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RCUES, Mumbai
Enabling better cities...


Urban Environ Vision

An Information Bulletin



**Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies
All India Institute of Local Self-Government, Mumbai**

Established by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India, in the year 1968.



Urban Environ Vision aims to take its readers through off-line training programmes of RCUES, Mumbai while providing encouragement and knowledge to its participants and displays the efforts undertaken by RCUES, Mumbai.




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Section

01

Regional Specialized Training Programme on Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0

2nd - 3rd August 2023 at Diu, UT.

Key Highlight

The participants acquired knowledge on the conservation of water bodies through water audit, smart metering, wastewater treatment, and rooftop and surface rainwater harvesting.

BACKGROUND

The Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0 (AMRUT 2.0) was launched in 2021 for the period of 5 years as a step towards **AatmaNirbhar Bharat** and with the aim of making the cities 'water secure' and 'self-sustainable' through circular economy of water. Taking forward the remarkable strides made under AMRUT, AMRUT 2.0 targets universal coverage of water supply by providing household tap connections in all the 4,378 statutory towns, and 100% coverage of household sewerage/septage management in 500 AMRUT cities.

As conceptualized, the Mission will be monitored on a robust technology-based portal. The projects will be geo-tagged. There will be an endeavour to make it a paper-less Mission. Cities will assess their water sources, consumption, future requirements and water losses through a City Water Balance

Plan (CWBP). Based on this, City Water Action Plan (CWAP) will be prepared which will be called as State Water Action Plan and will be approved by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI). Other key features of AMRUT 2.0 include Pey Jal Survekshan which will encourage competition among cities for benchmarking urban water services.

The Mission has a reform agenda focussed towards financial health and water security of urban local bodies (ULBs). Meeting 20% of water demand through recycled water, reducing non-revenue water to less than 20% and rejuvenation of water bodies are major water-related reforms. Reforms on property tax, user charges and enhancing credit worthiness of ULBs are other important items of the reform agenda. ULBs need to effectively implement reforms to gain incentives for accomplishing the reforms.

Considering this background, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai conducted a Regional Specialized Training Programme on 'Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0' on 2nd - 3rd August 2023 at Diu, UT. This training programme was supported by the MoHUA, GoI.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of this training programme was to assess the role of ULBs in the effective implementation of projects under the mission and address the challenges at the city level.

PARTICIPATION

In all, 35 participants comprising Dy. Collector, President, Vice Presidents, Elected Representatives, Municipal Engineers, Technical Supervisors, Food & Safety Officer, Upper Divisional Clerks, Lower Divisional Clerks from Union Territory of Diu attended this training programme.

INTRODUCTION

The training programme was commented by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai by welcoming the dignitaries on the dais and the participants. Ms. Hardikar gave the introduction of the RCUES, Mumbai, and its functioning. She further talked about how ULBs can play a significant role in implementing this mission to ascertain the equitable distribution of water, reuse of wastewater, and mapping of water bodies.



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

INAUGURATION



Mr. Shivam Mishra, Dy. Collector, Collectorate Office, Diu inaugurated the training programme by lighting the lamp. (L to R) Mr. Haresh Kapadia, Vice President, Diu Municipal Council (DMC), Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai, Ms. Hemlataben Rama, President, DMC, Mr. Santosh Bendkhale, Founder & CEO, DBD Water Systems Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG.

This training programme was inaugurated by Mr. Shivam Mishra, Dy. Collector, Collectorate Office, Diu by lighting the lamp in the presence of Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG, Ms. Hemlataben Rama, President, Diu Municipal Council (DMC), Mr. Haresh Kapadia, Vice President, DMC and Ms. Hardikar. The inauguration was followed by felicitation of the dignitaries by Dr. Phatak.

Mr. Shivam Mishra, Dy. Collector, Collectorate Office, Diu in his inaugural speech said that this is a good opportunity for municipal engineers of DMC to acquire knowledge on water sustainability in Diu through AMRUT 2.0. DMC has initiated the process of construction of Sewerage Treatment Plant (STP) for Diu city. The knowledge on recycling and reuse of wastewater through this training will be certainly helpful in implementing wastewater treatment. He wished a great success to the training programme, he said.



Mr. Shivam Mishra, Dy. Collector, Collectorate Office, Diu addressing the participants during the inaugural session.

Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS, (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG in his special address explained the functioning of AIILSG centres

across the country. He further spoke on the importance of the conservation of water and how this can be achieved under AMRUT 2.0. Furthermore, he highlighted the significant role of ULBs in implementing projects for sustainability.



Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS, (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Operational Guidelines – AMRUT 2.0' was delivered by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai, Maharashtra. Ms. Hardikar began the session by stating that AMRUT 2.0 aims at providing universal tap water supply to all households in urban areas, increasing sewage disposal coverage to the level of 100% in all the cities with a population of 1 million or more, and 80% in all other cities, treating all sewage and septage generated in urban areas and making cities water secure and becoming AatmaNirbhar. She further said that the Operational Guidelines framework

emphasizes on need for a holistic approach to urban water management, integration of water supply, sewerage, and septage management. The holistic approach can be achieved through peoples' participation in the planning and implementation of AMRUT 2.0 projects.

She then explained the difference between AMRUT phase I & II. In phase-I, besides universal water connections, the focus was also on green spaces, parks, and urban transportation whereas in phase-II the focus is on making cities water secure. The emphasis on Public Private Partnership (PPP) was given in both phases covering 500 cities. She talked about the City Water Balance Plans (CWBP), City Water Action Plans (CWAPs), and State Water Action Plans (SWAPs) and explained how ULBs have to play a significant role in assessing the gaps in terms of water connections and identifying projects based on the city specific need. She also talked about Pey Jal Survekshan (PJS) by stating that it is a water security assessment framework launched by the MoHUA, GoI in 2022. It is a comprehensive evaluation of the water supply and sanitation services in urban areas, focusing more on equity, efficiency, sustainability, and resilience. She concluded the session by focusing on how conducting surveys, developing plans, estimating non-revenue water (NRW), and promoting new water technologies under PJS are significant components of achieving water security and sustainability.

The next session on 'Water Conservation through Water Audit & Non-Revenue Water under AMRUT 2.0' was delivered by Mr. Santosh Bendkhale, Founder & CEO, DBD Water Systems Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai, Maharashtra. Mr. Bendkhale commenced the session by focusing on the significance of measuring non-revenue water (NRW) in the water audit system. As per the

Central Water Commission (CWC), water audit is an effective management tool for minimizing losses, optimizing various uses and thus enabling considerable conservation of water in irrigation, domestic and industrial sectors. The NRW is the real or apparent water loss which remains un-accounted for in the water supply system. Considering the losses, there is an emerging need to control NRW.



Mr. Santosh Bendkhale, Founder & CEO, DBD Water Systems Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai addressing the participants.

He further explained the benefits of NRW reduction. After the substantial reduction in NRW, ULBs acquired knowledge of water utility and its management. It has been observed that it improves the SLB indicator and reduces O&M and capital expenditure. There are numerous challenges observed in NRW reduction programme as the implementation of NRW reduction plan is not simple. All verticals in the water utility are required to work in close coordination. NRW reduction strategy should be based on cost-benefit assessment of the various activities and made on the basis of reliable water balance. It has been observed that reducing commercial losses is most of

the time cost-effective with faster payback. Reduction of physical losses through leakage control can be expensive, requiring significant technical know-how, and has to be carried out extensively and continuously to bring results. Water utility essentially seeks to achieve an economic balance between the costs of leakage control and the accrued benefits.

He further said that the ideal target for non-revenue water of any ULB will be 20%. Cities will submit a roadmap including regularization of illegal connections and minimizing leakage in distribution system due to damages of pipes. The system in place for leakage detection and grievance redressal will be evaluated based on its effectiveness. At the end of this session, he explained NRW reduction strategy and water audit steps.

He also spoke on 'Smart Metering System under AMRUT 2.0' by explaining the imperative need for smart metering. Smart metering displays accuracy in metering, water leakage check, and eases management in IoT etc. He explained the comparison between mechanical and electronic water meter. While explaining the management dashboard through mobile application, the items of the comprehensive reporting on individual meters including alert action, high water users, bill defaulters, total supply and use, system losses etc. were discussed. He concluded the session by explaining the pilot studies of smart metering at Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) and Trivandrum Smart City.

The next session on 'Role of Elected Representatives in Implementing AMRUT 2.0 in Cities' was delivered by Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of BMC, Mumbai, Maharashtra. She commenced her session by showcasing a profile of Mumbai city and its challenges due to rapid urbanization. She

highlighted that the gap in demand and supply of water is increasing on account of depleting water resources. She further explained Mumbai's water supply system and water sources.



Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of BMC, Mumbai addressing the participants.

She further said that the elected representatives are working closely with citizens in their respective municipal wards. They understand the issues and challenges faced by the citizens in their municipal ward. They can play a role as a catalyst to overcome the challenges in collaboration with ULB officials. The elected representatives should understand the several missions launched by MoHUA, GoI and how these missions can be effectively implemented through community participation. She cited several examples of such joint efforts by elected representatives and ULB officials in implementing missions at the city level. She concluded the session by stating the significant role of the elected representatives in implementing AMRUT 2.0 through NRW reduction and water audit.

On the second day, the session on 'Water Conservation through Waste Water Management' was delivered by Mr. Kondibhau Wadhavane, Team Leader, Yash Engineering Consultants Pvt. Ltd., Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra. He commenced the session by emphasizing the vital role of this approach, often referred to as '**water recycling or water reuse**', in addressing the global water scarcity crisis. This strategic approach involves treating and repurposing wastewater from various sources for a range of beneficial purposes, including irrigation, industrial processes, and even the provision of potable water. Importantly, it not only alleviates the strain on freshwater sources, but also serves as a potent tool for mitigating pollution and reducing environmental degradation. During his presentation, Mr. Wadhavane went on to showcase a variety of implemented water recycling projects, with a specific focus on projects within Navi Mumbai. He elucidated various tools and techniques available for water conservation. In particular, he provided insights into three key methods for wastewater treatment: **Primary Treatment:** This initial step involves the removal of large solids and the settling of particulate matter in the wastewater. **Secondary Method:** He elaborated on the secondary treatment, which includes biological processes designed to break down organic matter. **Tertiary Methods:** Advanced treatment approaches, such as filtration, chemical treatment, and disinfection, were explored in detail. These advanced processes are instrumental in further purifying water, rendering it suitable for various reuse applications.

Additionally, Mr. Wadhavane delved into specific technologies used in wastewater treatment, including Moving Bed Biofilm Reactor (MBBR) Technology, Activated Sludge Process (ASP) Technology, Trickling Bed Bioreactors (TBBR), among others.

His presentation underscored the significance of waste stabilization ponds and also provided an in-depth discussion of aquatic treatment systems.



Mr. Kondibhau Wadhavane, Team Leader, Yash Engineering Consultants Pvt. Ltd., Navi Mumbai addressing the participants.

In essence, Mr. Wadhavane's session served as a comprehensive technical guide for municipal officials and professionals, equipping them with valuable insights on how to implement various cutting-edge technologies to effectively manage used water within their cities. His presentation not only highlighted the importance of water conservation but also demonstrated practical approaches and solutions for its successful implementation.

The last session on 'Rain Water Harvesting & Ground Water Management' was delivered by Mr. Amit Doshi, Director, Vardhman Envirotech, and Expert in Rain Water Harvesting Technologies, Ahmedabad, Gujarat. He began the session by emphasizing effective, economical, and easy rainwater harvesting technologies to solve the global problem of

groundwater depletion and contamination. He said that rainwater harvesting is a peoples' movement at the local level that solves the water crisis at the global level. The Central and State Governments encourage water conservation and offer subsidies to install rainwater harvesting systems. However, conventional systems were expensive and required space for the setup as they involved complex infrastructure such as the filtration system using gravels, as well as directing it towards the tank, he added. Moreover, these systems incurred high maintenance costs and required a plumber or professional to address the issues of old construction buildings making it infeasible to install the system.



Mr. Amit Doshi, Director, Vardhman Envirotech, and Expert in Rain Water Harvesting Technologies, Ahmedabad addressing the participants.

Mr. Doshi further explained a maintenance-free and cost-effective two-stage rooftop rainwater harvesting system. The device has been installed in over 1,000 households making water conservation hassle-free. He added that water is a fundamental resource, and everyone understands its value. He

gave an example of Gujarat stating that due to heavy floods, cities need to extract groundwater. He emphasized groundwater management by stating that the natural replenishment of groundwater reservoirs is a slow process and is often unable to keep pace with the excessive and continued exploitation of groundwater resources across the country. This has resulted in declining groundwater levels and depletion of groundwater resources in such areas and raises a need for artificial recharge. Artificial recharge efforts are basically aimed at augmentation of the natural movement of surface water into groundwater reservoirs through suitable civil construction techniques. Such techniques interrelate and integrate the source water into a groundwater reservoir and are dependent on the hydrogeological situation of the concerned area. He highlighted that the occurrence of rainfall in India is mostly limited to about three months in a year. The natural recharge to the groundwater reservoir is restricted to this period only in major parts of the country. Artificial recharge techniques aim at extending the recharge period in the post-monsoon season for about three or more months, resulting in enhanced sustainability of groundwater sources during the lean season.

Mr. Doshi majorly focused on water conservation through rainwater harvesting and groundwater management by showcasing multiple techniques of water conservation.

SUMMING UP

This training programme was concluded by Ms. Neha Hardikar, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai by proposing a Vote of Thanks to the trainers / subject experts and the participants after the feedback session.

GLIMPSES OF THE SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAMME



Section

02

Regional Specialized Training Programme on **Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)**

7th - 8th August 2023 at Ajmer, Rajasthan.

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this programme was that the sessions were conducted to discuss strategies for effective project implementation and exchange of innovative ideas and good practices under DAY-NULM among the participants.

BACKGROUND

The National Urban Livelihoods Mission (NULM) is a significant initiative taken by the then Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation (MoHUPA), Government of India (GoI) with the objective to reduce poverty and vulnerability of the urban poor households. Launched in September 2013 and renamed in 2015 as 'Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)', the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), GoI, it aims to provide sustainable livelihood opportunities and social security to the urban poor in the country. The mission operates through a network of State and City Missions, empowering vulnerable communities through skill training, capacity building, access to credit, and social mobilization and thus enabling them to find gainful employment or self-employment with the skills gained. By promoting self-employment and entrepreneurship. DAY-NULM seeks to uplift the urban poor and enhance their

quality of life at the same time contributing to inclusive and sustainable urban development.

In this way, DAY-NULM serves as a comprehensive programme to address poverty and enhance livelihood prospects for the urban poor. Its core components include skill training and placement, social mobilization and institution development, support to urban street vendors, and shelter for the urban homeless. By furnishing targeted support and empowering the marginalized sections of society, DAY-NULM contributes significantly to the creation of vibrant and self-reliant urban communities, fostering a more equitable and prosperous urban landscape across India.

Recognizing the crucial role of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) in effectively implementing DAY-NULM, the Regional Centre for

Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai, with the support of MoHUA, GoI, organized a Regional Specialized Training Programme on 'Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM)' on 7th - 8th August 2023 at Ajmer, Rajasthan. This training programme was supported by the MoHUA, GoI.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of this training programme was to equip ULBs with the requisite knowledge and expertise to effectively prioritize and support the successful implementation of DAY-NULM initiatives.

PARTICIPATION

In all, 65 participants comprising District Mission Managers, District Project Officers, City Missions Managers, Project Officers, Dy. Project Officers, Community Organizers, Chairpersons of City Level Federation (CLF) & Area Level Federation (ALF), Representatives of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) & Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) from various cities of Ajmer and Kota districts of Rajasthan attended this training programme.

INTRODUCTION

The training programme commenced with an introduction given by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer (SRO), RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai. She welcomed the dignitaries, resource persons and participants and briefed them about the objective of the training programme and also mentioned the activities conducted by RCUES, Mumbai in training, capacity building and research.



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

INAUGURATION



Ms. Brujlata Hada, Hon'ble Mayor, Ajmer Municipal Corporation (AMC) inaugurated the training programme by lighting the lamp. (L to R) Ms. Maleka Ansari, SRO RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai, Dr. Hemlata Gandhi, City Mission Manager, DAY-NULM, Kota Municipal Corporation, Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prachi Services, and President, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai, Ms. Seeta Verma, Dy. Municipal Commissioner, AMC, Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG.

This specialized training programme was inaugurated by Ms. Brujlata Hada, Hon'ble Mayor, Ajmer Municipal Corporation (AMC), Rajasthan in the presence of Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG, Mr. Vinod Paliwal, Regional Director, AIILSG, Jodhpur and Ms. Seeta Verma, Dy. Municipal Commissioner, AMC by lighting the traditional lamp. In her inaugural address, Ms. Hada discussed various projects implemented in urban areas of Ajmer city under DAY-NULM, including skill development, financial assistance through loan to develop micro entrepreneurship, PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), Shelter for Urban Homeless (SUH) and Self Help Groups (SHGs) formation in the direction of strengthening grassroots' level institutions. Further, she added empowerment of women by creating more opportunities through expanding their own entrepreneurship, particularly in waste management, processing and packaging food products, etc.



Ms. Brujlata Hada, Hon'ble Mayor, Ajmer Municipal Corporation (AMC), Rajasthan addressing the participants.

In concluding her inaugural remarks, she highlighted on fostering entrepreneurship development and accelerating

enterprise growth through skill development to support women from poor and vulnerable sections of the city.

Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG delivered the keynote address in which he said that implementation of the DAY-NULM is an appropriate opportunity for the poor people with its special focus on integrating women on development platform and to strengthen their means of livelihood for achieving their socio-economic development and empowerment.



Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'Strategies to Implement Poverty Alleviation through DAY-NULM' was conducted by Mrs. Maleka Ansari, SRO, RCUES of AIILSG, Mumbai. She highlighted the issues of urban poverty by stating that the absence of the resources and means required to maintain a minimal standard of living have to be addressed on priority. She also mentioned the definition of poverty as stated by the World Bank, which

says that 'poverty is a serious loss of well-being that takes different forms'. Poverty is categorized by low incomes and the inability to access the goods and services necessary for a decent living.

By speaking on DAY-NULM, she said that the MoHUA, Gol introduced DAY-NULM to focus on organizing the urban poor in their strong grassroots level institutions, creating opportunities for skill development leading to market-based employment and helping them to set up self-employment ventures by ensuring easy access to credit. The Mission is aimed at providing shelters equipped with essential services to the urban homeless in a phased manner. In addition, the Mission also addresses livelihood concerns of the urban street vendors. It also includes the component of integration, awareness through IEC, supporting the programs that lead to urban sustainability for economic and social development, environmental management and effective urban governance. In the concluding session, she said that effective implementation of DAY-NULM will go a long way to reduce urban poverty in a good measure.

Next session on 'Overview of DAY-NULM with special reference to Convergence of DAY-NULM & Pradhan Mantri Formalization of Micro-Food Processing Enterprises (PM FME)' was conducted by Dr. Hemlata Gandhi, City Mission Manager, DAY-NULM, Kota Municipal Corporation, Rajasthan. At the beginning of the session, she discussed the components of DAY-NULM by highlighting its various features. She said that this mission mainly focuses on self-employment and skilled wage employment opportunities to improve means of livelihoods by offering necessary resources and guidance rather than relying only on minimum daily wages. She said that the programme aims at enhancing the regular earning capacity for stable income which is the main theme of the mission.



Dr. Hemlata Gandhi, City Mission Manager, DAY-NULM, Kota Municipal Corporation, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

Further, she elaborated on establishing strong grassroots institutions for the poor and connecting them to India's entrepreneurial and start-up revolution. It also strives to provide basic shelter with essential amenities to the urban poor and homeless. Furthermore, the mission addresses the livelihood challenges faced by urban street vendors by providing them with suitable spaces, social security, institutional credit, and skills to tap into emerging market opportunities. Further, she added that among the urban poor, the most vulnerable are the urban homeless people not having houses and devoid of social security protection. She mentioned that in a judgment, the Supreme Court of India has highlighted the situation of the urban homeless by saying that the right to decent shelter is a vital component of the right to life under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, which enjoins the Government to make a policy and programme for the urban homeless in order to promote, strengthen and nurture self-sustainable institutions of the poor and through them, to address all poverty issues like access to credit, financial freedom, health, disability and vulnerability.

The next session on 'Convergence of SBM & DAY-NULM for Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities' was conducted by Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prachi Services, and President, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai, Maharashtra. At the beginning, he referred to the SBM guidelines by highlighting the legal framework of the mission with reference to the Municipal Solid Waste & Handling Rules 2000 and 2016. He discussed SWM scenarios of various cities. He spoke about the avenues available under DAY-NULM by citing various success stories including decentralized composting of wet waste implemented by Indian Oil, Stree Mukti Sanghatana, Mumbai, segregation of dry waste and recycling – Aakar, Mumbai and SMS ENVOCLEAN Private Limited, Panaji, Goa, O&M of municipal gardens and composting plants – Vasai-Virar, plastic recycling – Safai Sathi, UNDP, Mumbai, thermocol recycling – Prakruti Foundation, Mumbai, Tetra pack / Multi Layered Packaging (MLP) / E-waste recycling and refuse derived fuel (RDF) etc. He briefly discussed SOPs for ULB's composting operations. He highlighted the trouble shootings which were handled in composting operations. He said that regular process is necessary to remain consists of aerobic composting method is free from foul smells in which an adequate quantity of sawdust (Carbonaceous) or dry leaves are added to absorb leachate. Similarly, a Coco pit can be also added if available and the operations can be performed inside the enclosed shed to avoid the spread of foul smells. Further, he discussed the important tips to make the compost marketable for which proper segregation and screening is necessary in order to avoid the contents of gravels, fibres, plastic, rubber etc. in the compost. In the concluding session, he briefly discussed the success achieved by Panaji city of Goa in waste management. He said that multiple livelihood opportunities are available in waste management by deploying NULM SHGs in various waste management operations.

In the concluding session, he stressed on womens' participation in the development process, which is crucial for their economic empowerment. Cities are playing a major role in the economic development of the country. He said that even women can play a major role in addressing poverty and developmental issues in urban areas through their active participation.



Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prachi Services, and President, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai, Maharashtra addressing the participants.

In his next session, Dr. Kulkarni discussed 'Partnership Strategies under DAY-NULM for Empowering Women Entrepreneurship'. He focussed on womens' empowerment and poverty alleviation by extending financial independence for reshaping gender norms. He said that there are only 15% of total women entrepreneurs in India. DAY-NULM aims to accelerate economic growth to ensure a happy and healthy society by encouraging livelihood opportunities for urban communities.

Further, Dr. Kulkarni informed that DAY-NULM is supporting an inclusive entrepreneurship ecosystem in partnership with agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme

(UNDP), banks, etc. He advocated the DAY-NULM & UNDP partnership towards empowering women entrepreneurs. He said UNDP has experience in enabling over two lakh women to gain better employment opportunities by enhancing their knowledge and management practices.

He said that provision is made to document a compendium of best practices related to urban poverty which serve as a guide to enhance the effective implementation of national-level schemes, piloting innovative solutions.

While concluding the session, he informed the participants that the partnership project of DAY-NULM and UNDP will cover eight cities in the initial phase by supporting women to start and expand their own enterprises in sectors like digital economy, electric mobility, waste management, food packaging, and more. He appreciated the partnership between UNDP and DAY-NULM to formalize women's economic development businesses, establish bank linkages, and secure access to finance and markets.

The next session on 'Strategies in Developing Soft Skills for Effective Implementation of Community Development Programme' was conducted by Mr. Ramesh Yadawar, Team Leader, Manjari Foundation, Ajmer, Rajasthan. He highlighted the importance of soft skills development by stating that in the present scenario, there is an urgent need to promote fast-growing major businesses and services. He said that there are various aspects for the development of soft skills including handling interpersonal relations, making appropriate decisions, effective communication for a good impression, and impact to gain professional development among the mission functionaries which are necessary to handle effective challenging job performance. Integration of the urban poor under a collective platform is the central idea of the implementation of DAY-NULM for strengthening

grassroots units of urban communities. He mentioned important soft skills including communication skills, body language, decision-making, self-motivation, leadership, teamwork, creativity, problem-solving skills, time management, and the ability to work under pressure. He concluded the session by elaborating on effective communication which is an acquired skill and is more effective when it is spontaneous.



Mr. Ramesh Yadawar, Team Leader, Manjari Foundation, Ajmer, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

PRESENTATION ON SUCCESS STORIES BY SHGs

The last session was organized on the 'Success Stories under DAY-NULM Implementation' in which groups of home-based microenterprises displayed their products. Various products like homemade pickles, papad, sweet items, chiwada, bangles of cow-dung, showpieces, imitation/stone pieces of jewelry, jute bags, festival/birthday greeting cards etc., displayed by different SHGs by sharing their experiences. They talked about business stages right from its inception upto end product.

Almost all the SHGs appreciated the DAY-NULM team and their efforts made it possible to strengthen their stands from the initial phase to the marketing of the products.



SHGs sharing their success stories under DAY-NULM Mission during the programme at Ajmer, Rajasthan.

SITE VISIT

In the second half of the first day of the training programme, a site visit was organized at 'Urban Hatt (UH)', Vaishali Nagar, Ajmer. UH is a centralized market center developed under SMART City Mission, Ajmer and handed over to AMC to promote the products manufactured by SHGs and other saleable items by the urban poor. AMC organized stalls by charging reasonable rent on the occasion of festivals and other important events. Ms. Dimple Gujar, District Project Officer, DAY-NULM briefed about the functioning of stalls run by SHGs, facilities rendered to SHGs to encourage their business, sale of various homemade, festival-friendly items, selling & profit scale. Participants discussed with SHGs women about their business promotion and earnings. The product like bangles made by cow-dung,

show-piece, readymade dresses, dress materials, sarees, bed sheets, shell items, imitation / stone jewelries, jute bags, eatable items like various types of pickles, masala-filled mirchi, papad, dry masala, sewayya, sweet items like barfi, special Rajasthani laddus were seen in different stalls.



Participants during the site visit at 'Urban Hatt (UH)', Vaishali Nagar, Ajmer, Rajasthan.

GROUP EXERCISE



Participants engaged in group exercise.

The group exercise was conducted to motivate the participants to prepare an action plan to implement DAY-NULM by establishing linkages and convergence with SBM-(U) 2.0 in their respective cities to create more livelihood opportunities for the urban poor. Participants were divided into six groups. Each group discussed its ideas and developed a plan for implementing DAY-NULM by developing soft skills among the mission functionaries with key action points towards achieving convergence with SBM-(U) 2.0.



Presentation of group exercise by participants.

In the end, each group presented its action plan for establishing linkages and convergence with SBM-U 2.0, in achieving sustainable sanitation at the city level. The action plan also included the strategies that will be implemented to overcome the issues and challenges faced during the convergence of DAY-NULM and SBM-U 2.0. The best group was awarded a token of appreciation for the best plan preparation and presentation among the six groups.



Participants were awarded for best group exercise and presentation.

SUMMING UP

After taking the feedback and Question & Answer session, the training programme was concluded by proposing a Vote of Thanks to the trainers and the participants by Ms. Maleka Ansari, SRO, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai.

GLIMPSES OF THE SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAMME



Section

03

Regional Specialized Training Programme on Implementation of Smart Cities Mission at City Level

22nd - 23rd August 2023 at Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Key Highlight

The key highlight of the programme was imparting training to the participants on the skills to develop effective strategies for implementing the Smart Cities Mission at the city level.

BACKGROUND

The Smart Cities Mission (SCM) is an initiative launched by the Government of India in 2015 to orient and transform the selected cities into sustainable and citizen-friendly 'Smart Cities.' The mission's goal is to harness technology and innovative practices to enhance the quality of life of the city residents, drive profitable growth, and improve the urban infrastructure and services. The extension of the programme under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI) styled as City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain (CITIIS 2.0) will run from 2023 to 2027, concentrating on the circular economy initiatives, integrated waste management, climate-oriented reforms, and institutional strengthening. It aims to build upon the achievements of CITIIS 1.0 and scale up its successes.

The SCM in India aims to make urban spaces sustainable, technologically advanced, and responsive to the needs of their residents. By leveraging upon innovative solutions and citizens' participation, the mission seeks to transform cities

into vibrant, inclusive, and livable places. Through the SCM, the GoI is actively encouraging collaboration between public and private stakeholders to drive sustainable urban development. By integrating smart technologies, effective governance, and citizen-centric services, the mission aims to foster a holistic approach to civic planning. The extension of the CITIIS program in its 2.0 version further demonstrates the government's commitment to promoting invention, circular economy practices, and environmental sustainability as key drivers for building smarter and greener cities across the nation.

To support and prioritize these efforts, the Regional Centre for Urban & Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai conducted a Regional Specialized Training Programme on the 'Implementation of Smart Cities Mission at City Level' on 22nd - 23rd August 2023 at Jaipur, Rajasthan. This training programme was supported by the MoHUA, GoI.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of this training programme was to understand the role of ULBs in implementing Smart Cities Mission Projects in alignment with the government's commitment to promoting sustainable urban development and innovation in cities.

PARTICIPATION

In all, 17 participants comprising Dy. Commissioner, Municipal Engineer, Revenue Officer, Jr. Engineer, Project Management Expert, Public Outreach Expert, Team leader, Chief Construction Manager, Asst. Engineers, Town Planner, Civil Engineers, and Executive Engineer of Jaipur Smart City Ltd. (JSCL), Office Manager, and Additional Chief Engineers from the State of Rajasthan attended this training programme.

INTRODUCTION



Mr. Vinod Paliwal, Regional Director, AIILSG, Jodhpur, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

Mr. Vinod Paliwal, Regional Director, AIILSG, Jodhpur, Rajasthan extended a warm welcome to all the distinguished dignitaries on the dais and the participants. Following this, he provided a comprehensive introduction to the training programme, elucidating its key objectives. Subsequently, Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG shared insights about RCUES, Mumbai.



Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG addressing the participants.

INAUGURATION

The training Programme was inaugurated by Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AIILSG in the presence of Ms. Anju Goyal, Executive Director (Finance), Rajasthan Medical Service Corporation Ltd., Jaipur, Mr. Ankit Bhargava, the Chief Executive Officer of Foxberry Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Pune, Dr. Himani Tiwari, HRD Specialist and Coordinator at the City Managers Association Rajasthan (CMAR), Jaipur, Mr. Vinod Paliwal, Regional Director, AIILSG, Jodhpur, and Ms. Yashashree Rane, Research Assistant, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai.



Dr. Jairaj Phatak, IAS (Retd.), Director General, AILSG inaugurating the training programme.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first technical session on 'Implementation of AMRUT & SBM to Become a Smart City' was delivered by Ms. Anju Goyal, Executive Director (Finance), Rajasthan Medical Service Corporation Ltd., Jaipur, Rajasthan. In her insightful discourse, she underscored the vital importance of integrating the national missions of the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) and the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) as foundational steps toward achieving smart city status. Ms. Goyal elucidated how the convergence of these two missions can pave the way for cities to evolve into smart urban centers. She highlighted key components such as cleanliness and water security, both of which are integral to the overarching goal of smart city development. Drawing from the success story of Indore, she provided a compelling case study illustrating the effective implementation of the SCM, underscoring the significance of replicable models and best practices.

Furthermore, Ms. Goyal emphasized the critical roles of various stakeholders in this transformation. She emphasized the importance of active participation from the citizenry, the crucial administrative responsibilities, and the pivotal role of innovative smart technology in ensuring the success of the smart city initiatives. In her discussion about the SBM, she reiterated a fundamental goal stating that the foundation for any smart city lies in its commitment to cleanliness and hygiene. This underscores the notion that sustainable development and smart urbanization are intrinsically linked to the basic tenets of sanitation and public health, laying the groundwork for vibrant and forward-thinking urban centers.



Ms. Anju Goyal, Executive Director (Finance), Rajasthan Medical Service Corporation Ltd., Jaipur, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

The session, entitled 'Property Tax Improvement Programme (PTIP) through a Data-Driven Decision (D3) Approach,' was delivered by Mr. Ankit Bhargava, Chief Executive Officer, Foxberry Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Pune. In his presentation, he placed a strong emphasis on the pivotal role that data plays in enhancing property tax systems. Mr. Bhargava initiated his

discussion by highlighting the significant contributions of the Ministry of Finance and the MoHUA, GoI in their continuous efforts to enhance property tax mechanisms. Furthermore, Mr. Bhargava emphasized upon the innovative utilization of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) and the deployment of women in achieving optimal property tax collection. He elucidated the importance of precisely targeting the right demographic groups to maximize tax revenues and emphasized the adoption of a citizen-centric approach in tax administration. He particularly underscored the noteworthy observation that women, as a demographic section, exhibit a higher propensity to pay their taxes punctually.



Mr. Ankit Bhargava, Chief Executive Officer, Foxberry Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Pune, Maharashtra addressing the participants.

To illustrate successful case studies, Mr. Bhargava presented the exemplary practices of the Pimpri-Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC), Maharashtra. He elucidated how PCMC conducts effective property tax campaigns and leverages the SIDDHI App to monitor the timely delivery of bills by a

dedicated team of 400 women from the Mahila Arthik Vikas Mahamandal (MAVIM), which is State Women's Economic Development Corporation of Government of Maharashtra. These efforts also encompass the crucial task of updating contact details and property use information, thereby enhancing the overall efficiency of the property tax system. One of the key highlights of Mr. Bhargava's session was his discussion on the importance of a robust database and data augmentation techniques. These elements play a pivotal role in promoting online property tax-related services and fostering socially responsible citizenship. In the end, Mr. Bhargava articulated measures to provide invaluable support to the decision-makers in the realm of property tax administration.



Dr. Himani Tiwari, HRD Specialist and Coordinator at CMAR, Jaipur, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

The next session titled 'Good Initiatives under SBM to Become a Smart City' was delivered by Dr. Himani Tiwari, HRD Specialist and Coordinator at CMAR, Jaipur, Rajasthan.

During this session, she skillfully intertwined various aspects of the SBM with the transformation of cities into smart and sustainable urban centers. Dr. Tiwari provided a comprehensive introduction to the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM). She emphasized its pivotal role in India's urban development landscape, serving as a foundational pillar in the journey toward creating smart and sustainable cities.

Throughout the presentation, Dr. Tiwari seamlessly connected the dots between SBM initiatives and the broader goal of Smart Cities. She highlighted how the SBM aligns perfectly with the overarching vision of developing cities that are not just technologically advanced but also clean, green, and conducive to a high quality of life.

On the second day, the session on the 'Implementation of the SCM in Jaipur' was delivered by Mr. Rajendra Singh Shekhawat, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, JSCL, Jaipur, Rajasthan. He began the session by highlighting the mission's core objectives, which revolve around Smart Mobility, Smart Heritage, Smart Civic Infrastructure, Smart Multi-Modal Mobility, and Solid Waste Management. These pillars collectively aim to transform Jaipur into a model smart city.

Mr. Shekhawat then focused on JSCL's remarkable contribution to the preservation of Jaipur's rich heritage. He showcased their work in restoring the façade of the Jaipur walled city using traditional techniques, such as lime, Surkhi, Kada, Khameera, Gud, Gugalmmaithy, and Tesu Flowers. This dedication to heritage preservation played a pivotal role in Jaipur being declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2019.

Additionally, he mentioned Jaipur's impressive ranking as the 11th smartest city among the top 100 smart cities in India.



Mr. Rajendra Singh Shekhawat, IAS, Chief Executive Officer, JSCL, Jaipur, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

Furthermore, Mr. Shekhawat provided insight into various projects undertaken by JSCL, including the construction of multi-level car parking facilities, such as the one at Chaugan Stadium, with a cost of Rs.15.51 crores. He also highlighted innovative initiatives like the use of robots to raise awareness about solid waste management. He also discussed the maintenance efforts for critical junctions in Jaipur, such as Sanganeri Gate, New Gate, and Subhash Chowk, as well as the restoration and preservation of iconic heritage sites like Hawa Mahal, Talkatora Lake, and the historic markets of Chandpol and Bapu. This holistic approach to smart city development demonstrates JSCL's commitment to enhancing the quality of life in Jaipur while preserving its rich cultural heritage.

Dr. Himani Tiwari also delivered the next session on 'Convergence of SBM & Smart Cities Initiatives: Pioneering Urban Transformation'. The main focus of her presentation was on Jaipur's commitment to the SBM. Dr. Tiwari shared insights into the city's unique SBM initiatives and demonstrated Jaipur's dedication to this cause. She urged all the participants to actively participate in the mission's success by taking the Swachh Bharat Mission Pledge. This pledge includes commitments to maintaining clean surroundings and dedicating a minimum of 20 hours per week to cleanliness efforts. Moreover, Dr. Tiwari used visual aids including images to showcase the remarkable progress Jaipur has made in the realm of cleanliness. She emphasized that the journey toward becoming a smart city begins with our appearances and our individual and collective commitment to cleanliness. By making cities clean and green, Jaipur serves as an inspirational example for other urban cities.

In essence, Dr. Himani Tiwari's session seamlessly wove together the Swachh Bharat Mission, the concept of smart cities, and Jaipur's commendable efforts in the field of cleanliness. Her presentation was instrumental for the participants to get a profound understanding of how SBM initiatives are foundational to the transformation of cities into smart, sustainable, and thriving urban hubs, all while emphasizing the significance of individual and community commitment to this noble cause.

SUMMING UP

This training programme was concluded by Ms. Yashashree Rane, Research Assistant, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai by proposing a Vote of Thanks to the trainers/subject experts and the participants after the feedback session.



Ms. Yashashree Rane, Research Assistant, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai concluding the training programme.

GLIMPSES OF THE SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAMME



Section

04

Regional Specialized Training Programme on **Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban 2.0**

28th - 29th August 2023 at Bikaner, Rajasthan.

Key Highlight

The key highlight of this programme was the sessions were conducted on effective implementation of policies addressing sustainable sanitation and waste management to strengthen SBM-U 2.0.

BACKGROUND

The last seven years have witnessed a radical change in the urban sanitation scenario in India. Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) emerged as the largest behavioural change programme in the world. In order to sustain the outcome achieved under SBM-U 1.0, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI) has embarked on SBM-U 2.0.

SBM-U 2.0 envisages to make all cities 'Garbage Free' and ensure grey and black water (used water) management in all cities, other than those covered under AMRUT, making all urban local bodies (ULBs) ODF+ and those with a population of less than 1 lakh as ODF++ and further aims that no untreated used water is discharged in open to pollute water bodies, thus achieving the vision of safe sanitation in urban areas. The Mission will also focus on source segregation of solid waste,

utilizing the principles of 3Rs (reduce, reuse, recycle), scientific processing of all types of municipal solid waste and remediation of legacy dumpsites for effective solid waste management. Simultaneously, it has an objective of formalizing the informal sector of waste collectors and sanitation workers by integrating them into the formal waste management chain, capacity building for ULBs and sustaining the Jan Andolan, i.e. peoples' active involvement.

Considering this background, the Regional Centre for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) of All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai organized a Regional Specialized Training Programme on 'Swachh Bharat Mission - Urban 2.0' on 28th - 29th August 2023 at Bikaner, Rajasthan. This training programme was supported by the MoHUA, GoI.

KEY OBJECTIVE

The key objective of this training programme was to strengthen the capacities of ULBs in achieving sustainable solid waste and used water management under SBM-U 2.0.

PARTICIPATION

In all, 37 participants comprising Mayor, Dy. Mayor, Elected Representatives, Municipal Engineers, MIS Executives, Sanitary Inspectors, and concerned officers from various ULBs of the Bikaner district of Rajasthan attended this training programme.

INTRODUCTION



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

The training programme was commenced with an introduction by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer (SRO), RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai. She welcomed the dignitaries, resource persons and participants. She briefed them about the objective of the training programme and also highlighted the

activities conducted by RCUES, Mumbai in training, capacity building and research.

INAUGURATION

The specialized training programme was inaugurated by Ms. Sushila Kanwar Rajpurohit, Hon'ble Mayor, Bikaner Municipal Corporation, Rajasthan in the presence of Mr. Vinod Paliwal, Regional Director, AILSG, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Dr. Ajit Salvi, Dy. Chief Engineer, Sewerage Operations (SO), Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), Mumbai, Maharashtra, Ms. Maleka Ansari, SRO, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai, and Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prachi Services, and President, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai, Maharashtra by lighting the traditional lamp.



Ms. Sushila Kanwar Rajpurohit, Hon'ble Mayor, Bikaner Municipal Corporation, Rajasthan inaugurated the training programme by lighting the lamp. (L to R) Mr. Vinod Paliwal, Regional Director, AILSG, Jodhpur, Rajasthan, Dr. Ajit Salvi, Dy. Chief Engineer, SO, BMC, Mumbai, Maharashtra, Ms. Maleka Ansari, SRO RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai, Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prachi Services, and President, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai.

In her inaugural address, Ms. Rajpurohit discussed the status of SBM-U 2.0 implementation by highlighting collective community movements implemented by their city to achieve ODF. She described The Banka Bikano (brave and beautiful Bikaner) campaign implemented in Bikaner with the support of community intervention especially led by women which achieved great results. Further, she highlighted that novel approaches are being adopted, including mobile applications to track the use of toilets in the community. She focused on the strategy implemented under SBM-U 2.0 under which payment is released to the beneficiaries only when they start using the toilet, while the next instalment is distributed only when the whole village becomes an ODF. She mentioned WASH by pointing to the construction of toilets with behaviour change communication. Concluding the inaugural session, she suggested more community-led interventions and creating a composite framework for clean water, sanitation and health practices to address the issues of lagging WASH behaviour in urban areas and a step towards a healthier nation.



Ms. Sushila Kanwar Rajpurohit, Hon'ble Mayor, Bikaner Municipal Corporation, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

TECHNICAL SESSIONS

The first session on 'An Introduction to Operational Guidelines of SBM-U 2.0' was conducted by Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prachi Services, and President, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai, Maharashtra. Beginning the session he discussed the major components of SBM-U 2.0 by highlighting the management of sustainable solid waste, sanitation, water, Information, Education & Communication (IEC), and capacity building, etc. He stressed on the objective to make all cities clean and garbage-free with 100% scientific processing of municipal solid waste. He informed the participants about the components eligible for funding under the mission by mentioning waste processing facilities such as MRFs, transfer stations, composting and bio methanation plants, refuse derived fuel (RDF) and plastic waste processing facilities, waste to electricity, sanitary landfills, etc. Further, he discussed the Government support extended under SBM-U 2.0 for procurement of mechanized sweeping equipment, setting up construction & demolition (C&D) waste processing plants, bio-remediation or capping of legacy waste dumpsites, etc.

He also discussed ULB level funding eligibility under SBM-U 2.0 for hiring young professionals and interns to augment their internal human resources, integrating the youth, procurement of vendors/ agencies for ICT initiatives, carrying out gap analysis, social audits, conducting workshops, lectures, exposure visits, etc.

In his next session, Dr. Kulkarni discussed 'Jan Andolan – A Path to Sustainable Urban Waste Management'. He discussed the importance of SWM by stating that it has emerged as one of the most massive development challenges in urban India.



Dr. Milind Kulkarni, Director, Prachi Services, and President, Prakruti Education & Research Foundation, Mumbai, Maharashtra addressing the participants.

He further said that numerous studies have indicated that the unsafe disposal of waste generates dangerous gases and leachates due to microbial decomposition, climate conditions, refuse characteristics and land-filling operations. He said that waste is increasing day by day due to rapid population growth in urban areas. He advocated the adoption of the newly launched 'National Behaviour Change Communication Framework (NBCCF) for Garbage Free Cities under SBM-U 2.0, which is a guiding document and a blueprint for states and cities to undertake large-scale multimedia campaigns along with intensive and focused inter-personal communication campaigns. The framework focuses on intensifying messaging around the key focus areas of source segregation, collection, transportation, and processing of waste, plastic waste management, and remediation of legacy dumpsites to truly transform the urban landscape of India. He elaborated on community participation by stating that a local body can never be successful in SWM without active community participation.

In concluding the session, he discussed public awareness, effective community participation, transparent and clean administration, introduction of citizen charters and accountability at all levels which are important measures for achieving sustainable sanitation.

The next session on 'Holistic Approach – Paving the Way to Sustainable Urban Sanitation' was conducted by Dr. Ajit Salvi, Dy. Chief Engineer, SO, BMC, Mumbai, Maharashtra. He commenced the session by highlighting Mahatma Gandhi's quote 'sanitation is more important than independence'. He categorized sanitation as the dignity of human beings. Further, he discussed the prevailing scenario of sanitation by highlighting the challenges faced at the national level including the hard facts that 67% of wastewater returns to the environment without adequate treatment and 12% population still practices open defecation. He added that in the earlier sanitation situation of 2018, approximately 157 million people in urban areas lacked access to basic sanitation facilities. He stressed upon SBM-U 2.0, which aims to achieve universal sanitation coverage in urban areas by ensuring the management of sewage, solid waste and wastewater. In concluding the session, he stressed upon the participants saying that SBM-U is the programme of hope, as the world's largest sanitation programme with the impressive achievement of construction of more than 66 million individual household toilets and over 6.8 million public and community toilets in urban areas of India till March 2021. But there is still a need to address the remaining sanitation gaps and ensure sustainable sanitation services, he emphasized.

In his next session, Dr. Salvi discussed 'Exercise on Behaviour Change Communication (BCC) Interventions under SBM-U 2.0'.

He highlighted the goal of SBM-U 2.0 to mobilize every citizen and stakeholder in creating garbage-free cities by inculcating cleanliness habits and making them a part of society's culture for the long term. He focused on the BCC Framework under SBM-U 2.0 and stated that IEC and BCC interventions have played a crucial role in its success, turning it into a people's movement. He added that sustained efforts are needed to maintain achievements and focus on the entire sanitation value chain. In concluding the session, he said that the BCC Framework intensifies IEC and BCC for the management of used water and waste segregation.



Dr. Ajit Salvi, Dy. Chief Engineer, SO, BMC, Mumbai, Maharashtra addressing the participants.

The next session on 'Strategies in Developing Soft Skills for Effective Implementation of Community Development Programme (CDP)' was conducted by Prof. Maina Nirwan Rajneti, Dungar College, Bikaner, Rajasthan. At the beginning of the session, she focused on the strategies of implementation of SBM with a brief discussion on the

construction of household and community toilets, promoting behaviour change towards proper sanitation practices, launching cleanliness campaigns, and improving waste management systems. She added that handling community development projects requires the basic information and data which are often used in developing an action plan including analysis of prevailing situations, problem assessment, solicitation of public participation in prioritizing local needs, assessment of the finance and other resources required to implement the project, etc. Besides, soft skills are also important tools for effective implementation of CDP including communication, teamwork, leadership, problem-solving, adaptability, time management, and more. These skills are highly valued at the workplace and contribute to overall success. She stressed on the importance of developing soft skills among the community development project functionaries by stating that these are non-technical skills needed in interaction with others and in handling various situations.



Prof. Maina Nirwan Rajneti, Dungar College, Bikaner, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

While concluding the session, she suggested participants to develop soft skills, through which conflicts can be resolved constructively and helps to maintain a harmonious work environment and team building.

The last session on 'Start-ups and SBM-U 2.0: A Nexus of Innovation for Cleaner Cities.' was conducted by Prof. S. L. Rath, Dungar College, Bikaner, Rajasthan. He spoke about the Swachhata Start-Up Challenge launched by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India, in partnership with the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and Agence Française de Développement (AFD) to provide an impetus to innovative start-ups to engage and drive catalytic transformation in the sanitation and waste management sector. Further, he said that this challenge promoted an enabling environment for social enterprises in waste management under SBM-U 2.0 for the achievement of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' and 'Make in India'. He highlighted the primary objective of the Swachhata Start-Up Challenge which is to support startups in creating innovative solutions including social inclusion, zero dump, plastic waste and transparency.

He also informed about financial rewards which include (i) an award of Rs. 25,00,000 to be extended to the top 10 startups from MoHUA-AFD alongside one year of personalized professional support (ii) additional incentives of Rs. 50 lakhs which is a follow-on investment from Villgro, the implementation partner of the challenge to be released and (iii) up to \$100,000 worth of credits and support from technology partner Amazon Web Services (AWS) awards as a benefit to each winner.



Prof. S. L. Rath, Dungar College, Bikaner, Rajasthan addressing the participants.

SUMMING UP

After taking the feedback and Question & Answer session, the training programme was concluded by proposing a Vote of Thanks to the trainers and the participants by Ms. Maleka Ansari, SRO, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai.

GLIMPSES OF THE SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAMME



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