



INDIAN  
INSTITUTES  
OF PUBLIC  
HEALTH

# THE PHFI-IIPHS ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



PUBLIC  
HEALTH  
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OF INDIA

## Alumni Corner

**Indian Institute of Public Health-  
Gandhinagar alumni – Dr. Paresh  
Surati has won medal at International  
Conference on Public Health at Colombo,  
Srilanka.**

The conference spanned over three days from the 11 to 13 August, 2015 at Colombo witnessing renowned professors and dignitaries from all over the world.

Currently Dr. Paresh Surati is working at Surat Municipal Corporation as North Zone Public Health Manager and he says **“It’s a proud moment for me to win a medal as Indian representative. Now India is developing their first public health university at Gandhinagar which is a first step towards success.”**



Dr. Dileep Mavlankar, Director IIPH-Gandhinagar met public health team during Water Borne Disease Conference at Surat, as a Chief Guest

## Training of ASHA given by Dr. Paresh Surati

As a part of Training of Trainers (TOT) initiative, Surat Municipal Corporation selected 14 doctors for providing ASHA training. Dr Paresh Surati was one of the selected trainers by Ministry of Health, Govt. of Gujarat, and was entrusted to provide training to two zones in Surat. Certificate for the training was awarded by Department of Health and Family Welfare.



## Mr. Neeladri Bora, Project Officer, UNDP

Neeladri Bora works with UNDP as a Project Officer (Operations). Prior to that, he worked as Hospital Administrator, NHM, Assam; Consultant, RMNCH+A, Columbia Global Centre-SA (affiliated to Columbia University); and Consultant, Public Health, Regional Resource Centre for NE states, ( a branch of National Health Systems Resource Centre, MoHFW, GOI). He also co-founded 'Northeast-Centre for Equity Action on Integrated Development'(NEAID), a not-for-profit organization working on Education and Poverty Alleviation with special focus on the Northeastern States of India. Their work got encouragement from the Hon'ble Governor of Assam. In the year 2015,

he got the opportunity to be one of the prestigious 'Acumen India Fellow'.

He graduated from IIPH-Delhi in 2013 in Post Graduate Diploma in Health Economics, Healthcare Financing and Policy (PGDHEP) and is very proud to be an alumni of one of the most reputed Public Health Institution in the country. As a development professional, Neeladri strongly believes that good health and quality education of children plays a very important role in building the Nation. He continues to contribute his bit in addressing the manifold challenges facing the North-East, India particularly in Health and Education.



Mr. Neeladri Bora interacting with rural community for the project



NEAID & FUEL Team with Hon'ble Governor of Assam

## Dr. Jalam Singh Rathore, Epidemiologist, Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP), Dept of Medical, Health & Family Welfare (Government of Rajasthan)

Dr Jalam Singh Rathore is alumni of PGDPHM (2010-11, IIPH-D). Till July 2015 he was working as District Epidemiologist in the office of Chief Medical & Health Officer, Alwar, and during that tenure he was appointed as coordinator for smoke free Alwar campaign. Although at that time Alwar was not a part of National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP), but through technical support from PSI they started a massive drive for enforcement of Control of Tobacco Products Act (COTPA 2003) for a month, which was further extended to another month, due to its success. As a part of this initiative, district level steering committee and task force (district and sub district level) was formed for enforcement in their jurisdiction areas. Dr. Jalam was a member of both district level steering committee and task force and was also assigned as coordinator for smoke free campaign. Trainings of district and block level officers were conducted, and legal and punitive action against people violating the campaign was decided. After completion of drive, in an Independent survey conducted by third party, Alwar was found eligible to be declared as smoke free district. The declaration was made by Honorable minister of Food and Supply Shri Hem Singh Ji Bhadana on independence day, at district level. Now Alwar has been included among NTCP districts and anti tobacco cell is taking care of programmatic activities.



Dr Jalam Singh Rathore with Honorable Minister Sh. Hem Singh Bhadana and other dignitaries

## Social Sunday initiative by IIPH-Gandhinagar Alumni

On Mothers Day, Social Sunday conducted Anaemia Detection cum Awareness Camp at Lilapur Village Ahmedabad District. This activity was jointly done by Social Sunday and Heart Foundation Ahmedabad. Resource person is Dr. Rajesh Mehta, founder of Human Health circle. About 40 adolescent girls and mothers took part in this camp which focussed on checking their anaemia status and providing knowledge to prevent anaemia through life style modifications. Social Sunday delivered lecture and provided a platform for one to one discussion about anaemia and associated health issues. IEC materials were also shared



Anaemia Detection cum Awareness Camp by Social Sunday

for creating awareness amongst the masses. The Social Sunday representatives also shared their contact numbers with participants to discuss any health problems and create awareness to deal with it appropriately.

## Dr. Kartavya Tiwari, MPH 1<sup>st</sup> Year Student, IIPH-D



Dr Kartavya Tiwari is a PGDPHM alumni of IIPH-D from 2014-15 batch and currently pursuing MPH from IIPH-Delhi. After completion of his PGDPHM program he joined Reliance Foundation for a short term assignment- JIO Health Application Implementation. The project was implemented at Mukundpur Block of Urban SBS Nagar District, Punjab, India, with support from Punjab Government. The project focussed on helping following deliverables:

1. Help digitalize patient records and provide tools to better administrate local healthcare facilities by implementation of professional health application.
2. Help the healthcare personnel in Primary Health Centres and Sub-centres adapt to technology based patient record systems.
3. Demonstrate risk stratification for non-communicable diseases like Hypertension, Oral Cancer, Diabetes, etc. and help in creating first building blocks for a digital platform for continuity of care throughout the healthcare lifecycle.

Towards the end of the project, there was an increased efficiency in healthcare delivery through better data analytics, realtime progress reports and targeted/focused health action plans. 27 tech savvy public health personnel were identified to be potential ambassadors for JIO software. Further the demographic and clinical data was digitized

Dr. Kartavya Tiwari mentioned this as a valuable experience which gave him exposure to public health in practice. Through this assignment he experienced the functioning and implementation

of CSR at the ground level. Focused group discussion, interview & developing questionnaire in a real time situation helped him gain practical exposure in community mapping, needs assessment, community mobilization and gain maximum output in minimum resources & overcoming various barriers at different stages (Demography, Infrastructure, etc.), ultimately reaching the goal & creating a seamless impact.

## Dr. Jitendra Nirmali, PGDPHM Alumni, IIPH-D

Dr Jitendra Nirmali, a PGDPHM alumni from IIPH- Delhi from the batch 2014-15, attended 21st International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2016), Durban, South Africa (16-22 July 2016). He presented a paper titled ***“Peer counselling to improve PLHIV access and adherence to care and treatment: Experience from the Vihaan programme in India.”***

**Authors:** Jitendra Kumar Nirmali, Viswanathan A., Nandini Mazumder, Huidrom Rosenara, Sonal Mehta, James Robertson



## Dr. Kabak Tamar, PGDPHM alumni, IIPH-Delhi

Dr. Kabak Tamar, a Government nominated candidate from PGDPHM for the batch 2014-15, facilitated the activities related to Public Health Cadre Development in the state of Arunachal Pradesh. A symposium of Health System Improvement of Arunachal Pradesh was organised on 20th September 2016 at Itanagar. Dr Subash Salukhe-

Sr. Advisor, PHFI, presented a talk on Developing Public Health Cadre in Arunachal Pradesh. The Chief Minister acknowledged the need for strengthening health systems and development of public health cadre in Arunachal Pradesh. The members of local chapter of IPHA also attended the symposium.



Dr. Subhash Salukhe, with Hon. Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh- Mr Pema Khandu



Dr. Kabak Tamar with Hon. Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh

## Alumni Speak (Dr. Gurdeep Chauhan, PGDPHM alumni, IIPH-Delhi)

Dr Gurdeep Chauhan is currently in her final year of MDS (Prosthodontics, Crown & Bridge & Implantology) at Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Bangalore. She says – I have utilized good amount of research methodology knowledge I gained at PHFI. In fact, I did a systematic review in **“Laser Sintering in Prosthodontics”** for my library dissertation. I am frequently consulted by my colleagues on developing research questions and questionnaires. I also have participated in numerous **“Denture camps”** where we fabricate and deliver free dentures to the under privileged community. My college also works in conjunction with the **“Dant Bhagya Scheme”** where we fabricate and deliver free dentures to senior citizens with complete tooth loss belonging to BPL families. I also have presented a number of papers and posters at various conferences and my presentation skills have been appreciated. I guess I learnt a lot of this during the group activities we had during the course of Public Health Management. I want to thank you all at PHFI for inculcating such good quality of values and knowledge in me. I am proud to be an alumni of PHFI!

## Student Corner (Mr. Sunit Madhur, MPH 2nd Year student, IIPH-Gandhinagar)

As a part of my internship at Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital I worked on two projects. My first project was to prepare a plan for enhancing Hospital Management Information System (HMIS) at Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital. Under this project I undertook four detailed steps and helped hospital undertake a step-by-step approach of enhancing its information management software. These steps included reviewing the existing system, defining data needs, determining data flow, and identifying the vendor. Each of these steps had worksheets and formats that I prepared or adopted from various other sources. I was part of the vendor presentations and meetings and evaluated vendor's products during their online and on-site demos to the hospital decision makers.

My second project was to prepare a plan to ensure quality of care in the hospital using cost-recovery process. Under this project, I conducted a patient survey to understand patient satisfaction level and in-depth interviews to understand the motivation and satisfaction among KNMH staff members. With the active help and involvement of the hospital management we identified a quality goal for the hospital that is to improve patient satisfaction through reduced cost of medicines, better organization of front services, and improved nursing practices. For this project I used kaizen approach to find out continuous, incremental improvements to achieve above mentioned quality goal.

I was lucky enough both ways that Kamala Nehru Memorial Hospital, Allahabad (KNMH Allahabad) provided me with such an opportunity to learn and grow into a more mature professional with



Mr. Sunit Madhur with Senior Staff from KNMH

an understanding of how issues work at the field. My two months at KNMH Allahabad were great right from gaining perspective to apply class-room teachings.

KNMH stands tall in the fields of public health and providing affordable quality of care to the poor patients of the country.

My sincere gratitude to every single individual and 2nd year nursing students in the KNMH who helped me carrying out my internship and research work. Their decades of experience and association with the hospital was helpful in understanding the processes and systems of the hospital. The patients of KNMH also played a vital role in the project, who were willing to talk to me and our field-investigators during our survey and many rounds of unstructured interviews.

This post would be incomplete without the mention of my mentor Dr. Kavitha Menon and guide Dr. Somen Saha at IIPHG who were always there with their insights and workable suggestions. Their guidance saved me from many temptations and helped me remain focused.

Looking forward to joining our next semester at IIPHG.

## Mr. Sharanraj Krishnan, MPH 2<sup>nd</sup> Year student, IIPH-Gandhinagar

Fortune Institute of International Business conducted a case study writing competition-KATASTASI 2016 which was held in their Vasant Vihar- New Delhi campus on 13th August 2016. The competition invited case study reports from internship nationally, out of which top 10 were selected. Mr. Sharanraj Krishnan, MPH 1st batch scholar from Indian Institute of Public Health- Gandhinagar presented his case study and secured the 1st prize in the competition. The winner got prize money of 30000INR and the case study was selected for publishing in the annual review of FIIB. The case study submitted by Sharanraj Krishnan was pertaining to the internship at SATHI-Pune, and was regarding the utilization of Rogi Kalyan samiti funds in 28 health facilities of rural Maharashtra.



Mr. Sharanraj Krishnan receiving the prize at FIIB



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