

Webinar on Good practices in Municipal Sanitation management in COVID-19 times

The Urban Management Centre, ATI conducted their first Webinar titled “**Good practices in Municipal Sanitation management in COVID-19 times**” on 10th July 2020, from 3.00 pm to 3.45 pm for the functionaries of ULBs of West Bengal.

About the Webinar

The provision of safe water, sanitation and hygienic conditions is essential for protecting human health during all infectious disease outbreaks, especially during the present coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) crisis. The Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) has been working assiduously in maintaining sanitation and hygiene in the municipal areas of West Bengal.

Dr. Sujoy Mitra, Chief Manager, Planning & Monitoring, State Urban Development Agency (SUDA), Urban Development & Municipal Affairs Department, Govt. of West Bengal was the keynote speaker where he stressed upon the policies and initiatives undertaken by the UD&MA, Govt. of West Bengal in streamlining integrated solid waste management in ULBs as per the Waste Management Rules, 2016.

The Sanitary Inspectors of the ULBs have been working tirelessly as the frontline warriors managing civic sanitation and healthy environment in the ULBs throughout the year and more so during this COVID-19 times. Field level challenges faced and success stories of implementation of government initiatives were shared by Shri Samir Sarkar, Sanitary Inspector, Naihati Municipality, District – North 24 Parganas and Shri Suproakash Biswas, Sanitary Inspector, Chakdaha Municipality, District-Nadia.

Among the 40 participants, sanitary inspectors, urban planners, engineers and city mission managers from 14 ULBs attended the webinar. The participating municipalities were Beldanga, Cooper’s Camp NAA, Jangipur, Kalimpong, Kalna, Kanchrapara, Kurseong, Naihati, Nalhati, Rajpur-Sonarpur, Santipur, Taki, Tarakeswar and Asansol Municipal Corporation.

The 10 Sanitary Inspectors from Asansol Municipal Corporation participated in blended format through their Video conferencing facility maintaining social distancing norms. Shri Kaushik Ghosh, Assistant Professor,

Urban Management Centre, ATI coordinated the session outlining the basic sanitation challenges faced due to COVID-19, at the onset.

Given the positive response of the ULBs of West Bengal, it is envisioned to conduct a series of webinars in the coming weeks with serving officials and experts as keynote speakers on sanitation and waste management in ULBs.

