

## AP trains over 90,000 from 13 Districts in COVID Safety protocols



In the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic that has been relentless across the country, Andhra Pradesh organised online training for the newly elected Sarpanches, Ward members, District Resource persons, Village Secretariat staffs, Gram Volunteers, and District/ Mandal functionaries on key Covid safety protocols, Covid appropriate behaviours and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene measures.

Organised by the Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Department (PR&RD Department) and the Swachha Andhra Corporation (SAC) with technical support of UNICEF and Indian Institute of Public Health (IIPH), the event was held on 22nd April 2021. Three venues were arranged in each Mandal, equipped with audio-video set-up, LCD projector while maintaining the COVID protocols. As many as 660 Mandals across the 13 districts were covered in the programme.



More than 90,000 individuals from 13 Districts were trained on topics such as COVID-19 communication strategy, vaccination, Covid appropriate behaviour, and other controls measures and WASH. [Source-CPR and RD Department, Government of Andhra Pradesh (GoAP)].

The training of newly elected PRIs (Panchayati Raj Institutions) and CEOs, DPOs, MPDOs and GP functionaries on COVID 19 Safety protocol was inaugurated by Sri M. Girija Shankar, Commissioner PR&RD. On the other hand, the objectives and context setting were elaborated by the IIPH team. The team comprising of resource person from UNICEF and IIPH delivered the training to all participants.

Earlier, a one-day online Training of Trainers (ToT) on COVID 19 protocol was conducted by the PR&RD Department with technical support of UNICEF and IIPH on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021, to create a skilled Trainers' pool at District and Mandal level. The trainers will in turn train other stakeholders and spread key messages to the last mile delivery and implementation of sanitation drives and covid appropriate behaviour through the frontline workers. As many as 1936 District and Mandal Trainers and District Officials were trained during the ToT.



Mr. Durgaprasad, OSD to Commissioner, PR&RD and In-charge-SWM unit (CPR and RD Department), Mr. Subas, UNICEF WASH Consultant and IIPH team facilitated and coordinated the trainings. Further instructions were issued to all districts for implementation of intensive Sanitation Drives, Covid Protocol and Covid Appropriate Behaviour by the PR&RD Department to mitigate the challenges of COVID 19.