BOOK OF ABSTRACTS











30th Swadeshi Science Congress

>> 25-27 May 2023 \rightarrow

National Conference on Holistic Approach for a Sustainable Lifestyle
Perspectives from Indian Knowledge System at NIT - Calicut





Organized by:
Swadeshi Science Movement-Kerala
in association with
National Institute of Technology (NIT), Calicut

Supported by: Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Govt. of India

Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Govt. of India

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Focal Theme

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May 2023

14.00	At SOM Lecture Hall: SATYENDRA NATH BOSE HALL
	Special session on 'Co-Creating Sustainable Technological Solutions
	for Small-Scale Fisheries: An Interdisciplinary Approach'
18.15	At SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AUDITORIUM
	Swatantrata ka Amrit Mahotsav (SWAM) – Special Session on
	celebration of 75 th years of Indian Independence by Vijnana Bharati
19.00	At SWAMI VIVEKANANDA AUDITORIUM
	Heartfulness Meditation – Special Session
20.00	Millet-Dinner to commemorate International Year of Millets
26 May	2023
9.00	At SOM Lecture Hall: JANAKI AMMAL HALL
	Session 2: Engineering and Technology
	Invited Lecture:
	Dr. K.P. Sudheer, Head, Department of Agricultural Engineering,
	College of Agriculture, KAU, Thrissur
	Oral Presentations: 14 Nos.
09.00	At SOM Lecture Hall: SATYENDRA NATH BOSE HALL
	Session 3: Agriculture and Botany
	Invited Lecture:
	Dr. T.P. Sethumadhavan, The University of Trans-Disciplinary Health
	Science & Technology, Bengaluru
	Oral Presentations: 33 Nos.
9.00	At SOM Lecture Hall: SALIM ALI HALL
	Session 4: Veterinary and Animal Sciences
	Invited Lecture:
	Invited Lecture: Dr. N.H. Mohan, Principal Scientist, ICAR-NRC on Pig, Guwahati
	Oral Presentations: 35 Nos.
9.00	At SOM Lecture Hall: Dr. PALPU HALL
	Session 5: Health Sciences
	Invited Lecture: Dr. Balagopal Unni, Director, Academic & Research, GEMS Arts &
	Science College, Ramapuram, Malappuram Science College, Ramapuram, Professor & Head, Department of
	Science College, Ramapuram, Malappuram Dr. Remya Krishnan, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Dr. Remya Krishnan, Associate Avuryeda Medical College, Mahe
	Dr. Remya Krishnan, Associate Professor & Tread, Mahe Dravyaguna, Rajiv Gandhi Ayurveda Medical College, Mahe Dravyaguna, Rajiv Gandhi Ayurveda Medical College, SCTIMST,
	Dravyaguna, Rajiv Gandhi Ayurveda Medical College, Dr. P.V. Mohanan, Head, Department of Applied Biology, SCTIMST,
	Dr. P.V. Monanthanuram
	Thiruvananthapuram Oral Presentations: 15 Nos.
	Oral Presentations, 20 115

HSS/PL/01

Effect of Environmental Pollutants on Human Health: Case Studies

Balagopalan Unni

Director Academic & Research, GEMS Arts & Science College, Ramapuram, Malappuram - 679 321

Occupational and environmental exposures to persistent environmental contaminants, particularly heavy metal emissions are increasingly associated with health risks. Exposure occurs mainly through respiratory and gastrointestinal systems and thus gets ingested and absorbed in the body resulting in serious health problems. About 3500-4000 individuals were covered through survey and consequent filling up of health questionnaires in three industrial study sites viz. oil drilling site, paper and pulp mill site and open-cast coal mine site. Air, water and vegetable samples were collected during the survey from these three sites and control area. Among all the three sites, the coal mine site was found to be most polluted with the highest amount of suspended particulate matter, NO_2 and SO_2 levels. The analysis of vegetables/food samples from these sites showed the presence of toxic contaminants and very low levels of nutritional parameters. The mineral analysis of water samples from these sites have shown high amounts of manganese, lead, arsenic, cadmium and lead. During the survey, interactions with each individual were done through a health questionnaire and all the disease symptoms were recorded and finally blood samples were collected through health camps and studied for biochemical parameters, kidney, liver profiles and hemoglobin content. For lung function, spirometry was done and tested for forced expiratory volume in one second (FEV₁), forced vital capacity (FVC) and FEV₁/FVC. Arsenic contamination was detected in most of the water samples near the paper mill. The major predominant diseases observed were respiratory disorders at the site of the coal mine, neurological disorders at the site of the paper mill, and liver abnormalities at the oil drilling sites. High levels of mercury were found in the blood and food samples collected near the paper mill. Experiments were also conducted to evaluate the coal dust "exposure-response" relationship amongst the people residing very near to the open cast coal mine area and trace out the genetic susceptibility to Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) with respect to GSTM1 and GSTT1 genes in the population. The impact of potentially injurious environment and other factors on human health are discussed.