

National Service Scheme(NSS) Volunteers



CHHATTISGARH

A team of government school children who are National Service Scheme(NSS) volunteers in Kanker district, Chattisgarh went door to door to mobilize communities and spread awareness about COVID-19 vaccine. These children met various families and told them about the advantages of being vaccinated. They addressed concerns of people regarding the vaccine and dispelled common myths related to the vaccine. These NSS volunteers were not only vaccine ambassadors for their family but also for the entire community.



The NSS team, including Upma Sahu and Munish Kumar Sahu supported the vaccination campaign and camps conducted in the school. This team took the responsibility of ensuring vaccination of all community members in the vicinity. They encouraged people to visit the nearest vaccination centre and even arranged home vaccination for many differently abled citizens who otherwise could not have got vaccinated.



Some members of the community were under the false impression that the COVID-19 vaccine could cause sickness, paralysis and even death in some cases. They were counselled and reassured by the NSS team, who later also ensured their vaccination.



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Many older people were hesitant to take vaccination given the fear of side effects but these children talked to them and assured them that the vaccine is safe. They also told them about the free vaccination camps where they could go and take their vaccination doses.

The MOMENTUM Routine Immunization Transformation and Equity Project, supported by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), ensures equitable vaccination to vulnerable, hard-to-reach, and marginalized communities.

In Chhattisgarh, the Project has engaged with local non-governmental organizations like SAMARTHAN, TCI Foundation, HelpAge India and SMRC to build vaccine confidence amongst priority groups.



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