

**Press Release**

The international "Vision Zero" conference has been conducted in Chennai on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> October 2018 in Hotel LeRoyal Meridien, Chennai, with a vision to have a world without occupational accidents and work-related diseases.

This conference has been organised by the Government of Tamilnadu in association with the DGUV, Germany and supported by the International Social Security association (ISSA).

The DGUV (German Social Accident Insurance) is an association associated with the accident insurance institutions for the industrial and public sectors in Germany.

DGUV is having an MOU with DGFASLI, Government of India for conducting safety conferences in India, based on which, the Indo German Focal Point in India, is organising various international symposiums and conferences in India under the topic "Vision Zero at workplace in India" with the involvement of the DGFASLI, Government of India.

The Government of Tamilnadu have taken this initiative to conduct this international symposium in Chennai, with an aim to achieve Zero occupational accidents in factories, construction and mining sector with special focus on construction safety.

The program was inaugurated by the Honourable Minister for Labour, Dr.Nilofer Kafeel, by lighting the Kuthuivilakku and delivering the inaugural address. She also explained about various labour welfare measures taken by the Government of Tamilnadu especially for the welfare of the Construction workers.

The Director of Industrial Safety and Health Thiru.K.Manoharan, delivered the welcome address. Dr. Avneesh Singh, Director General DGFASLI, delivered the key note address.

Prof H.C.Karl Heinz Noetel from Germany, president of International Social security association construction gave a brief introduction about this conference.

Thiru.Bimal Kanti Sahu, Director of Indo-German Focal point India delivered the vote of thanks.

Safety souvenir was released by theHonourable Minister for Labour, The Principal Secretary to Government Labour and Employment, Government of TamilNadu and the Director of Industrial Safety and Health, Government of Tamilnadu.

Thiru.Timotheus Felder-Roussety, Embassy of Germany, counselor, Head of social and labour affairs, vocational education and training Germany, gave the presidential speech.

The Principal Secretary to Government Labour and Employment, Government of TamilNadu, Thiru.Sunil Paliwall will address the delegates in the concluding session of this conference.

In this conference, Dr. Avneesh Singh, Director General DGFASLI, Thiru. R.K.Elangovan,Deputy Director General, DGFASLI, Thiru. P.Pramod, Director, Department of Factories and Boilers, Government of Kerala, Prof H.C.Karl Heinz Noetel from Germany, president of International Social security association construction, Thiru.Bimal Kanti Sahu, Director of Indo-German Focal point India, eminent speakers from various departments of the Government of India, and experts in the field of occupational safety from Germany addressed the delegates and shared their experiences and best practices followed worldwide, in the field of occupational safety in construction, factories and mining sector.

Safety Experts from DGUV, ISSA, BG-BAU, Germany, Higher Officials from Government of India and Government of Tamilnadu, Chief Inspectors of Factories from Kerala and Odisha and other officials and safety experts participated in this conference.

Safety officers and Professionals involved in occupational safety and health in factories, construction and mining were benefitted by this conference.

**Around 140 delegates from construction sector, 75 delegates from factories, 25 delegates from mining sector and officials from Government of India and Government of Tamilnadu and a total of around 300 delegates participated in this conference.**

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