

Vol - 15 No. 11 November, 2020

RCUES, Mumbai

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Urban Environ Vision

An Information Bulletin



RCUES
Mumbai

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

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Course content



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SANITATION TECHNOLOGY: Assess human health hazards related to waste generated in communities.



SANITATION AND PUBLIC HEALTH: Learn the technological aspects of centralized and decentralized sanitation and various innovative practices.



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EMERGENCY SANITATION: Understand history, key elements of humanitarian aid, sanitation needs and technical options during emergencies.

Eligibility



Having a University Bachelor's Degree in any graduate field. Preference will be given to students from Science, Engineering (Civil, Environmental), Environmental Sciences, Planning and such relevant backgrounds.

GSGS

The GSGS is a platform for dissemination of knowledge on sanitation through various courses so that sanitation challenges can be embraced with advanced knowledge. The Graduate Professional Diploma Program was established in 2015 by IHE, Delft now disseminated through GSGS, supported by IHE. AIILSG, Mumbai will be disseminating the course as **Post Graduate Diploma in WASH Management (PGDWM)**.



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10th November, 2020.

President, AIILSG, India
Mr. Ranjit Chavan

Director General, AIILSG, &
Editor in-Chief
Mr. Rajiv Agarwal, IAS (Retd.)

Director, RCUES, AIILSG, &
Editor
Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi

Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Health & Safety of Front Line Workers / Sanitation Workers During and Post COVID-19'

10th - 11th November, 2020

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 speakers.

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.

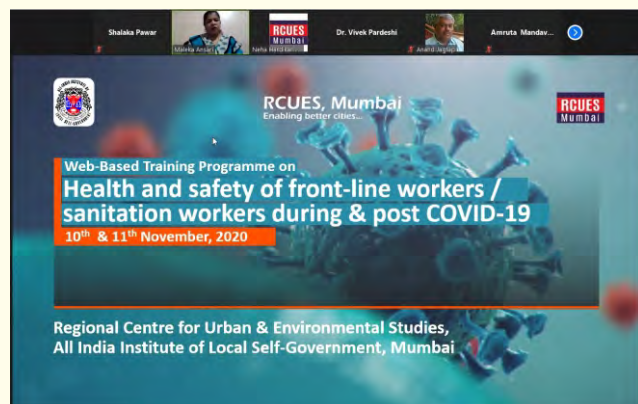
Participation

30 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, AIILSG, Mumbai welcomed the distinguished speakers 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.

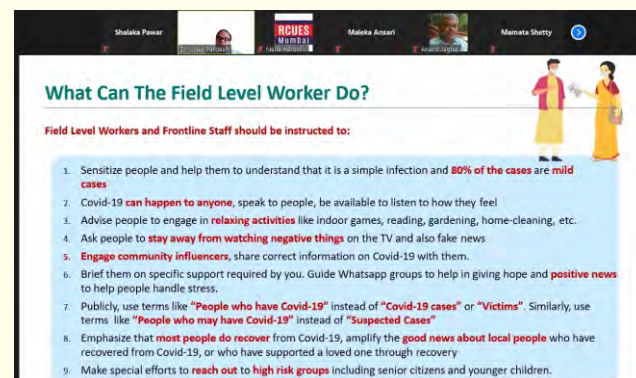


Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai addressing the participants.

Technical Sessions

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 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 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 source 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.

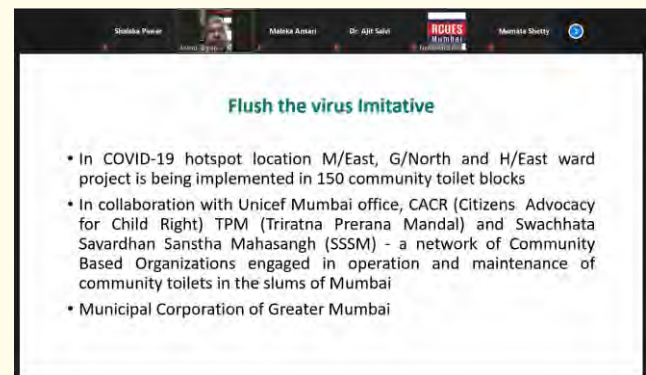


Dr. Ajit Salvi, Executive Engineer, MSDP, MCGM, Mumbai addressing the participants.

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, GoI

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 of 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 of 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 slum, 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.



BMW Management at Hospital Setup

Red bag	Yellow bag
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastic infectious PPE (goggles, face shield, splash proof apron, plastic coverall, nitrile gloves) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mask(triple layer/N-95) Head cover/cap Shoe cover Disposable linen gown Non plastic coverall Diaper containing feces of infected patients

*No segregation of BMW and general waste at temporary storage area

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 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

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.



Safety of sanitary workers:

- Insurance Plan – in case of a casualty, RMC has been offering a compensation of 10 lakh rupees. All the medical expense for treatment of COVID-19 are being taken care of by the ULB.
- RMC has also offered an incentive of Rs. 2000 per month to all the sanitary workers.
- All the sanitary workers are being given food grains by RMC by the ward councillors.
- Sanitary workers conducting sanitization in containment areas are given Rs.200 per trip.
- All the sanitary workers have been provided with safety gears such as mask, hand gloves, sanitizers, suit etc. These kits were procured before the COVID-19 cases appeared in Ranchi.

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

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 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

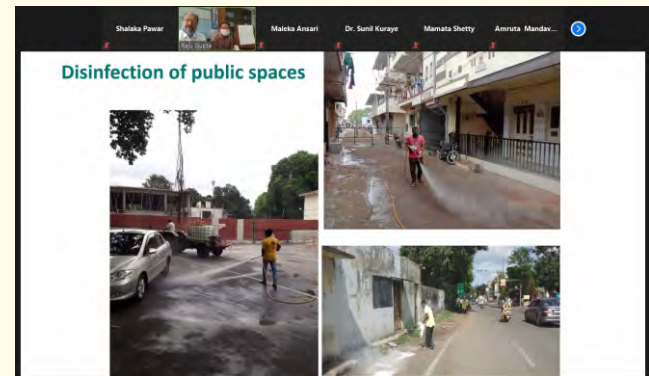
initiatives undertaken to tackle the COVID-19 in Ranchi district included setting up of control room, formation of control room, helpline, preparation of sanitation plan for hotspot areas, vehicle procurement plan, and sanitary workforce deployment plan, encouraging stakeholders to provide health kits 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 crises 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.



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, Mumbai encouraged the participants to communicate with the speakers. The respective speakers 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 speakers and the participants.

Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Role of Elected Representatives in Response to COVID-19'

24th November, 2020

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 AIILSG, 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 AIILSG, Mumbai has provided a virtual platform for resolving their queries, imparting necessary experience sharing.



Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, 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 learnings gained from this training programme would certainly be highly useful for elected representatives, who play key role in the containment of Coronavirus.



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

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 (NPSP), 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, NPSP, 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.

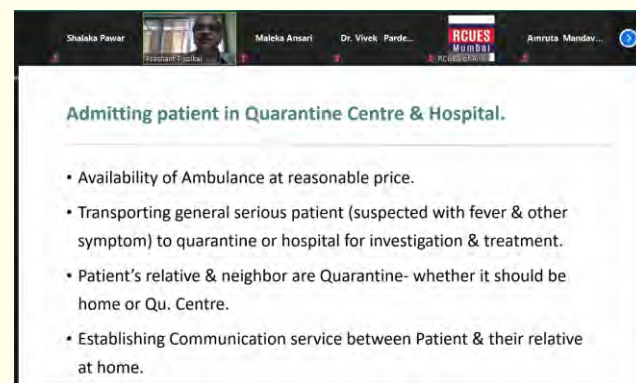


Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai and Member of AYUSH Task Force, Government of Maharashtra addressing the participants.

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, AIILSG, Mumbai.



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

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, 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. 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 among 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, speakers addressed the queries raised by the participants, followed by proposed vote of thanks by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai to the speakers and the participants.

Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'Financial Reforms During and Post COVID-19'

25th - 26th November, 2020

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

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 speakers 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 speakers 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 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.

Table 1: Amounts Allocated by Central Finance Commissions to ULBs (Crores)

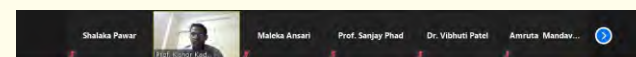
Commission	Amount Allocated to ULBs	% Growth in amount	Share of ULB Grants	Total Local Body Grants	% Share in total FC Grants	% share in Total FC Transfer
FC-X (1995-2000)*	1000	-	18.58	5380.93	24.24	2.37
FC-XI (2000-05)	2000	100.00	20.00	10000	17.07	2.30
FC-XII (2005-10)	5000	150.00	20.00	25000	17.53	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.

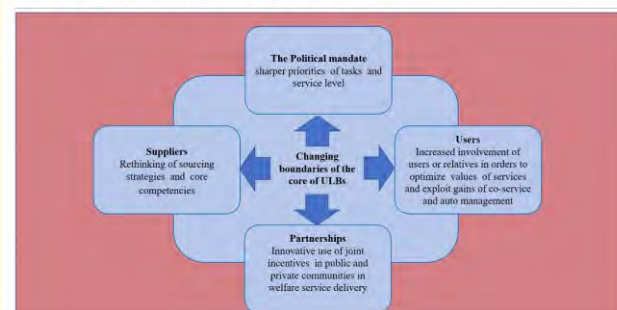
Dr. Sanjay Phad, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai addressing the participants.

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.



Changing Boundaries of the ULBs



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

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. 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 taxes, 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 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, 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 speakers replied to their queries. The feedback was taken from the participants, followed by proposing Vote of Thanks by Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AILSG, Mumbai to the distinguished trainers and the participants.



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

Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on 'NULM : Post Pandemic Approach'

26th - 27th November, 2020

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 grassroot 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

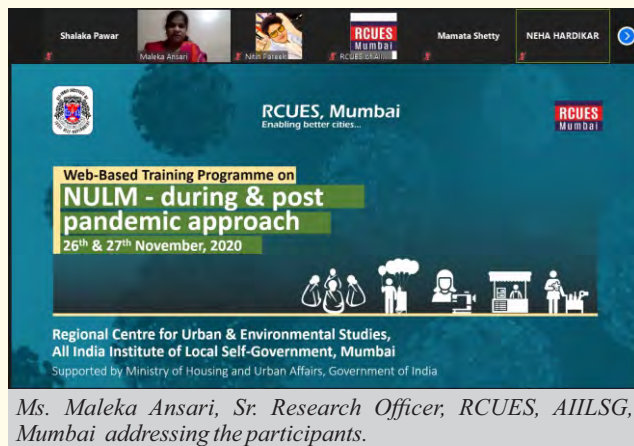
The key objective of the training programme was to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on NULM beneficiaries and approach of the mission for tackling the same.

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

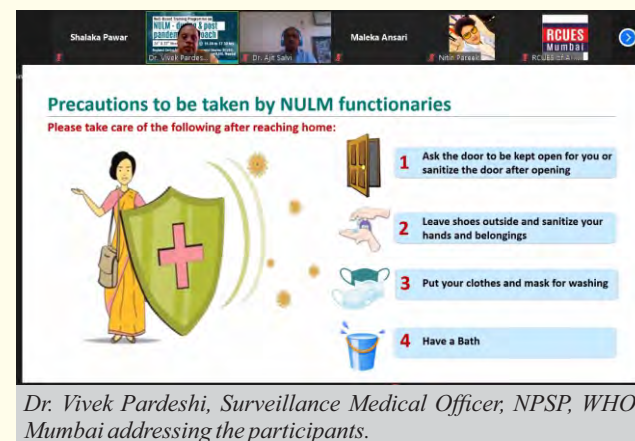
At the outset, Ms. Maleka Ansari, Sr. Research Officer, RCUES, AIILSG, Mumbai welcomed the distinguished speakers and the participants. She gave an introduction of the web-based training programme. She briefly explained the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on NULM beneficiaries in terms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



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.

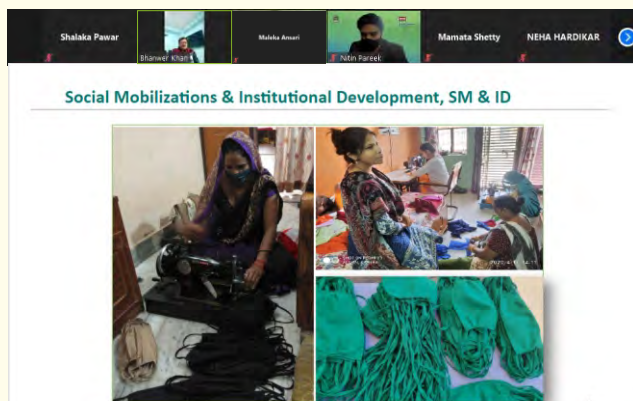
The session on 'Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and other NULM Beneficiaries' was delivered by Mr. Nitin Pareek, State Mission Manager (Financial Inclusion & Micro Enterprises), NULM, Government of Rajasthan. While discussing the NULM components, he focused on shelter for Urban Homeless (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.

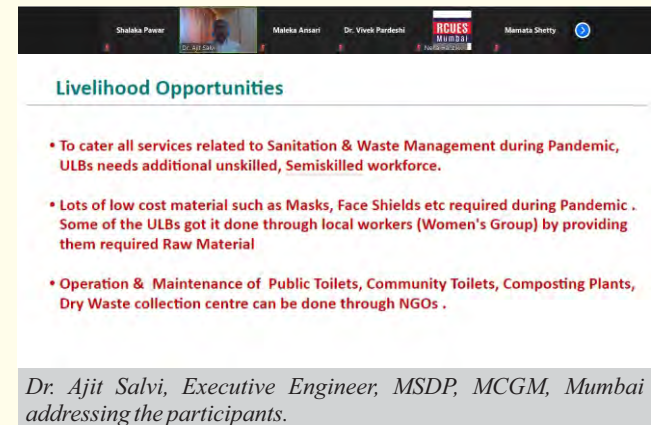
The next session on 'Sustainable Livelihood Opportunities for SHGs and other NULM Beneficiaries' was conducted by Mr. Bhanwer Khan, State Mission Manager, SMID, NULM, Rajasthan.



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 Rajasthan Municipal Corporation (RMC) 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.



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 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 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 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, GoI 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.



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, GoI 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 by mentioning that SMC has implemented several projects through SHGs and NGOs that created 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 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, AILSG, 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 speakers guided them about the procedures to resolve the issues.



Summing-up

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

Online Workshop on Capacity Building of Women Presidents of Maharashtra

10th November, 2020

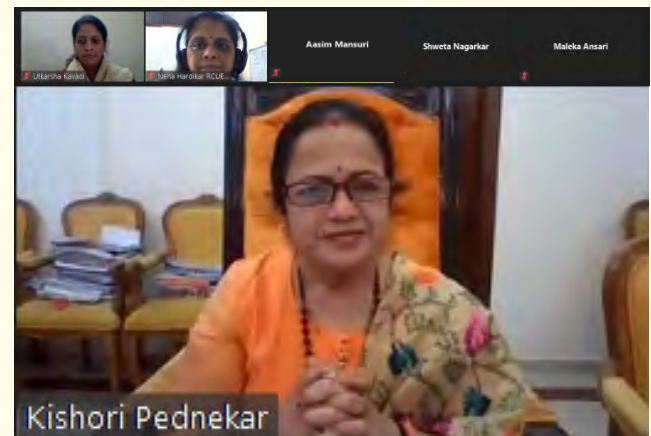
Background

With the Swachh Bharat Mission being implemented across the country, the focus on the elimination of open defecation and increasing coverage of individual toilets has received much-needed impetus. To move towards “safely managed sanitation” as per Target 6.2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) and to attain ODF++ (open defecation free) status, however, it is necessary to move beyond the current focus on toilet construction and ensure that all faecal waste is safely collected and treated. There is a need for urban local bodies to acknowledge this need to focus on Faecal Sludge and Septage Management (FSSM). For this, the local leadership has to be sensitized. The local leaders in turn can support efficient implementation of FSSM. The planning, implementation, and management of FSSM has to be inclusive, ensuring that everyone has access to safely managed sanitation, which would also include active participation from women at all levels for all stages of FSSM. In addition, as per Goal 5 of the SDGs, it is important that the work on FSSM also addresses equality and women empowerment.

Considering this, All India Institute of Local Self Government (AIILSG), Mumbai along with the Center for Water and Sanitation (CWAS), Centre for Environmental Planning & Technology (CEPT) University, Ahmedabad had organized an Online Workshop on Capacity Building of Women Presidents of Maharashtra on 10th November, 2020.

The key objective of the workshop was to sensitize Elected Women Representatives (EWRs) for effective functioning and participation in local governance focusing on FSSM. The training also aimed to orient participants towards importance of FSSM and how they can effectively contribute to implement FSSM in their city during and post-pandemic. This workshop witnessed around 50 Women Presidents of Maharashtra.

The workshop started with an introduction by Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Sr. Executive Director, AIILSG, Mumbai. This was followed by inaugural address by Ms. Kishori Pednekar, Hon'ble Mayor of Mumbai and Dr. Shubha Raul, former Mayor of Mumbai and Member of AYUSH Task Force, Government of Maharashtra, who talked on role and responsibilities of Women Presidents in safe sanitation.



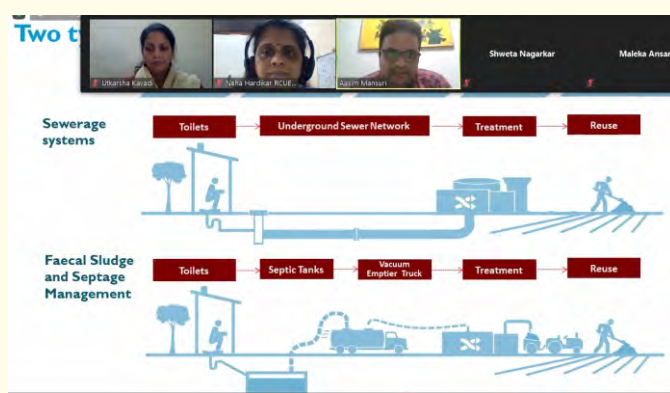
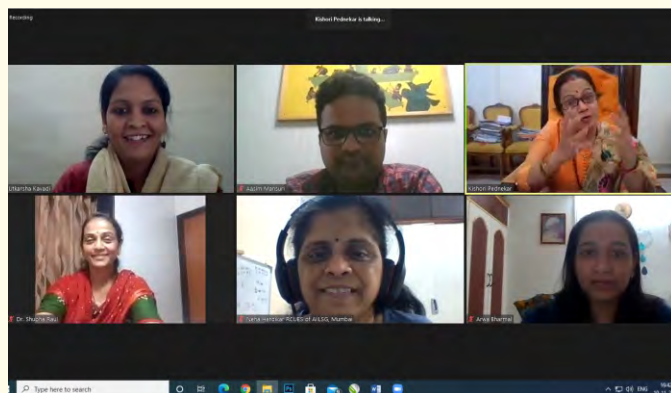
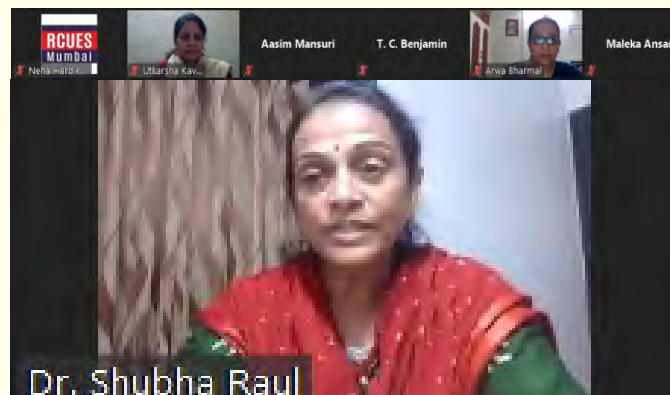
Ms. Kishori Pednekar, Hon'ble Mayor of Mumbai addressing the participants.

After this, a presentation on Urban Sanitation in Maharashtra was conducted by Mr. Asim Mansuri, Senior Programme Lead, CWAS, CEPT University, Ahmedabad, who highlighted the current focus on FSSM at the central and State level and ODF framework. He also talked about the progress that has been achieved by Maharashtra State for FSSM. Mr. T. C. Benjamin, IAS (Retd), former Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra and Chairman, State Appraisal Committee, Ministry of Environment &

Forests (MoEF), Maharashtra talked on Municipal Acts and Rules for municipal councils of Maharashtra in Urban Sanitation. Mr. Anand Ghodke, WASH Officer, Government of Maharashtra talked on Gender Inclusive Water, Sanitation and Hygiene in which he highlighted the impact of issues related menstrual hygiene management, lack of access to toilet and WASH related issues on women and children. Dr. Pratibha Shinde, President, Wai shared her experience about how FSSM was successfully implemented in Wai with the support of elected representatives.

After the presentations, the closing remarks were delivered by Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Sr. Executive Director, AILSG, Mumbai, who acknowledging the participants for attending the workshop and for the valued contribution from the renowned speakers which will help enrich the knowledge in urban sanitation and their significant role in it.

Glimpses of the Workshop



Appreciation & Feedback


Office : Ranchi Municipal Corporation
(Health Section)
Kutchery Road Pin 834001
e-mail : support@ranchimunicipal.com

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

Sub : Health & Safety of front line workers/ sanitation workers during & post COVID- 19 held on 10th & 11th November, 2020

Dear Madam,

I am expressing my sincere thanks for given an opportunity to share my views in above-mentioned training program. It was an absolute pleasure while presenting the topic on " initiatives undertaken for health & safety of the front line workers & sanitation workers during & post i COVID 19". Excellent topic coverage organised in two days program.

THANKING

RUPESH RANJAN
CITY MANAGER,
HEALTH SECTION,
RANCHI NAGAR NIGAM,RANCHI

From: Prashant Pisolkar <pcpisolkar@gmail.com>
To: rcues training <rcuestraining@aailsg.org>
Date: Dec 15, 2020, 11:06 AM
Subject: WBT Programme on Role of Elected Representative in response to COVID 19, held on 24th Nov. 2020.

Dear Madam Mrs. Utkarsha,

I would like to thanks RCUES Mumbai to involve me to contribute my presentation on "Role of Elected Representatives in response to COVID 19" on 24th Nov. 2020.

Excellent coverage of various subjects in one day training programme. The programme was well organised and speakers guidance will be very useful in Carona Pandemic Management to all concerned worker, municipal officers and elected representative.

I hope that elected representatives will take away most of essential points that lead them towards their progressive works for their city.

With regards.
Thanks you.

Yours sincerely,

P. C. Pisolkar

From: Vibhuti Patel <vibhuti.np@gmail.com>
To: rcues training <rcuestraining@aailsg.org>
cc: Utkarsha Kavadi <utkarshakavadi@yahoo.com>,
Neha Balkrishna Hardikar Hardikar <neha.hardikar@aailsg.org>,
maleka.ansari@aailsg.org,
vvlad aailsg <vvlad@aailsg.org>
Date: Dec 8, 2020, 3:28 PM
Subject: Re: Invitation as faculty for the Regional Specialized Web-Based Training Programme on "Financial Reforms during & post COVID-19" on 25th & 26th November 2020.

Dear Ms. Utkarsha Kavadi, Dr. Neha Hardikar, Ms. Maleka Ansari,

Congratulations for a Regional 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 is supported by the Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India (GoI). The sessions by all resource persons were really insightful, educative and important for evidence based policies. Dr. Sanjay Phad, Dr. Kishore Kadam, myself and Shri. Ravi Duggal made well researched presentation. The participants asked relevant questions.

Thank you for including me in this important endeavour by your team.

With warm regards,
Yours Sincerely,

Prof. Vibhuti Patel

From: Nitin Pareek <nitin.nulm@gmail.com>
To: rcues training <rcuestraining@aailsg.org>
Cc: Bhanwer Khan <bkhansa@gmail.com>
Date: Mon, Dec 14, 2020 at 5:08 PM
Subject: Regarding appreciation feedback NULM brochure_26-27_Nov-2020.

Dear Mam

It's our immense pleasure that you have invited us to cover the topics on NULM & PM SvaNidhi Scheme during RCUES training programme held on 26th & 27th November, 2020.

We really liked all sessions specially the session on COVID-19 where respected speaker covered the session on tips & knowledge on Pandemic approaches.

Also regarding our session we have seen lots of queries were coming on Street Vendors programme which we would like to suggest that concern ULBs should openly ask & put up questions to their state level management so they can provide solutions accordingly.

Will hope to get these opportunities to attain these training programmes.

Thanks & Regards
Nitin Pareek & Bhawar Khan
SMM - Rajasthan

RCUES Advisory Committee

Mr. Mahesh D. Pathak, IAS

Ex-Officio Chairman

Principal Secretary,
Urban Development Department,
Government of Maharashtra,
Mantralaya, Mumbai.

Mr. Sanjay Kumar, IAS

Member

Joint Secretary (DAY-NULM),
Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs,
Government of India, Nirman Bhavan,
New Delhi.

Mr. Mukesh Puri, IAS

Member

Addl. Chief Secretary,
Urban Development & Urban Housing
Department, Government of Gujarat,
Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Mr. Bhaskar A. Sawant, IAS

Member

Principal Secretary,
Urban Development & Housing Dept.,
Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur,
Rajasthan.

Mr. Puneet Kumar Goel, IAS

Member

Principal Secretary,
Urban Development,
Government of Goa, Porvorim, Bardez,
Goa.

Smti Monalisa Goswami, IAS,

Member

Commissioner & Secretary to the
Government of Assam,
Urban Development Department,
Government of Assam, Guwahati.

Mr. Kirankumar D. Gitte, IAS

Member

Secretary,
Urban Development Department,
Government of Tripura,
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Since 1968 the RCUES, Mumbai is supported by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.

Printed by All India Institute of Local Self-Government, Mumbai.

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