

OZONE DAY AND WORLD ENVIRONMENT HEALTH DAY CELEBRATION

September 25,2017



A workshop cum exhibition was organized by Amity Institute of Environmental Toxicology, Safety & Management (AIETSM) and Amity Institute of Environmental Sciences (AIES) on the occasion of International Ozone Day and Environment Health Day on September 25, 2017 in Amity University Noida.

Prof. Tanu Jindal, Director

AIETSM & AIES, Amity University, Noida

International Day for the Preservation of Ozone layer was designated by United Nations UN General Assembly on September 16. The world ozone layer day commemorates the date of the signing of the **Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer in 1987**. The Montreal Protocol is an international agreement to diminish the ozone destroying chemical. The day is being observed from 1995 every year on September 16. This year 2017 is marked as the 30th anniversary of Montreal Protocol. The theme for the year 2017 is '**Caring for all life under the sun**'. The way to stop the formation, growth amend spread of ozone thinning is to reduce the production of chemicals that cause the destruction of ozone, namely CFC's and nitrogen oxides.

World Environmental Health Day (WEHD) is celebrated every year on September 26. The theme for the year 2017 is 'indoor & outdoor air quality'. WHO states that poor quality air affects more than 80% of the world's population. All people must be encouraged to make a real effort this year to promote WEHD as we anticipate that the health impact of poor air quality will now escalate year by year. The day is important in view of pressing environmental health problems and aims to improve the lives of the most vulnerable populations around the world.

Addressing the occasion, Prof. Jindal told that **World Ozone Day** commemorates the date of the signing of **Montreal Protocol on Substances that deplete the ozone layer** in 1987. She further added that this year marks the 30th anniversary of Montreal Protocol and the theme is "Caring for all life under the sun". Prof. Jindal started with discussing about the ozone layer, its discovery and reasons causing

depletion of this depletion. She emphasized on the eco-toxicological impacts and health impacts of ozone layer depletion. She then focused on the importance of celebrating World Health Day she highlighted that according to WHO report more than 80% of the world's population is being affected by the poor quality of air and 11 of the common air pollutants are in higher concentration indoor than the outdoor. Dr. Jindal also apprised about some important indoor air pollutants and problems associated with them. She also welcomed all the dignitaries present on the occasion.

**Dr. S.V Eshwaran, Emeritus Scientist,
UNESCO funded Regional Center for Biotechnology**

He mentioned about **Paris Agreement** which was adopted on December 2015 to address climate change problem. He further told that in this agreement all countries decided to limit their carbon emissions to keep global temperature rise in control. He also apprised about **UN Sustainable Development goals** and advised the students to understand these goals. He also told that it is important to learn from the nature rather degrading it.

**Prof. R. Bhaskar, Professor,
Department of Environmental Science & Engg.,
Guru Jambheshwar Univ. of Sc. & Tech., Hissar**

Prof. Bhaskar pointed out that humans have been trying to change the chemistry of the atmosphere on global level creating numerous environmental threats like ozone depletion, acid rain and climate change. He stressed on the fact that the ozone layer can be repaired in few couple of years but contribution from everyone is needed. He further added that the increasing complexity of the environmental problems requires scientific awareness, assessment and monitoring. He suggested that public awareness, participation and government can together bring out the desired change.

**Dr. Sushmitha Bhaskar, Assistant Professor,
Environmental Studies, IGNOU**

She discussed about the case studies on ozone depletion and its health impacts. She stressed on arsenic pollution in various states of India caused due to natural as well as anthropogenic activities. She also mentioned about the chromium pollution because of Kanpur tanneries.

**Prof. A.L. Aggarwal
Emeritus Professor, Amity University, Noida**

Prof. Aggarwal talked about urban air pollution with case studies of Delhi. He also stressed upon the capital's air quality condition during Deepawali. He discussed about the sources of air pollution and its mitigation measures. He focused on PM2.5 and PM10 data in Delhi during 2013-15. Prof. Aggarwal suggested further action plan for combating air pollution problem.

Dr. S.P. Singh

Talking about the importance of the Ozone day and Environment health day he said CFCs are the main reason behind the depletion of ozone layer and many developed countries have put a ban on the use of

these CFCs as a result of which we have seen that the ozone layer damage is being repaired in the last couple of years. Dr. Singh suggested that students should become environmental leader of their respective societies or area and make people aware about environmental aspects and safeguarding it.

Prof. Sunil Saran

Dr. Saran emphasized on ozone layer and the adverse effects that its depletion is causing.

CMS Vatavaran

Mr. Anand Jha gave introduction about CMS Vatavaran and showcased an animated movie "**Ozzy-e**" on Ozone layer depletion and how every individual can contribute in preventing its damage and restoring it in its original form. Another video titled "**Kavadi-Story of Dying River**" was also presented on the condition of Rivers in India due to human activities.

Dr. Richa Dave (Assistant Professor, AIES) delivered welcome note and Dr Ambrina Sardar Khan (Assistant Professor, AIES) gave vote of thanks at the event.

Exhibition

On the occasion, students of Amity Institute of Environmental Sciences participated in Photo Exhibition on "**Importance of Environmental protection through Ozone and also concerns for safety of Environment and Public Health.**" theme. The students presented their posters and photographs on the occasion.

