

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2009.

It gives me great pleasure in presenting the annual report for the year 2009. It has been an eventful year, which saw emergence of IAOH on the international scene, a significant increase in branch activities and some unprecedented decisions. Highlights of the year are as follows:

THE 59th NATIONAL CONFERENCE AT JAMNAGAR:

The 59th National Conference hosted by Jamnagar Branch was held at Town Hall, Jamnagar under the Chairmanship of Dr. R. Rajesh, Jamnagar Branch and Organizing Secretary Dr. M Santawani. The conference theme was 'Basic Occupational Health Services – VISION 2020, Bridging Gaps Between Reality & Expectations' and it was organised with great enthusiasm. The conference attracted a large number of Occupational Health Professionals from all over India. The conference comprised a rich academic fare comprising of orations, guest lectures, symposia and a large number of scientific papers. All delegates were floored by the wonderful hospitality of the hosts.

Following awards were presented during the 59th National conference:

1	ADM Oration	Dr. Bhaktiar Choudhary	Andhra Pradesh Branch
2	CKR Oration	Dr. C. S. Gulvady	Mumbai Branch
3	L & T Oration	Dr. S. Sivaramakrishnan	Mumbai Branch
4	OHSF Mumbai Br. Oration	Dr. G. V. Prabhu	Goa Branch
5	Best Resource Person Award	Dr. K. P. Madhwani Dr. N. N. Bhatiker	Mumbai Branch Goa Branch
6	BEL - IND Award	Mr. V. R. Marathe	Jamnagar Branch
7	Britannia Award	Dr. A. Madhavi	Andhra Pradesh Branch
8	Young Scientist Award	Dr. Ravi Shirurkar	Karnataka Branch
9	Best Branch Award		Andhra Pradesh Branch

BUSINESS MEETINGS

1) The 59th Annual General Body meeting of Indian Association of Occupational health was held on 23rd January 2009 at 6.00 PM at Town Hall, Jamnagar and many members participated in the meeting. The important decisions taken in the AGB are only few. The general body passed a resolution forwarded by the council members to remove the name of one senior members of IAOH from the membership of the association on the ground of misconduct against the interest of the association. This sort of action by the general body was unprecedented.

2) The first meeting of the central council was held on Friday 23rd January 2009 at Town Hall, Jamnagar and it was chaired by the President Dr. Shyam Pingle. Various committees were constituted / renewed.

3) As a continuation of our tradition of IAOH, the President after discussing with the office bearers and the other council members declared the theme of Occupational Health Day as “**Integrating Wellness with OH- Optimizing Health & Promoting Business**”. Many branches celebrated occupational health day with enthusiasm and the center has received the reports from many branches for having celebrated the occupational Health day.

4) The second meeting of the central council for the year 2009 was held on 30th October 2009 at 7-00 PM at **The Acres' Banquets**, Chembur, Mumbai. It was chaired by President, Dr. Shyam Pingle, and attended by many central council members from different branches.

5) The 60th National Conference is being hosted by Andhra Pradesh branch from 3rd to 6th February at Hotel Taj Krishna, at Hyderabad. Under the excellent Patronage of Dr. S. Vivek Chandra Rao, enthusiastic leadership of the Conference Director, Dr. Bhaktiar Choudhary and able, hard working Organising Secretary, Dr. J. Vijay Rao, the members will be treated with a feast of scholastic and entertaining conference which is based on the theme: “**Integrating Wellness with OH- Optimizing Health & Promoting Business**”.

At this juncture it is my great pleasure to declare the name of recipients of various awards for the year 2010 and the names of distinguished members who will deliver oration at the 60th National Conference in Hyderabad.

1	ADM Oration	Dr. H. R. Rajmohan	Karnataka Branch
2	CKR Oration	Dr. S. Vivek Chandra Rao	AP Branch
3	L & T Oration	Dr. Kishore Madhwani	Mumbai Branch
4	OHSF Mumbai Br Oration	Dr. R. Rajesh	Jamnagar Branch
5	Best Resource person award	Dr. Revanna Siddesh	Karnataka Branch
6	IAOH fellowship	Dr. S. Sivaramakrishnan Dr. Sudha S. Ramchandran	Mumbai Branch Tamilnadu Branch
7	BEL - IND MED award	Dr. Kishore Madhwani	Mumbai Branch
8	Hindustan Unilever Award	Dr. Paren Shah	Jamnagar Branch
9	Young scientist award	Dr. Balaji S Lakshmipuram	IBM Bangalore
10	Best Branch Award	Vadodara Branch	

BRANCH ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERSHIP POSITION: Our branches, which are spread all over the country, have been conducting Occupational Health Safety Seminars, Orations and Clinical Meetings throughout the year. All branches have celebrated Occupational health day with the selected theme for this year. Some major branches like Mumbai, Tamil Nadu, Vadodara, Pune, Jamnagar, Goa, Thane-Raigad, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh Branches have done excellent work during this year.

There was excellent participation and good cooperation from most of the branches. I thank all the branches and particularly Mumbai branch for making excellent arrangements for the second central council meeting held on 31st November 2009.

Our membership position as on today is as follows

Life members----- 2194

Full Members----- 465

Associate Members----- 104

Institutional Membership ---- 31

Honorary members ----- 01

Total ----- 2,795

Major Activities after the last Conference

During the year 2009 under the leadership of our dynamic President Dr. Shyam Pingle, IAOH has undertaken many activities and I take immense pleasure to bring to you a few of the major ones.

1. ICOH conference at Cape Town, South Africa in March 2009: There was prominent Indian participation in the ICOH congress at Milan with nearly 18 participants from India, under the leadership of then IAOH President Dr. Shanbhag and including IAOH office bearers like Dr. S. Sivaramakrishnan, Dr. Rajgopal, Dr. Shyam Pingle, Dr. Madhwani, Dr. Saha, Mr. Sen, Dr. Mittal & others. Dr. Shanbhag and Dr. Rajgopal were invited to chair various sessions in the conference whereas Dr. Shyam Pingle was invited as a speaker in the Asian symposium on Occupational Health & Development. There were oral & poster presentations from many Indian delegates. The notable feature of the conference was increasing participation of our members in the affairs of ICOH with two important scientific committees of ICOH being headed by our members. The pre-conference workshop at Hyderabad is being conducted in collaboration with ICOH scientific committee.
2. On 9th July 2009, during the Occupational Health day celebration revamped website of the Association, www.iaohindia.com was launched by the National President of IAOH Dr. Shyam Pingle. In his address to the gathering, Dr. Pingle acknowledged the efforts of all concerned and had a special mention for Dr. S. M. Shanbhag, immediate past President of IAOH for his vision, conceptualization of the whole idea and organization of resources for the same. I should make a special mention about the unstinted efforts taken by Dr. Divyang Shah to take up the huge responsibility as the Web Administrator.
3. Dr. J. C. Kothari, senior member & Past President of Mumbai Branch as well as IAOH - India and internationally recognized stalwart in the field of Occupational Health has made a generous donation to Mumbai Branch of IAOH for promotion of Occupational Health. The proceeds of this ***“Dr. J. C. Kothari Endowment Fund for promotion of Occupational Health”*** would be utilized as per the objectives set in the guidelines of the fund.
4. IAOH has collaborated with PHFI, WEF, & HRIDAY for Promoting Smoke Free Workplace in India. Dr. Shyam Pingle was called to give a presentation in a conference which was held on 09.03.2009 at Mumbai in presence of then Union Health Minister.
5. The Indian Railways has recognized the IAOH and included it their list of recognized institutions and the doctors in Railways will get 90% reimbursement of membership fees.

6. IAOH collaborated with PHFI, OK International and other NGOs in organizing a workshop on Silica Hazards in 'Construction and Mining' at New Delhi on 11th & 12th December 2009.
7. The President was also invited in the All India Health & Safety meet of Department of Atomic Energy at Kolkata on 16th November 09.
8. President and other members participated in many National and International Conferences in India and abroad during the year and projected our association; International rural health Congress at Cartagena, Colombia being the notable one.
9. IAOH is collaborating with academic institutions for facilitating educational opportunities in occupational health, notable being collaboration with SRMC, Chennai & PHFI, New Delhi.
10. IAOH was first to come forward to participate in the Swine Flu campaign organized by the Municipal Corporation of Mumbai.

Our association has developed good rapport with the Central Labour Ministry, ILO, MEDICHEM, NIOH and other concerned bodies. Now IAOH has been recognized as a pioneering body on Occupational Health, Safety and Environment. Many IAOH members were invited as faculty members by the Central Labour Institute, National Safety Council, in-house industrial programs and worker education programs.

INDIAN JOURNAL OF OCCUPATIONAL & ENVIRONMENTAL MEDICINE: Indian journal of occupational & environmental medicine is now an internationally acclaimed journal and is available on the Web. The Journal committee under the able leadership of Dr G K Kulkarni has done a tremendous job of bringing out all the issues in time. For the sustenance of the Journal, lots of resources are required and the committee is putting forth its efforts to increase the corporate subscription. This could be achieved only with the active participation and encouragement by all the members.

I take this opportunity to inform you that the Indian Journal of Occupational & Environmental Medicine is now indexed with PubMed. One can search the articles published in IJOEM from 2008 onwards from PubMed. I thank and put on record our appreciation for the hard work done by Dr. G. K. Kulkarni and the IJOEM team.

FINANCE: Dr. J. Vijay Rao, Hon. Treasurer, has done a good job of managing the finance along with special support from Dr. G. V. Prabhu and Dr S V Datar. I thank both of them.

ACHIEVEMENTS BY OUR MEMBERS: Many members of this professional body have brought up our association with their distinguished achievements. Some of our members are occupying various positions at National and International scientific bodies. The list may become long but I take this opportunity to mention few of them.

- 1) Dr. S R Pingle has been elected as the Chairperson of the ICOH Scientific Committee on Occupational Health and Development.
- 2) Dr. T. Rajgopal continues as President of MEDICHEM.

- 3) Dr. S.M. Shanbhag continues as Board Member of MEDICHEM and also as the Vice President of the Asian Association of Occupational Health.
- 4) Dr. S. Sivaramakrishnan continues as National Secretary for India on ICOH.

Conclusion:

Let me conclude my report by thanking all members of the central council for their continuous support and guidance in rendering my activity as a general secretary. I am grateful and thankful to our National President, Dr. Shyam Pingle for inspiring and guiding me throughout the year. National Vice-Presidents Dr. Chaitanya Gulvady and Dr. M. V. Sreenivasan were a constant source of support and resource to me throughout the last year. I am thankful to Dr. Sidram Raut and Dr J. Vijay Raut for the excellent support. I am fortunate to have valuable guidance and support from past president Dr. S. M. Shanbhag, Dr G K Kulkarni, Dr Rajgopal, Dr Sivaramakrishnan, Dr. Sudha S. Ramchandran, Dr. KeshavaMurthy and other senior members. I am thankful to all the members for supporting me throughout the last two years.

I take this opportunity to thank my Organization, Sesa Goa Limited for extending infrastructure help and support during this tenure.

Dr. Sunil G. Kakodkar
Hon. General Secretary