



National Seminar on Environmental and Occupational Health

05-06 June, 2016

Seminar Report



National Institute of Occupational Health
(Indian Council of Medical Research)

Ahmedabad- 380016

Website: www.nioh.org



NATIONAL SEMINAR

on

Environmental and Occupational Health

June 5-6, 2016

National Institute of Occupational Health (ICMR), Ahmedabad



Seminar Report

The National Seminar on Environmental and Occupational Health was organized at National Institute of Occupational Health (ICMR), Ahmedabad during 05-06 June, 2016 on the occasion of World Environment Day.

The objectives of seminar were to provide a platform for discussion, sharing and exchange of ideas and insights on issues related to environmental and occupational health; to emphasize and promote recent and modern practices in the field of environmental and occupational health; and to encourage networking by bringing together stakeholders involved in environmental and occupational health.

The inaugural function of the seminar was held in the NIOH Seminar hall at 11:30 am June, 05, 2016. **Dr. Sunil Kumar**, Director-in-Charge, NIOH, Ahmedabad delivered welcome address. **Dr. R. S. Dhaliwal**, Head-NCD, ICMR New Delhi delivered a Key-note address. The Guest of Honour **Shri Kartikeya Sarabhai**, a renowned environmentalist and Director, Centre for Environment Education, Nehru Foundation for Development, Ahmedabad highlighted the various issues of environment on the occasion. The seminar was inaugurated by Chief Guest **Dr. Kirit Premjibhai Solanki**, Hon'ble Member of Parliament (LS), Ahmedabad (W) and known Surgeon of Ahmedabad. The proceedings of the Seminar, ENVIS-NIOH Newsletter, IEC material in Gujarati “કાર્યની દુનિયા – આરોગ્ય અને સુરક્ષા”, NIOH Library Newsletter were released.

The scientific program was planned to deliver recent advancement in Environmental and Occupational Health by eminent experts across the country to benefit research and thus the community. The program was scheduled in 09 sessions of various themes such as Occupational Health, Occupational Safety and Health, Health of Migrant Workers, Biomarker, Environmental Toxicology, Hazardous Materials and Toxicology, Ergonomics and MSD, Mental Health and Occupational Psychology, Environmental Health, Industrial Hygiene, Climate Change, Air Quality, Physical Hazards and Sustainable Development, Waste Management, Environmental Legislation and Health Management. Invited speakers delivered their talks and delegates gave platform and poster presentations. It was our privilege to have all-age group scientists including dedicated professionals,



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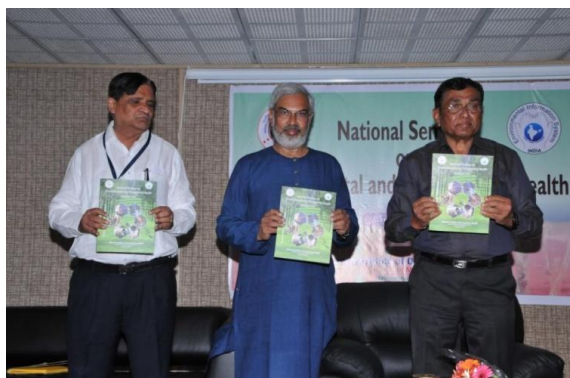
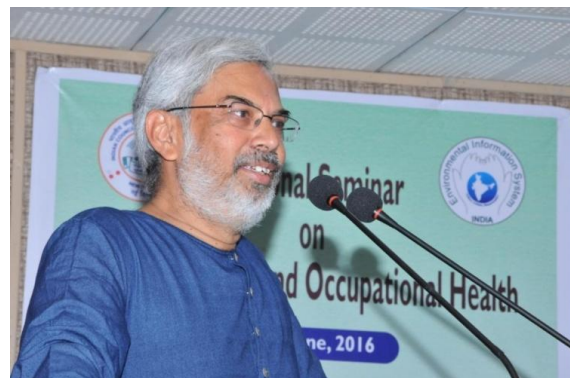
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middle-carrier and young scientists who came across the country. About 200 delegates, invited speakers, chairpersons and guest from more than 50 institutes of 13 states of India participated during this seminar.





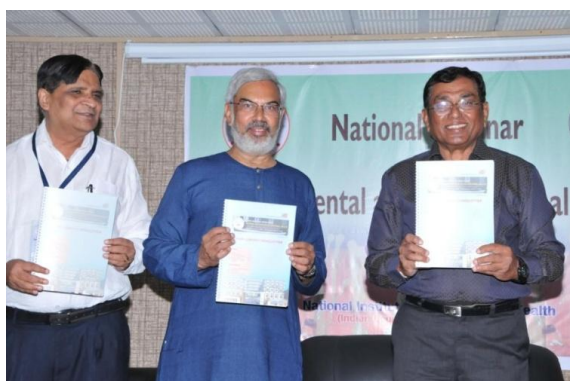
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The scientific deliberations of the seminar began with Occupational Health, Occupational Safety and Health, Health of Migrant Workers. **Dr. H. N. Saiyed**, Former Director, NIOH, Ahmedabad, **Dr. Shyam Pingle** Professor, Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar, **Dr. R. R. Tiwari**, Director, National Institute of Miners Health, Nagpur, **Dr. Kishore P. Madhwani**, Medical & Occupational Health Consultant, Hindustan Unilever Ltd., Mumbai, **Dr. Girish Kalmady**, Sr. Divisional Medical Officer, Rail Wheel Factory, Indian Railways, Bengaluru delivered lectures and highlighted various aspect of occupational health issues and its interventions.



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Dr. Manish Nivsarkar, Director, BV Patel PERD Centre, Ahmedabad; **Dr. Anil Karnik**, Former Deputy Director, NIOH, Ahmedabad; **Prof. R. J. Verma**, Head- Department of Zoology, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad delivered lectures on Biomarker and Environmental Toxicology.



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Dr. J. R. Parikh Former Deputy Director, NIOH, Ahmedabad highlighted issues of Environmental stress- Effects on mental health.

Dr. Pramod Pandey, University of California, USA and **Dr. PS Ganguli**, IIPH Gandhinagar delivered lecture on water containment and climate change issues and its health impact respectively.

Dr. Rima Dada, AIIMS, New Delhi delivered lecture on reproductive health and **Dr. N. S. Varandani**, GERMI, Gandhinagar; **Dr. Robin Christian**, SV National Institute of



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Technology, Surat; **Dr. Abha Chhabra**, SAC, ISRO, Ahmedabad discussed various issues on air quality. **Mr. K. N. K. Murthy**, Retd Chief of Safety, IPCL, Baroda and **Mr. Hardik Joshi**, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad discussed on occupational health safety management and Information retrieval task in health sector issues respectively.





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Further, Role of ENVIS in National Development session was organized where ENVIS Centres **ENVIS-NIOH**, Ahmedabad; **ENVIS-GCPC**, Gandhinagar; **ENVIS-CERC**, Ahmedabad; **ENVIS-CEE**, Ahmedabad presented the activities of the respective centres. It was recommended that all ENVIS centres will carry out a joint program on environmental health and education.





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There were 30 posters presented during the seminar. The posters were assessed by a committee of experts. Six posters were identified, based on importance of the theme, highlights of research outcome, quality of display & potential to explain the observations and recommended for Best Poster presentation awards. The recipients of Best Poster presentation awards were: **Mr. Inderbhan Singh**, Gujarat Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar; **Ms. Rishika Sharma**, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad; **Dr. P. Sivaperumal**, NIOH Ahmedabad; **Ms. Riddhi Thaker**, NIOH Ahmedabad; **Mr. Mohammad Zeeshan**, NIMS University, Jaipur; **Mr. A. K. Gautam**, NIOH, Ahmedabad. The awardees were felicitated during the valedictory function.





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The valedictory function of the seminar was held on 06th June, 2016 at 05:30 PM. **Prof. N. K. Jain**, Registrar, Gujarat University Ahmedabad was the Chief Guest, **Shri KNK Murthy**, Retd Chief of Safety, IPCL, Baroda was special guest and **Dr. D. J. Parikh**, Former Sr. Deputy Director, NIOH Ahmedabad presided over the function. **Dr. Sunil Kumar** Director-in-Charge, NIOH Ahmedabad delivered welcome address. **Dr. Lokesh Kumar Sharma**, Organizing Secretary presented the seminar report and highlighted the activities carried out during seminar. **Shri P. B. Doctor**, Organizing Secretary proposed the vote of thanks. He conveyed hearty thanks to each and everyone who contributed in the successful organization of the national seminar.



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RECOMMENDATIONS:

The following recommendations emerged out of the deliberations and discussions during the two-days national seminar.

- Cleaner production is the need of our today. In the way forward, it is iterated to minimize waste and emissions and maximize product output through a preventive, industry-specific environmental protection initiative.
- Considering the climate change scenario, emphasis is to be given to implement the national heat action plan as similar to the Ahmedabad heat action plan to prevent the heat disaster.
- The water contamination management should be implemented in more scientific way to prevent the environment and health.
- New tools/gadgets/technology should be developed for the prognosis and minimization of occupational/environmental exposures at work place.
- It is suggested to include environmental and occupational health in school/college curriculum along with the environment science.
- Monitoring programme of toxic pollutants in biological, environmental and food samples needs to be strengthened.
- A need to focus on sustainable mining practices to safeguard the environment.
- Traditional medicine / methodologies to reduce human sufferings may be given priority in health management programmes.
- Ergonomics and intervention measures considering the lifestyle disorders and particularly the musculoskeletal disorders in the occupational arena.