

For immediate release

First Medical Stakeholders' Training for Management of Heat-related illnesses organized in Delhi

Delhi, 11th May 2019: Integrated Research and Action for Development (IRADe), in collaboration with New Delhi Municipal Corporation (NDMC) and Indian Institute of Public Health, Gandhinagar (IIPH G), organized a half-day medical stakeholders training workshop at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi on 11th May 2019.

The objective of this training was to enhance capacities of medical officers in Delhi for better management of heat related illnesses and orient Delhi healthcare professionals for Heat Stress Action Plan of the city.

More than **50 doctors and medical professionals** of NDMC participated in the first-of-its-kind training for medical community in Delhi. The discussions also focused on **heat waves and interpretation of heat alerts, diagnosis and treatment protocol for heat exhaustion & heat stroke, and overall preparedness for prevention and management of heat stress during heat wave days.**

The workshop was inaugurated by Ms Meera Shankar, Member Governing Council, IRADe. In her keynote address she said, "Climate Action is need of the hour for the cities and these actions are required for building city resilience."

Dr. Kirti Nanal, Director, Medical Services, NDMC stated, *"Climate Change is a reality and we are happy to collaborate with IRADe to enhance preparedness of doctors and hospitals on diagnosis and management heat stress."*

Prof Jyoti Parikh, Executive Director, IRADe said *"Health risks due to heat will grow with climate change and medical community must get prepared for this rising hazard. It becomes imperative to address the issue, and avoid or minimize the associated risks. The training workshop marks a new beginning of climate action in India."*

Dr. Alpana Raizada, Associate Professor, Department of Medicine, University College of Medical Sciences, Delhi, stated *"Education is the single most important tool for the prevention of heat stroke. Moreover, it is important for medical professionals to quickly diagnose heat stress in patients through symptoms, including hyperthermia which does not respond to antipyretics, dry armpit, gross urine output, moistness of the tongue and skin color."*

Mr. Magotra, PI for the project thanked NDMC on facilitating organizing this workshop. *"This workshop is timely given that summer season has begun and temperature is crossing 40 degrees already."*

Dr. Bakshi presented the vote of thanks, and certificates were distributed to the participants.

This training workshop is part of IRADe's on-going research study supported by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada to develop Climate Adaptive Action Plans for managing Heat Stress in Delhi city.

About the project

Climate Adaptive Action Plans to manage heat stress in Indian Cities

The main objective of the project is to improve the management of heat stress risks in India by developing spatially differentiated and gender sensitive Heat Stress Action Plans (HSAPs) in Delhi, Bhubaneswar and Rajkot. HSAPs developed through the initiative will serve to support India's medium term development planning, especially in prioritizing and integrating adaptive resilience within the agenda of climate resilient smart cities. The project is implemented by IRADe in partnership with partnering cities' Urban Local Bodies (Bhubaneswar, Rajkot), IIPH (G) & IIPH (B) and funded by International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Canada.

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About IRADe

IRADe is an independent advanced research institute which aims to conduct research and policy analysis to engage stakeholders such as government, non-governmental organizations, corporations, academic and financial institutions. The organization conducts multi-disciplinary and multi-stakeholder policy and technical research & analysis in the domains of energy, climate change, urban development, poverty, gender equity, agriculture, and food security in Asia.

Being Asia Centre for Sustainable Development, it has been carrying out policy research and its implementation for enabling socio-economic growth and charting pathways for sustainable development in South-Asia. IRADe Centre of Excellence of the Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD) for urban development and climate change. In addition, it provides expertise to other ministries, national and international institutions and partners with other reputed organizations.

For more details please visit www.irade.org

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