

CENTRAL COUNCIL FOR RESEARCH IN HOMOEOPATHY

MEDIA RELEASE

Scientific Convention on World Homoeopathy Day

10th April 2018

A two-day convention was organised in New Delhi by Central Council for Research in Homeopathy (CCRH), an autonomous research organization of Ministry of AYUSH on the occasion of World Homoeopathy Day, on 10-11th April 2018. This day is observed to commemorate the birth anniversary of the founder of Homoeopathy, Dr. Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann. CCRH had organised this scientific convention on the World Homoeopathy Day to pay tribute to Dr. Hahnemann, on his 263rd birth anniversary. Since this year also marks 40 years of establishment of CCRH, the theme of this convention was "Innovate: Evolve; Progress: Exploring Science for 40 years".

The Hon'ble Vice-President of India Shri. M. Venkaiah Naidu, inaugurated the two-day convention today and Minister of State (IC) for Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH), Shri Shripad Naik presided over. Dr. Manoj Rajoria, Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha and Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha, Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH were the Guests of Honour. The convention was attended by more than 1500 delegates which included homoeopathic researchers, scientists from allied sciences, practitioners, students, industrialists as well as representatives of various homoeopathic associations.

While addressing the delegates, Sh. Naidu called on to the homoeopathy professionals and scientists to undertake more research in this field of medical science which is widely used as a system of healing in the world and is one of the most popular treatment methods in India. Sh. Naidu also urged the scientists working in this profession to undertake innovative and exploratory research in Homoeopathy and hailed the scientists of CCRH who are working in collaboration with IIT Bombay scientists on a new way of potentiation of homoeopathic drugs that ensures quality and right source of original substances of drugs as well as methodically puts to rest the ambiguity related to presence of these original substances in high dilutions of homoeopathic medicines. He urged the

researchers to take this work further to bring more credibility to homoeopathy, thereby taking it to a new high.

Hon'ble Minister Sh. Naik, while extending his wishes to the delegates on the occasion of World Homoeopathy Day, recalled the great man that Hahnemann was and how his scientific aptitude helped him to discover a healing system based on infallible laws of nature. He further congratulated the council for its 40 years of research commitments in the field of Homoeopathy by working on infectious and other nationally significant diseases like acute encephalitis syndrome, mother and child health problems, dengue, chikungunya etc. He assured the full support of his Ministry in supporting the council in undertaking high quality research and helping to develop Big data on homoeopathy which is required to validate this ancient wisdom. He commended Council for linking research with education by signing MoUs with academic institutes with the aim to orient postgraduate students and faculty to research. He said that homoeopathic colleges should ensure their infrastructure supports research in homoeopathy.

The Secretary AYUSH, while welcoming all to the scientific convention, emphasised the Ministry's efforts to bridge the gap between science and tradition through researches in the field of AYUSH. He also extended greetings on the occasion of World Homoeopathy Day. He mentioned that the quality publications of CCRH have brought Indian homoeopaths to the forefront of research and the book on 'Standard Treatment Guidelines' released today is a result of years of effort put forth by scientists and clinicians on 20 important diseases. He hoped that the book would prove as a ready reckoner for the profession in clinical practice.

Dr. Manoj Rajoria, MP, remembered in gratitude the founder of Homoeopathy, Dr. Samuel Hahnemann and quoted the testimony of tall public figures like Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore in ardent support of Homoeopathy. He emphasised that the growth and spread of Homoeopathy by leaps and bounds in India lies in the inherent quality of it being a science of gentle healing. He said that Homoeopathy is time and again proving its effectiveness in the times of antibiotic resistance, raging epidemics and in emerging public health issues as a standalone or adjuvant therapy. He further mentioned

that the curriculum for homoeopathic education in India needs to be revisited in light of the needs of the science in today's time.

Dr. Raj K. Manchanda, Director General, CCRH, extended vote of thanks to the dignitaries and hoped the convention would pave way to enhanced quality research in Homoeopathy.

The releases by the Vice President during the inaugural session included 02 of Council's publications- the 'Souvenir of Convention' which is both a compendium of abstracts of the talks of the speakers and a reflection of the Council's journey of 40 years since inception. 'Standard Treatment Guidelines' which has been developed by CCRH based on expert consensus, data from national and international research studies and is a stepping stone towards better homoeopathic treatment was the other release.

Sh. Naidu also conferred awards bestowed by CCRH to incentivise the contributors in the field of Homoeopathy research. The Life time Achievement award was conferred to Prof. Jayesh R. Bellare, Institute Chair Professor at IIT Bombay who has done pathbreaking research on the action of homoeopathic remedies in the realm of Nanotechnology. The Best Teacher award was presented to Prof.(Dr.) Niranjan Mohanty who is the former Principal of Abhin Chandra Homoeopathic Medical College, Odisha with over 40 years of active teaching service. The Young Scientist awardees were Dr. Varanasi Roja, Scientist-2, CCRH who has contributed significantly to clinical research in Homoeopathy and Dr. P.S Chikramane of IIT, Mumbai who has extensively studied the biological effects of nanoparticles. Best Research Paper Awards were conferred to Dr. Papiya Nandy, Emeritus Professor Jadhavpur University, Dr.Satadal Das, Professor and Head Department of Pathology and microbiology, D.N De Medical College & Hospitals (West Bengal) and to Dr. Rajesh Shah, acclaimed physician and researcher.

Many reputed scientists and veterans of Homoeopathy were speakers at the event, which included Padmashri Dr. V. K. Gupta, Dr. Jayesh Bellare, Professor at IIT Mumbai, Dr. Menachem Oberbaum, Head of Department of Shaare Zedek Medical Centre, Jerusalem with whom Government of India has recently signed an MOU. Scientists from allied sciences also presented their findings related to studies on Homoeopathy like Prof. Shailendra Saxena, KGMU, Lucknow, Dr. Upma Bagai, and Dr.Sukhbir Kaur, Professors

of Panjab University from Department of Zoology and Dr.Kalai Selvi, University of Madras to name a few.

Council's research activities of last 40 years have yielded reassuring results and carved out a future roadmap for the scientists working in the field of Homoeopathy. These will be showcased in an exclusive Exhibition to the delegates during the convention. 168 clinical researches, 40 basic researches, standardization studies of 348 drugs, proving of 112 drugs and clinical verification of 106 drugs have so far been accomplished by Council in the last 40 years. Further, Memoranda of Understanding with Homoeopathy Institutes in 10 different countries have been signed. 55 research proposals sanctioned under Extra-Mural Research Scheme were technically monitored. Studies on 5 epidemic diseases, namely dengue, malaria, chikungunya, influenza-like illness and Acute Encephalitis Syndrome (AES) have been undertaken, and new studies in these diseases, as well as in other epidemic diseases are planned. Council has also initiated the Short Term Studentship in Homoeopathy (STSH) Program with the vision to inculcate research aptitude among homeopathic undergraduates, under which 52 students have been awarded scholarships.

In a separate session on 'Strengthening Research Infrastructure' with Minister of AYUSH as chief guest and Secretary AYUSH and other state Health Ministers as Guest(s) of Honour, Council has signed MoUs with about 20 interested PG and a few UG Homoeopathic Colleges. Awards were also distributed to the Short Term Studentship in Homoeopathy Scheme (STSH) undergraduate Students. CCRH publications like 'Study of Homoeopathic Medicines through Clinical Verification – Volume 4 , Homoeopathic Drug Proving Volume -6 were also released by the Minister.

On the occasion of CCRH completing 40 years a 'Webinar series' was released in association with Mind Technologies Pvt. Ltd. These webinars will provide excellent opportunity of learning to practitioners, faculty, undergraduate and postgraduate students/interns, PhD Scholars and researchers. A Mobile App for the convention , 'WHD CCRH App' was launched as a first of its kind initiative to make this convention a global event.

CCRH has been embracing the advances in science since inception and this convention is planned to share these advances with all belonging to the profession like practitioners, scientists, teachers, students, professional associations and drug manufacturers. The topics covered in the convention were Applied Clinical Research, Standard treatment guidelines for various diseases based on Council's research outcomes, Potentization revisited, Pharmacological and biological evidences, Drug standardisation and regulations and experimental basic research. Break away panel discussions were held on Global Issues on Homoeopathy, Medical Pluralism-Homoeopathy under the ambit of National Health Policy and in National AYUSH Mission. Opportunities were also given to STSH scholars for poster and convention presentation .

The convention concluded with a valedictory session where the proceedings of two days were summarised and feedbacks from delegates were taken by the organisers. The delegates at the convention expressed delight on the fact that efforts are being taken to bridge the gap between practice and research in Homoeopathy, and hoped CCRH organises more such conventions for sensitisation of clinicians to homoeopathic research.

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