. She explained the participants about SMC's efforts in generating new livelihood openings in the city. During lockdown, SMC encouraged SHGs formed under NULM, to make masks after providing them with raw material by other stakeholders. SHGs made more than four lakh masks which were distributed in the local hospitals through SMC. Also, Area Level Federation (ALF) took a lead and used their revolving fund amount to purchase the material. SMC ensured hygienic standard during production of mask through training of SHGs and Infection Prevention and Control (IPC) measures such as compulsory wearing of gloves,



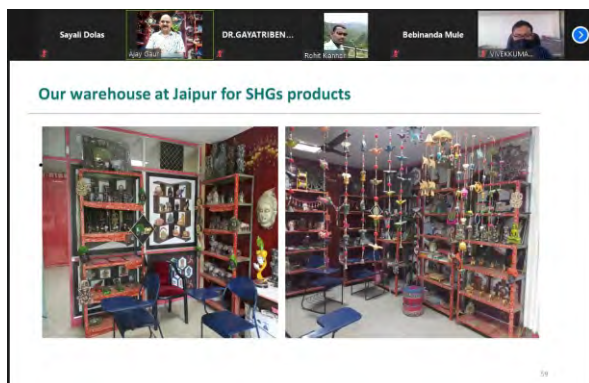
Dr. Gayatri Jariwala, Assistant Municipal Commissioner, Surat Municipal Corporation, Gujarat addressing the participants.

use of sanitizer and social distancing. SMC also involved SHGs in roti making project with the help of NGOs during lockdown. SHG women were involved in making rotis and packing them for distribution. Around 100 SHGs of Surat city were involved in roti making project to create new livelihoods opportunity. She said that the COVID-19 pandemic and consequent lockdowns have adversely impacted the livelihoods of street vendors. The MoHUA, Gol has launched PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi called PM SVANidhi. Under this scheme, Rs. 10000 credit was given as a working capital to street vendors to restart their livelihoods. She further added that the SHGs were involved in quick survey to identify street vendors in various parts of Surat. SHGs were also involved in rakhi making and Ganpati idol making projects.

She concluded her presentation by citing that SMC has executed several projects through SHGs and NGOs that generated new sources of livelihood to NULM beneficiaries during pandemic time.

The next session on 'Good Practices under NULM Mission - New Livelihood Opportunities During and Post Pandemic' was taken by Mr. Ajay Singh Gaur, Chief Executive Officer in Government of Rajasthan and State Coordinator, City Level Centre (CLC), Jaipur, Rajasthan. He spoke about new livelihood opportunities during pandemic through CLCs. He later spoke about survival challenges for the migrants, which were new to them and diverse from individual to individual. These challenges impacted both on mental health and physical health. He said that he was proactively involved in converting shelter homes into quarantine centres during lockdown through CLCs of Rajasthan State. He added that due to extended lockdown, most of the NULM beneficiaries lost their livelihoods. In these difficult circumstances, Government of India executed MoU

with Amazon and Flipkart to scale-up a market for the products developed by SHGs to rejuvenate their livelihoods. CLC played an active role to encourage SHGs to make and sale innovative products. He concluded his presentation by elaborating upon several livelihood opportunities which can be generated for the migrant workers in different industries.



Mr. Ajay Singh Gaur, Chief Executive Officer in Government of Rajasthan and State Coordinator, CLC, Jaipur, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

In the Question & Answer session, the participants asked many questions on issues faced while availing loan from banks under NULM mission. This was observed as a hindrance to the NULM beneficiaries. The expert trainer from Rajasthan gave useful information on resolving these hindrances.

SUMMING UP

The technical sessions followed by the feedback and a Vote of Thanks to the trainers and the participants given by Ms. Maleka Ansari Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai.

REGIONAL SPECIALISED WEBINAR ON **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SYSTEM IN SMART CITIES**

19th March 2021

BACKGROUND

According to the National Portal of India, cities in India accommodate nearly 31% of India's current population and contribute 63% of GDP (Census 2011). Urban areas are expected to house 40% of India's population and contribute 75% of India's GDP by 2030. This population influx should be supported by adequate provision of physical, social, institutional and economic infrastructure. The Government of India launched Smart Cities Mission (SCM) in 2015 with an aim to develop sustainable and inclusive cities with application of smart solutions.

Emergency response system and resilience are among the most crucial dimensions of smart and future cities design. Disasters cause great economic and human losses each year. When faced by any emergency it is crucial to have most updated and comprehensive information in order to make effective decisions. Confronted by any disaster, smart cities can use sophisticated ICT infrastructure and analytical capabilities to enhance and coordinate the information flow between multiple agencies. It is essential to develop smart systems with rapid response time to reduce the impact of the disasters.

The latest public health emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has caused huge and unprecedented adverse impact on cities across the world. COVID-19 proved to be a great challenge for them. Like proverbial silver lining in a cloud, this challenge threw up opportunities to improve upon their capacities and current practices of service delivery. It imbued them a new confidence to tackle epidemics. To tackle COVID-19 and to lessen its impact requires access to real time data and coordination between multiple agencies. During the pandemic, India's smart cities have set an example of how innovation, technology and existing infrastructure can be harnessed to strengthen, balance and coordinate on-ground action during crisis.

When faced by emergencies, it is essential that citizens are provided with adequate information on immediate actions to be taken and preventive measures to be followed. Awareness and capacity building is a vital step while dealing with disasters. Social media platforms, Urban Local Body (ULB) websites, mobile applications, Public Address (PA)

systems, and traditional media, are being used to convey all the necessary information and messages. The power of social media can be used by the ULBs to reach out to the citizens in quick and effective manner. Essential supply and emergency services can be extended to the vulnerable groups through these platforms. It is essential that such platforms be created to reach out to citizens for alerting and updating them on happenings and facts of the emergency situation faced.

With an aim to explore initiatives taken by Indian smart cities for emergency preparedness and to develop rapid response system for providing emergency services during pandemic, Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIIISG), Mumbai had organised a Regional Specialised Webinar on 'Emergency Preparedness and Response System in Smart Cities' on 19th March, 2021. This Webinar was supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI).

This Webinar witnessed 65 participants comprising Presidents, Regional Directors, Director, Municipal Engineers, Sanitary Inspectors, State Mission Managers (SM & ID, NULM), District Mission Managers, Technical Experts, Project Officers, Assistant Project Officers, Community Organizers, Computer Operators, Research Associates, Project Managers, Survey Executives, Social Workers and Office Assistants of ULBs from Maharashtra, Goa, Gujarat, and Assam.

At the outset Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIIISG, Mumbai talked on background of the Webinar saying that this Webinar aims at creating a platform to share immediate action plan operationalized at various levels for providing essential supply and emergency services to the citizens by adopting and implementing various technological options in smart cities.

As the opening remark of the Webinar, Mr. Samir Unhale, Joint Commissioner, Directorate of Municipal Administration (DMA), Government of Maharashtra (GoM) lauded the efforts taken by the RCUES, AIIISG, Mumbai in conducting this Webinar. He stated that Smart Cities played a vital role in providing emergency services to tackle the challenges during pandemic of COVID. He further added that Government of India has launched National Urban Digital Mission, which mandates cities to incorporate National Urban Digital framework in their development activities.

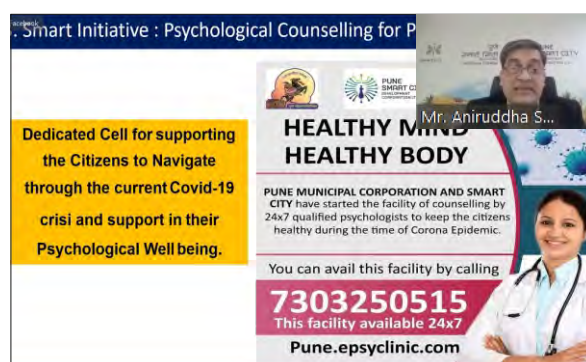
He further stated that almost all the cities made the most of the available infrastructure during the fight



Mr. Samir Unhale, Joint Commissioner, DMA, GoM addressing the participants.

with COVID-19 Pandemic He mentioned the technologies utilised by Smart Cities as well as other cities in the context of COVID-19 resilience. He concluded opening remarks by referring to DigiThane, a digital portal and its effective use as a monitoring app during pandemic. He also added that more than 50 cities across the country operationalized COVID war room by utilizing city command control room of their city for emergency preparedness. The opening remark was followed by presentations done by expert speakers.

PUNE, MAHARASHTRA UNDER SCM MISSION



Mr. Aniruddha Shahpure, Chief Knowledge Officer, Pune Smart City Development Corporation Ltd (PSCDCL), Pune addressing the participants.

The first presentation on 'Emergency Preparedness and Response System' under SCM of Pune, Maharashtra was done by Mr. Aniruddha Shahpure, Chief Knowledge Officer, Pune Smart City Development Corporation Ltd (PSCDCL), Pune. He began his presentation by describing how in Pune city, SCM through its command and control centre acted as a war room in the fight against COVID-19. It consists of GIS tracking, heat-mapping technologies and analytics for all the stakeholders of Pune administration. He further spoke on Aarogya Dheer, telemedicine app initiative taken by Pune smart city. This initiative is a telemedicine solution, wherein doctors from various government and private

institutions are connected virtually to monitor the health status of the patients during COVID-19 pandemic. He later spoke on Psychological Counseling Cell initiated by Pune under SCM to tackle the psychological challenges of citizens. This dedicated cell helps in supporting the citizens to navigate through the current COVID-19 crisis and provides support in their psychological wellbeing. He also made about COVID dashboards with ward-wise and prabhag-wise analysis under SCM as a response system. He elaborated on GIS analysis by explaining that GIS base tracking was done for ward-wise and prabhag-wise in respect of positive cases for planning of containment zone and tracking of positive cases of each containment zone. He said that training to all staff at CCC, DHC, and DCHC, private hospital staffs, staff of private and government labs for various portals, apps and reporting were imparted to tackle the challenges in the battle against COVID-19. Public Address (PA) System as a smart element was made use of. Through this system direct appeal through both audio-visual mediums and audio jingles related to COVID-19 has been broadcast live every thirty minutes using PA systems between 7 am to 10 pm daily by Honorable Mayor of Pune, Municipal Commissioner and Additional Municipal Commissioner of Pune. Pune police are utilizing the PA systems for crowd control, incident management and awareness drives. He also spoke on Variable Messaging Displays (VMDs), which is been published at 161 locations as precautionary measures including Do's and Don'ts to successfully implement zero cases mission during this COVID times. He also spoke on citizen engagement and social media campaigns which have been made to create awareness amongst citizen about preventing, unprecedented disease.

In the end he spoke about Saiyam, a home quarantine citizen tracking app which was developed to effectively track citizens who are home quarantined to and ensure that they are actually staying in the home. He further stated that citizens' movements can be monitored through centralized system and are marked as Red, Yellow and Green, which signifies the nature of mobility of home quarantined citizens. He concluded that Pune city has effectively implemented numerous initiatives under SCM as emergency preparedness and response system in context to COVID-19.

THANE, MAHARASHTRA UNDER SCM MISSION

The next presentation on 'Digi Engagement Programme – Data Driven Citizen Centric

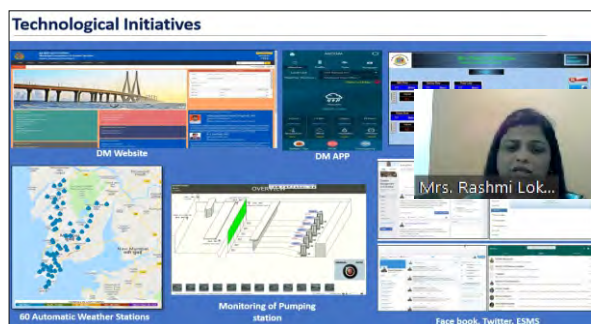


Mr. Ankit Bhargava, Chief Executive Officer, Foxberry Technologies, Consultant, Thane Smart City, Thane addressing the participants.

Governance' under SCM of Thane, Maharashtra was done by Mr. Ankit Bhargava, Chief Executive Officer, Foxberry Technologies, Consultant, Thane Smart City, Thane. He stated that DigiThane is a good example on how it has led Thane Municipal Corporation to move on from Reactive to Proactive to Intelligently Active Corporation by utilization of the user data. He further added that generally data is available within the Corporation in different departments in scattered form. Hence, there is always a gap in the knowledge of the Corporation about citizens' wants and needs due to lack of data points of the citizens. Unification of data is utmost necessary for driving Data Based E Governance. DigiThane has different features like – G2C (government to citizen) – e.g. water cut notifications to citizens; B2C (business to citizen) – e.g. merchants providing discounts and offers to DigiThane registered citizens; C2C (citizen to citizen) – different discussion forums – e.g. DigiThane photography group; G2G (government to government) – e.g. utilization of DigiThane by Police Department and City Collectorate to send relevant information to registered citizens to experience city as a digital city. Later he dwelt upon how DigiThane app is being utilized in tackling COVID -19 through data based planning, communication channel to citizens for awareness, movement monitoring of citizens, executive monitoring, health assessment of citizens and facilitating home deliveries etc. He showed DigiThane COVID dashboard features through its analysis and benefits. He further spoke on DigiThane digital app which streamlined COVID Response Management through E-pass, health survey, ambulance booking system, hospital bed allocation system, Identification of Plasma Donors and Ganesh visarjan E-slot booking etc. DigiThane portal also facilitates COVID prevention by providing grocery and medicines through Direct to Home (D2H) delivery services. He talked on how DigiThane portal is being used for creating awareness about COVID-19 through social media by citing examples such as

Facebook, twitter, SMS, WhatsApp etc. He concluded his presentation by summarizing the activities undertaken through DigiThane portal and its impact on reduction of COVID in Thane City.

MUMBAI, MAHARASHTRA UNDER SCM MISSION



Ms. Rashmi Lokhande, Chief Officer (i/c), Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

The last presentation on 'Disaster Management with Open Data' of Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Mumbai was presented by Ms. Rashmi Lokhande, Chief Officer (i/c), Disaster Management Department, MCGM, Mumbai. She began her presentation by saying that Mumbai being a coastal city is vulnerable to various hazards, including flooding and that Mumbai being a smart city, mitigation and prevention measures can be emerged only after vulnerability risk calculation of the city.

She further emphasized on data compilation of disasters in cities. She further added that it is a huge task to gather information with its attributes. She cited an example that the hospital data need to be compiled with appropriate attributes such as facilities available in the hospitals etc. to make a correct response mechanism. She further said that according to Disaster Management Act 2005, ULBs are made mandated to compile, validate and update the data of disasters in cities. Later, she talked on the Emergency Operation Centre (EOC) established at Disaster Management Department of MCGM, Mumbai. This Centre is functional 24X7 equipped with the latest communication systems and early warning system. The control room contains 58 hot lines connected with various stakeholders, VHF network with 53 various stakeholders etc. She further explained about Ward War Room (WWR) by mentioning that existing Ward Disaster Control Rooms are additionally acting as COVID War Room from June 2020 and are working in all 24 Administrative wards on 24x7 bases. A dedicated land

line number is assigned to WWR. Each WWR is provided with 15 to 20 ambulances for transporting patients from their residence to COVID Care Centres (CCCs) or COVID hospitals. She also added that the actions are taken by the EOCs and WWRs, if any person is found positive. She explained the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), in which she discussed the methodology to decentralize Interactive Voice Response (IVR) system during pandemic. She also emphasized on importance of coordination meetings with several stakeholders like police, fire brigade, civic authorities, NGOs etc. for effective functioning of EOCs. She also explained the Emergency Support Functions (ESFs), in which transport is a crucial part. She also talked on Disaster Recovery Site at Parel, Mumbai which is a replica of the main Emergency Operations Center situated at MCGM, Mumbai. She concluded her presentation by stating the significance of data on disaster management in the city to make the city resilience to disasters.

Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIIILSG, Mumbai concluded the Webinar by summarizing the gist of the presentations made by the distinguished speakers by stating various initiatives taken by Smart Cities for emergency preparedness and to develop rapid response system for providing emergency services during pandemic. She also extended thanks to the speakers and the participants.