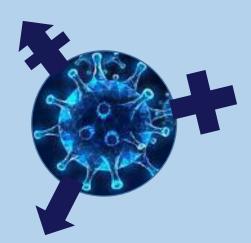
WEBINAR

The Conjunction of Two Pandemics:

Gender Inequality and COVID 19

July 22, 2020 2.00 - 3:15 PM



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Mr. MOHAMMAD NACIRI Regional Director UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Report on webinar

The Conjunction of Two Pandemics: Gender Inequality and COVID 19

A skill development webinar on "The Conjunction of Two Pandemics: Gender Inequality and COVID 19" was organised by the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine, Central University of Kerala 2.00 PM to 3.15 PM on 22nd July 2020, Wednesday. Speaker of the Webinar was Mohammad Naciri, Director for the Arab States and Asia Pacific regions for the United Nations entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women).

The webinar was attended by 92 members and was content with the presence of faculty and students from Central University of Kerala and other universities of India. The members include Prof. (Dr.) K R Thankappan (PH & Cm), Dr Elezebeth Mathews (Head of the Department, PH& CM) Dr Sibasis Hense, Prakash Babu Kodali (PH & Cm), Dr A. Manickavelu (Department Of Genomic Science). The event was convened by Dr Jayalakshmi.

The webinar gave the audience the insight into gender inequality issues during COVID -19 focusing on women and migrant women workers in various aspects including health, economy and social security. Especially in the health sector where females dominate in all areas the sector i.e. medical, supportive and administration increased. The incidence of issues includes women's physiologic and physical vulnerability to COVID infection, loss of income and poverty, unfair advances made on migrant female workers like to underpay, overwork, overtime and as sexual crimes during the pandemic which makes it worse for women during the pandemic. He said Covid pandemic have exacerbated the already existing social problems of women at work and homes in all phases of community which require strategies like economical empowerment of women, increase the partnership of women in leadership and gender responsible policy framing. He also shared concerns on underreporting of cases even there is 20-40% increase in the prevalence of such among migrant workers issues and stressed on the importance and ways to address the issue as creating a platform to report, opening hotline and spreading awareness.

The second half of the webinar was allocated for the discussion and questions from the audience. The audience raised questions on research, the prevalence of gender inequality and WHO strategies on addressing women issues during. He responded by emphasising the importance of addressing and monitoring the issues from the grass-root level than the centralised approach. The session mirrored the picture of world's gender inequality during the pandemic and concluded with a note of hope for a better tomorrow and an equal world.