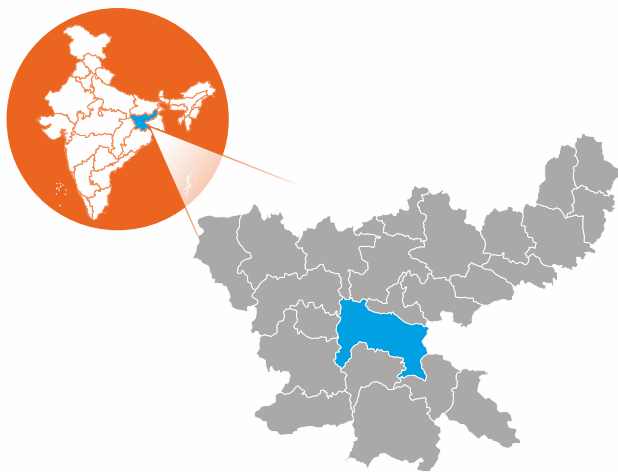


Sahiya Semanti Minj of Village Hetdahu and her efforts amidst COVID

JHARKHAND

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As the pandemic of COVID-19 had disrupted all health care and RMNCH + A services, there were heroes like Sahiya Semanti who stood their ground. Here is her story on how the frontline workers played a vital role in reviving the delivery of essential health care services.



Initially, Sahiya Semanti started conducting counselling sessions with pregnant women & lactating mothers. She explained them about the importance of accessing the health care services post the lockdown, while following COVID preventive behaviour.



She started Home Based Newborn Care visits to assess the growth of the newborn babies and mobilized parents about the age-appropriate immunization of their children.



Sahiya Semanti and ANM Rosalin Kundalnu visited the hard to reach area of Anganwadi Centre Hetdahu to provide essential Maternal & Child Health and Routine Immunization services.



On the session day, beneficiaries were mobilized for the outreach session in a staggered approach.



They conducted VHND sessions for providing essential Maternal & Child Health services with COVID appropriate guidance like handwashing and mask use.



VHND sessions by Sahiya Semanti covered counselling of mothers on the importance of ANC, immunization, essential newborn care amidst COVID appropriate behaviour.



Some of the beneficiaries of marginalized and vulnerable communities who were benefited by the services at the VHND session.



This kind of outreach by dedicated Sahiyas and ANMs helped in rebuilding the trust of mothers and pregnant women in seeking essential health care services even in the hard to reach areas.