

## Women high school teachers of West Singhbhum oriented on MHM



The Drinking Water and Sanitation Department of West Singhbhum District in Jharkhand organized a one-day orientation on Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) under Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G) Phase-II for all women high school teachers.

The orientation held on March 6, 2021 was organized in collaboration with the Department of Education with a view to generating mass level awareness on MHM. Chief organisers of the district level programme were Mr. Sanjay Sharma-Executive Engineer-cum-member Secretary, District Water and Sanitation Committee and Smt. Nirja Kujur-District Education Officer-West Singhbhum and District Coordinator-Sri Niraj Sinha.

As many as 94 women teachers from the higher sections were present.

Menstruation is not a disease, Smt. Nirja Kujur emphasized, telling the teachers that the phenomenon was a part of life, unlike the common misconception. She encouraged them to be role models of the society and give the matter more attention as they teach and interact with

adolescent students. Students should be taught about menstruation, the bodily changes that occur and the safe management of the same. She appealed to them to work together to prevent absenteeism and dropouts among girls during the onset of menstruation.



During the question-answer session, many teachers shared their experiences with students and clarified their doubts. While pledging to work hard on the issue of menstrual hygiene management, they chalked out plans to orient students on this topic by providing them with IEC materials.

Sri Sanjay Sharma-Executive Engineer assured that block level coordinators and social mobilizers were trained in this area and were willing to make more efforts to ensure that all students have access to safe sanitation facilities within the school premises.



The UNICEF sponsored event was attended by Mr. Amar Pathaur, District Manager, World Vision (NGO) who gave his thoughts on MHM.

Meanwhile, the State has commenced initiatives in other areas of SBM-G Phase II namely, Solid, Liquid waste management, Gobardhan, Plastic waste management, Faecal Sludge Management and ODF Sustainability.

***Inputs: Md Azad Hussain, State Coordinator – SBMG Jharkhand***