



### Training and Awareness Workshop in Newari under PANI Water Project

Under PANI-Water Training and Awareness programme, we conducted workshops in six villages, namely, Rajpura, Ladpura, Bagan, Majra, Mador east, and Chandravan in Orchha Block, Newari district, Madhya Pradesh from 19 to 22 April, 2022. The programme works towards tackling water challenges in India, focusing on water quality, sanitation, and hygiene components. These workshops were conducted to make students and villagers aware of the importance of water quality, sanitation, hygiene, correct drinking water handling behaviour, storage of drinking water, and waterborne diseases.

Also, during the workshops, students and villagers were made aware about the precautions to be taken during the COVID-19 pandemic to stay safe from the virus. The demonstration of the JAL-TARA water testing kit was also done and people were provided hands-on training for water quality analysis with field-based water testing techniques. The testing for the nine parameters such as pH, total dissolved solids (TDS), turbidity, hardness, alkalinity, fluoride, chloride, nitrate, and bacterial contamination were performed to train the beneficiaries. It was gratifying to observe that a few students were taking initiatives and trying to perform tests like turbidity, pH, and TDS with basic precautions.



Additionally, a water painting competition in each village was organised to create awareness among students about water quality, and certificates were distributed to winners. While concluding the workshop focus group discussion in each village with school students, teachers, *anganwadi* workers, and other villagers was conducted to understand local issues related to water availability, conservation, and waterborne diseases. Moreover, potable water quality parameters with seasonal variation were painted on the walls of schools and gram panchayat bhavans in the villages.