



INDO - GERMAN FOCAL POINT

About us

The Indo-German Focal Point promotes occupational safety and health in Indian enterprises, state and non-state institutions through training, exchanges, conferences, talks, awareness programmes, state visits, street plays, publications, social media, and contests on songs, videos, poster design and drawings.

With strong support from the German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV), the Indo-German Focal Point offers international best practices on occupational safety and health with technical support from the German Social Accident Insurance Institutions in the building trade (BG BAU) and the German Social Accident Insurance Institution for the energy, textile, electrical and media products sectors (BG ETEM).

About DGUV

The German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV) is the umbrella association of the German Social Accident Insurance Institutions (including BG BAU and BG ETEM).

Over 70 million people stand covered under the statutory accident and social security system. With no contribution from insured individuals, the costs are made by employers.

DGUV aims to (1) prevent occupational accidents and diseases through safety equipment, education and health care facilities; (2) protect through compensation involving accident and occupational related diseases; (3) provide care through rehabilitation measures and return to work.



Our History

The Indo-German Focal Point for India was established in January 2017 with headquarters in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, with liaison officers in north and south India to support DGUV projects in India and other agreed territories.

The projects are implemented in the framework of Memorandums of Understanding of DGUV with Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI), National Safety Council (NSC), Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA), State Governments, among others.

The logo and slogan of the Indo-German Focal Point is 7S – Securing Safety Social Security and Skill Development Starts with Self. We strongly believe that this is the foundation to reach Vision Zero – zero accidents at Indian workplaces.

In order to reach our goal, we do not only sensitize working adults, but also their spouses and children. We inculcate a safety and prevention culture to children from young age onwards and promote the message to their parents: "You stay safe so that your family is safe and the nation is prosperous."

Our Vision

The Indo-German Focal Point has liaison offices all across India that are consulted by enterprises, state and non-state institutions alike due to their expertise and positive results as prevention service providers on occupational safety and health, as well as on social security schemes for informal and unorganized workers in India.

Why In Bhubaneswar

Odisha with its rich natural resources and long coastline is strongly emerging as a potential industrial and tourist destination for India. Investment in mining, manufacturing, transport, tourism and construction is necessitating growing requirements for safety, social protection (health care) and skill development for a safe secured work force. This is to be seen in the context of a substantial increase in migration of labourers particularly from western Odisha to other states. With Bhubaneswar emerging as smartest city in the country, it is in the fitness of things to open a coordination office of the Indo-German Focal Point in Bhubaneswar.



**Securing Safety, Social Security &
Skill Development Starts With Self (7S)**



Safety, social security and skill development – The present scenario in India

Social Security

Few facts which are existing in our country

- 90% of the working population is in unorganized sector
- Maximum contractualization of jobs in factories and establishments
- Huge migration of labour force from one job to another job in the same city and in the same State
- 70-80% of the labour force are earning less than or at minimum wages fixed for different sectors of employment



The present scenario of safety in India

403,000 people die every year in India due to work related issues, there are 46 deaths every hour (ILO); 9 out of every 100 employees encounter work related accidents annually (Du Pont); Fatal accident frequency rate in the construction sector is 15.8 per 1000 employees against 0.23 in USA (Greentech Foundation); Every 2 minutes a person dies in a road accident, 3% of total GDP is lost annually (NITI Aayog); 16% of fatal global occupational accidents involve the construction sector (Studies on labour safety on construction sites from The Scientific World Journal). 70-80% of the labour force are earning less than or at minimum wages fixed for different sectors of employment.

The present scenario of social security in India

90% of the working population is in the unorganized sector; Most jobs are found in factories and establishments; Huge migration of labour force from one job to another; 70-80% of the labour force earn the minimum wage or less; Only 20% are covered in an insurance scheme, resulting in 70% spent by workers towards health care.

The present scenario of skill development in India

It is estimated that only 2,3% of the workforce in India has formal skill training compared to 68% in the UK, 75% in USA, 80% in Japan and 96% in South Korea. 62% of India's population is in the working age group 15-59 years, and more than 54% of the total population is below 25 years of age. To reap this demographic dividend which is expected to last for the next 25 years, India needs to equip its workforce with employable skills and knowledge so that they can contribute substantively to the economic growth of the country. Our country presently faces a dual challenge of paucity of a highly trained workforce, as well as a non-employability of

Social Security of Construction Workers in Odisha with the support of DGUV.



Background and lessons learned from our Focal Point representative

Our Focal Point is represented by B. K. Sahu, who has 32 years of experience and expertise in social security in the largest social security organisation of the Government of India. He has been persistent to learn and implement good practices to benefit millions of workers having no social protection at present. Whatever social security we have in the form of health care, cash benefits in the contingencies of accidents, death and pensioner benefits is mostly confined to organised workers, leaving 93% of informal unorganised workers to their faith, goodwill of contractors and owners to get some social protection. Hence the quest of B. K. Sahu, who had a humble beginning in Bhubaneswar and rose to the most senior position in the ESI corporation (Insurance Commissioner).

With this objective in mind, B. K. Sahu got three opportunities to familiarize himself with international best practices on safety, social security and skill development. In 2015, B. K. Sahu attended and presented two papers at the International Workshop on Social Security at Bali, on the invitation of BPJS, the Social Security Organisation of Indonesia and their Ministry of Manpower. Representatives from Asia, Africa and Europe participated at this workshop, who highly appreciated the efforts of the present Government to secure accident, death and pensionary benefits through low premium, bank transfer, defined benefits and government guarantees through JJB, JSBY and Atal Pension Yojana. A Joint Declaration – the Bali Declaration 2015 – on Securing Social Security for All was formulated, for which B. K. Sahu played a key role.

In 2016, B. K. Sahu received an invitation from DGUV in coordination with BG BAU and BG ETEM, to visit Cologne and Berlin to familiarize himself with good practices on safety, social security and skill development, particularly on

industrial safety and occupational diseases, as well as to strengthen the cooperation between Germany and India to benefit millions in our country. The visit included field visits to their training centres for industrial workers on safety and health care, to the rehabilitation centre and hospitals meant exclusively for workers. Good practice #1 learned on that trip was that the quality involving equipment used for safety of workers cannot make compromises on costs, which is very unlike the practice in our country to compromise on quality to save money at the cost of human lives – let's not have a “ChaltaHei Attitude”. Even roads are planned with separate lanes for pedestrians, cycles and vehicles with strict enforcements to wear safety belts. “Zero tolerance for accidents” is really worth emulating for countries like India, which could greatly reduce accidents and consequential loss of lives and expenditures. Good practice #2 is the importance of returning to work. Sick workers are provided with excellent medical treatments and training programmes to be able to return to their workplaces.

In 2017, B.K Sahu was privileged to attend the XXI World Congress on Safety and Health at Work in Singapore. He was part of the global launch of “Vision Zero”, besides participating in technical sessions of the World Congress from 3rd-6th September 2017.

Activities so far done since inception through News & Views:

Upcoming Events:

News & Views towards Cooperation for DGUV Activities in India



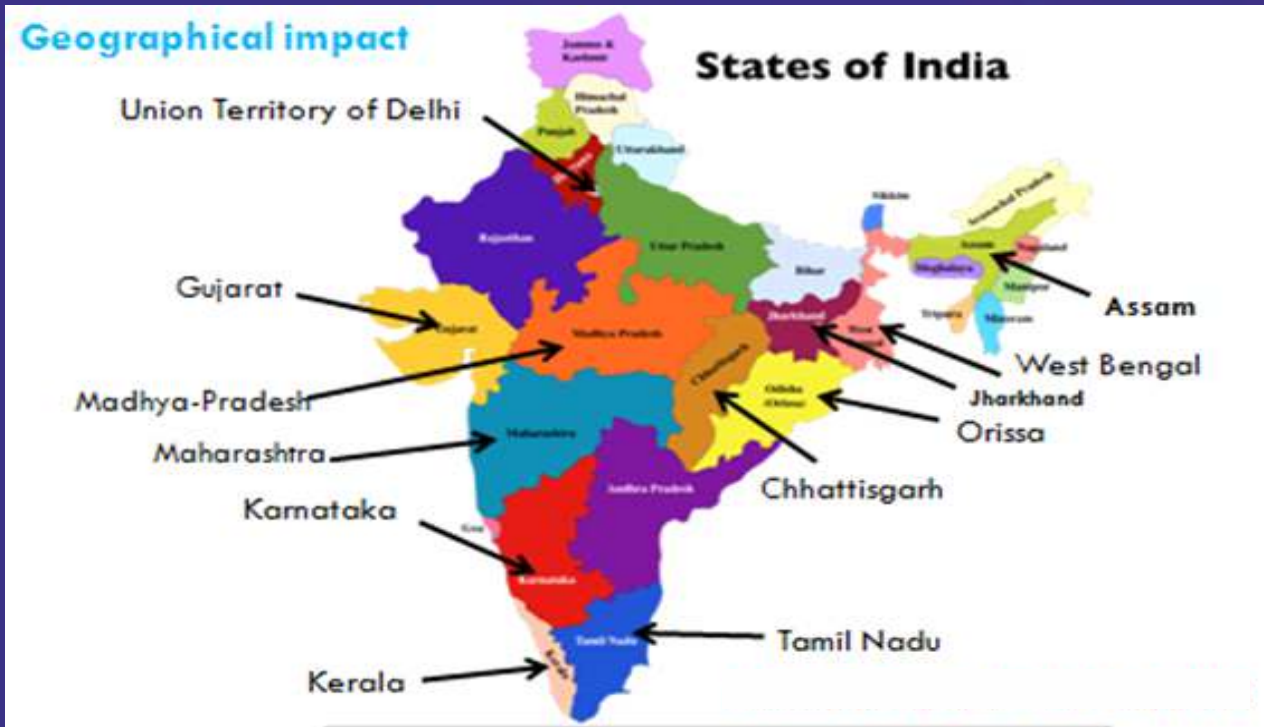
Date	Event	Place
15 – 16 October 2018	Vision Zero Conference	Chennai
18 – 20 February 2019	Vision Zero Conference	Mumbai
July 2019 (TBC)	Präventionsforum+ Seminar	TBC
July 2019 (TBC)	Vision Zero Conference	Gujarat
November 2019 (TBC)	Vision Zero Conference	Chhattisgarh
2020 (TBC)	Vision Zero Conference	Kolkata



Labour & ESI Odisha @LESIOdisha - Feb 21

International Symposium on Safety & Health 2018 inaugurated by His Excellency the Governor of Odisha Dr. S.C. Jamir.





What we have done so far for occupational accident prevention in India

In cooperation with DGUV and the Labour Departments, we have been holding sensitization and training programmes through conferences, workshops and symposiums. 1500 participants took part in the Vision Zero Conference at New Delhi in March 2017, including the former Labour Minister Bandaru Dattadreya. The next conference of that dimension will be held at the Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) in Mumbai from 18th until 20th February 2019.

6 Indian States (Kerala, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Orissa, West Bengal, Union Territory of Delhi) promoted initiatives on occupational safety and health with the support of the Focal Point, including conferences, training and campaigns.

In March 2018, Indo-German Focal Point, BG BAU and BG ETEM signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology Bhubaneswar (KIIT) in order to establish the first Centre of Excellence on Occupational Safety and Health in India at KIIT University.

With Cheers - B. K. Sahu



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Compiled by

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