

Minutes of the Workshop on Occupational Safety and Health in Industrial and Construction Sectors, Bhubaneswar, 29th-30th November.

After presentation of bouquets and lighting of the ceremonial lamp, Mr. B.K. Sahu, Director, Indo Garman Focal Point (IGFP) made his introductory speech. He stated that OSH being very important, both DGUV and IGFP have dedicated themselves to achieve Vision Zero. He pointed at various achievements made by IGFP, in which the present Workshop is also a step. He introduced Mr. Panchanan Kanungo, Former Finance Minister of Odisha, Mr Amar Satpathy, Member, Odisha Legislative Assembly, Mr. Subhash Singh, Chairman, Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board (B&OCWWB), Mr. Bijay Kumar Patnaik, former Chief Secretary of Odisha, Prof. Karl-Heinz Noetel, President, ISSA Construction and Senior Adviser, DGUV, Dr. Ashok Sahu, Member, IGFP Advisory Board, Dr L. Jamir, Additional Commissioner and Regional Director, Employees State Insurance Corporation and Dignitaries off the dais, delegates, speakers and others.

In his Address, Mr. Karl-Heinz Noetel, mentioned about the TV interview he had in the morning where he was asked about the purpose of his visits across the globe including India and holding of the present Workshop. He stated that establishment of the IGFP at Bhubaneswar was a good decision. Among challenges, awareness and training are important and local people in Odisha are very receptive. This is reflected in the establishment of Center of Excellence (COE) at Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) also. The information and publicity materials are being translated into English and Hindi. On being questioned about the strategy, he focused on awareness and training. Over time, India's awareness has changed substantially and he conveyed best wishes for the same.

In his address, Mr. B.K Patnaik stressed upon the important aspect that Bhubaneswar has to really emerge as a smart city. He especially emphasized upon road safety and the steps being taken by voluntary organizations in this regard. He mentioned about the impact which enhancement of penal provisions by Government has achieved. Awareness and implementation are mutually complementary and should go hand in hand. We should achieve a zero accident environment which is desired by all families, factories, etc. This is a human aspiration and therefore he wished the Workshop to be a great success.

Mr. Subhash Singh stated that about ten million workers are engaged in construction work. With cooperation of international organizations like ILO and UN, the OB&OCWWB has started a lot of initiatives on safety, health and welfare of construction workers. However there remains further room for improvement. He also emphasized upon cooperation of all stakeholders so that we achieve zero causality.

Mr. Amar Sathpathy, while thanking IGFP for involving him in all affairs of the organization, also thanked other dignitaries for their respective contribution in the field of safety and health. Health hazard, apart from accidents, was a part of industrial revolution. The overall environment is deteriorating day by day as is evident in case of India's capital city, Delhi. Registration of migrant workers is important especially because they are mostly casual workers. This workshop should preventive measures creating conditions for a better living, improving awareness about various facilities being available etc.

IGFP Newsletter was released.

Mr. Panchanan Kanungo felicitated all dignitaries for their immense contribution in the field of OSH. Because of his long association with trade unions, he recalled the provisions in the Workmen's Compensation Act. But it happens ex-post, the present movement on Vision Zero is basically preventive. Health is not just a matter of social security but it contributes to economic prosperity. Largest number of workers belong to the construction sector. Workers go beyond cast, creed, color and State. He urged Chairman, B&OCWWB to take the lead in helping construction workers.

Dr. Ashok Sahu proposed a vote of thanks.

The first Technical Plenary was chaired by Dr. Subhashis Sahu, Associate Prof. of Occupational Physiology, University of Kalyani, who stated that accidents never happen on their own but they are caused. Among the panelists, Prof. Karl-Heinz Noetel gave certain useful statistics relating to OSH, stating that construction is the most contributing sector. Use of old methods across Europe is the culprit. Dr. M.K Pradhan, General Manager, Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA), Govt. of Odisha in his presentation relating to 'Challenges on Chemical Disaster Management in Odisha: A Vision Zero Approach' stated that prevention is always better than cure. Legislative/administrative initiatives relate to land use policy, rules pertaining to transport emergencies, guidelines for installation, storage, operation, maintenance and transportation of hazardous chemicals, disaster management plans for hospitals, highways, mobile hospital etc. Technical activities/initiatives would need commissioning and decommissioning of factories, on-site and off-site emergency plans, Mutual Aid Response Group, awareness programmes for communities, risk assessment of transportation, hazardous material emergency response, GIS based communication system for transport etc.

The second Technical Plenary was chaired by Mr. G. Srinivas, Principal Secretary, Commerce & Transport, Govt. of Odisha. While introducing the panelists, he pointed out that Govt. of Odisha is promoting road safety quite seriously. Because of steps taken recently like amendments to Motor Vehicle Act etc, safety concerns have increased and fatalities have gone down. But still there is lot of scope for improvement and people will have to realize the benefits associated with safety and cost involved if requisite measures are not taken. He described the situation existing in the field of water transport. Since the situation is not very comfortable stringent measures are required to be taken. Prof. Karl-Heinz Noetel spoke on fall protection measures and showed many photographs regarding high altitude workplace where no fall protection system is in place. There are crucial differences among individual countries due to time pressure, cost pressure and absence of safety culture. He also deliberated on solutions against falling from height being undertaken as many countries. Subsequently he spoke on electrical safety, starting with impact of electricity on human bodies. One has to be careful about direct and indirect contact. Fault protection is very important. He also made various recommendations regarding lights, hand held machine tools, deactivation of old cables etc. Mr. Subrat Tripathy, CEO, Dhamra Port (Adani Group) spoke on 'Safety on Port Operation'. Ports have similarity with construction while being slightly different. Human life is most precious. Awareness and education are important regarding safety. Environment Safety and Governance are important to survive in the globalised world. He gave an overview relating to trade and commerce in India. He dealt on safety

pyramid and safety hazards. In respect of safety culture equations, both leadership and having better system are important. He gave an overview of port operators especially of Dharma Port. During question answer session he pointed out that industry and ecology can co-exist. The Rapporteur, Ms. Archana Das summed up important points emerging from the proceedings.

The panel discussion on 'OSH Responsibilities in India vis-à-vis Germany' was chaired by Mr. Niranjana Sahu, Labour Commissioner & Director of Factories & Boilers, Government of Odisha. In his deliberation, Mr. Niranjana Kar, former Chief inspector of Factories and Boilers pointed out that safety audit is very important and lots of training and planning, especially for casual workers, is required. He narrated the experiences associated with Bhopal Gas Tragedy, Chasnala Mines Disaster, etc. Mr. Ravikant Somani, Executive Vice President, Group Head (OSH), Jindal Steel & Power Ltd, quoted important statistics on OSH. Factories Act also plays an effective role as it emphasizes upon the responsibilities of the management to promote safety. Changing the mindset of top management is necessary. Mr. B.K Sahu mentioned about the important safety challenges. The winning video on safety – SSVV, 2019 was displayed. The role of IGFP in achieving Vision Zero was explained. The next international media festival will take place in 2020 @ Canada for which Entries from Industries was highlighted by Mr. Sahu. Prof. Karl-Heinz Noetel narrated how Germany has been able to achieve zero accident scenario. He quoted president Obama in emphasizing that Vision Zero is achievable. For this leadership competence and commitment are required. Good rules should be framed. Training facilities are to be created where all types of personnels are to be trained. The Chairman of the Session during his address emphasized upon Importance of time and life and stressed that accidents have to be prevented. So disaster preparedness is necessary. He also reiterated the importance of leadership commitment as change of management in case of M/S Bhushan Steel has led to reduction in accidents. The management is also required to provide safety kits. In Odisha, accidents and casualty figures have come down. But there should be no complacency as the State should become an accident free one. The State has developed a 10- point strategy in this direction and the government is prepared to lend a helping hand.

On the second day, the third Technical Plenary on 'High Rise Risks' was chaired by Prof. Sasmita Samanta, Pro-Vice Chancellor, KIIT University. She commended both Prof. Karl-Heinz Noetel and Mr. B.N Sahu for taking initiatives on OSH front for achieving Vision Zero. One should appreciate human life and dignity. She shared her good experiences witnessed in the COE in Germany. Similar sensitization of our system is equally necessary. Prof. Karl-Heinz Noetel spoke on 'Personal Protective Equipment- Selection & Use'. He dwelt on various points relating to access, passages, working room, minimum width for trenches etc as well as on health protection it is necessary to have hierarchy of measures which include technical, organizational, protective (TOP) and behavioral measures. He discussed about protection of head, eye, face, skin and protective equipment, including innovative measures. Dr. K.N Sen, Head, ESH (MMH), L&T Construction spoke on construction safety. Issues like morbidity, mortality etc are important and be linked with seven golden rules of Vision Zero. While dealing with the experience of his company, he mentioned about project 'Surakshajeev' Integration of EHS initiatives including safety audit, weekly EHS dashboard, EHS Passport, Safety Task Assignment, Scaffold Confidence Building, Safety Innovation School, On-line Management, Healthy Habitat, Virtual Learning, Digital Transformation, Consequence Management, Rigging web App., Project Accident Potential Rate, Warm-up Exercises,

Sensor-based Audio System, Safety Communication and Engagement, Safety Observation and Safety Contact, Improvement on health front and Reward and Recognition. Mr. Alok Rath, General Manager, Uday Plastic Pvt Ltd, spoke on 'Never let you fall', which involves total safety management rather than being confined to risks of high rises only. Both industrial and residential areas are to be covered addressing problems relating to size, collapse, high risks associated with high rises relating to AC system, plumbing etc and evacuation systems. Caretakers should have complete information about risk management. Administrative activities, rescue/evacuation activity and first aid and other activities need to be coordinated.

The last Technical Plenary on 'Emergency Health Management' was chaired by Dr. Hara Prasad Patnaik, Special Secretary, Public Health, Govt of Odisha. Dr. Somnath, CEO, Hyderabad Medical Center spoke on emergency management of victims falling from height. He presented a profile of industry related-injuries especially in construction industry. Since medical facilities may not be available near work sites and time to treat the injured persons is essential, one has to depend upon his common sense. Categorization of injuries, so that more persons can be saved, is important. Assessment of the injured person can help in overcoming trauma. First Ten minutes are called platinum minutes which help in survival. Cervical Spine control in is required. Meticulous and rapid assessment and management are essential. Prof. Karl-Heinz Noetel spoke on hazardous substances. Things like making danger symbols and designations, absorption paths, limit values, harmful effects etc., are important. Different human organs are prone to damages and their assessment is necessary. Information relating to hazardous substances needs to be procured and hierarchy of protective measures has to be put in place, which can be technical and person-related. Hygienic measure are to be followed. Training is important, so also complementary protective measures.

Dr. Subhasish Sahu, Associate Prof. of Occupational Physiology, University of Kalyani spoke on 'Occupational Health and Safety in Informal Sector—A Challenge for Vision Zero' He highlighted the characteristics of informal sector workers and health and safety hazards they face, especially in the construction sector. He identified various safety majors which are required in the Indian context. Force, frequency and posture constitute ergonomical triangle which needs to be addressed. Solution lies in taking in to account human capability and limitation, participatory approaches, low cost implementation and creating a safety culture.

The Workshop was both interactive and informative, which was successfully conducted.

The Significant Features of the Two Day Workshop are :-

1. First such Workshop with Emphasise on 'Fall from Height "-A major cause of Fatalities in India/Odisha
2. Besides Technical Sessions, the Participants were exposed to Safety Equipments through display by Safety Manufatureres like M/S Udyog Limited,
3. Two Safety Plays on Road Safey & Factory Safety were staged by School chidren of Vivekananda Sikhya Kendra,Bhubaneswar & Workers of Dhamra Port, Odisha,

4. A Bag with Kit containing Booklet on Safety & Health, Safety Posture prepared by BGBAU, IGFP & DG NSC, Vision Zero Tag & Flyer of International Media Festival 2020 given to all Participants & Speakers ect,
5. Impact involving Vision Zero & DGUV, BGBAU, BGETEM, IssA Constuction & IGFP could be made to 150 Participants, Esteemed Guests, Chairpersons, Facilitators & Participants ect.
6. It was decided to distribute Certificate of Attendance, Presentations subject to Copyright, Significant Lessons involving Best Practices from Deliberations & Photos to all Participants ect, Compiled by iGFP with Write Up by Dr. Ashok Sahu, Member IGFP Advisory Board assisted by Vivek & Staff of IGFP,
Dated 3rd December, 2019,
Bhubaneswar,
www.indogermanfocalpoint.com

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