

INDIAN HEAD INJURY FOUNDATION

Newsletter (Jan-Jun 2017)



*CHAIRMAN IHIF & MAHARANI HEMLATA RAJYE AT THE
IHIF REHAB CENTRE IN JODHPUR*

Dear Trustees, Supporters, Friends & Well Wishers of IHIF,

With your valuable support and good wishes, IHIF rapidly marches on towards its laid out objectives. The beginning of 2017 started with a bang and the Foundation immersed itself into the “Road Safety and Head Injury Prevention Campaign” supported by ICICI Lombard, HT Parekh Foundation and Citi Group. We conducted awareness programmes for 3550 children and 860 parents from different Government Schools in Karol Bagh Zone. To make them value their lives, we gave the participating children an ISI approved high quality helmet to use while riding as pillion on two wheelers. With the support of ICICI Lombard, we were able to distribute 2500 helmets to the children, and to commemorate the culmination of this Campaign, we helped ICICI Lombard in conducting a two wheeler rally on 08 May 2017. Mr. Nitin Gadkari, Minister for Road Transport and Highways graciously flagged off this rally and 3000 kids and parents attended the programme at the Talkatora Stadium.

I am happy to inform you that IHIF has recently become a life member of the newly formed Indian Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety. It is a platform where all Stakeholding NGOs, will come together to synergise efforts and bring about a substantial change in the attitude of our society. I am proud to inform you that Dr. Chitra our Senior Executive received a full sponsorship from Global Alliance of NGOs for Road Safety to attend its 5 days annual event at Kuala Lumpur in April 2017. This was against stiff competition from aspirants from over 50 countries.

Our Rehab Centres in Delhi and Jodhpur are rapidly growing by the day with increasing number of patients handled and we have many success stories to our credit. We recently conducted a mini seminar on new techniques in Rehabilitation with specialists from Canada and the UK. Also, we have been active in donating wheelchairs and other rehab aids to the needy and there are some case studies in other parts of this newsletter. Before I end, I wish to share with our esteemed readers a very encouraging and inspiring feedback from one of our rehab patients at the Delhi Centre. These words of support and encouragement boost us to keep the ball rolling and achieve greater heights.

The extract of the letter from Mr. B. N. Singh, Member of Parliament is as follows:

“Since time immemorial, our culture is teaching us benevolence and humanity. But in this age of modernity these values are fading fast. You and your organization are working as the savior of these values. I got a new lease of life under the worthy supervision of well known Neuro Surgeon, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Medical Director of IHIF. I sense that Dr. Prasad is as good a human being as a good medico.

I am regularly visiting the Indian Head Injury Foundation Rehab Centre and I must register my praise for your Foundation. The atmosphere of the organization is very good and the behavior meted out to me has deeply touched me and I am deeply touched by your endeavor towards human welfare.”

On behalf of our Chairman, Maharaja Gaj Singhji of Jodhpur, I take this opportunity to wish you all the best of health and happiness. Please take good care of yourselves and observe all safety rules on our Roads.

Commodore Ranbir Talwar
Executive Director



THE IHIF FAMILY

National Road Safety Walk

As a regular annual feature, the IHIF participated in full strength in the National Road Safety Walk organized by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. It was inaugurated by the Home Minister Mr. Rajnath Singh and Shri Nitin Gadkari at India Gate on 09 January 2017. A large number of dignitaries including ace cricketer Mr. Gautam Gambhir were present on the occasion.



NDTV Road Safety Conclave

IHIF participated in the Road Safety Conclave sponsored by DIAGEO on 11 January 2017 at the Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi. A healthy discussion took place between various speakers from different NGOs and organizations working in the field of road safety. Mr. Nitin Gadkari also presented his view and plans towards safety on the roads and highways. He reiterated his commitment to work towards a 50% reduction in the Road Accident mortality rate in India by 2020 and stated that the Government needs the support of NGOs to achieve this Mission.



Geriatric Awareness Camp

IHIF organized a Safety Camp for Geriatrics on 17 January in Lajpat Nagar II Community Centre. It was attended by 57 seniors and after individual screening, 26 adults were identified with various problems which were hindering their day to day activities and also making them vulnerable to falls. These patients have been requested to visit the IHIF Centre and undertake the required exercises and treatment. We are now planning these activities on a regular basis in various outlying areas of Delhi and NCR.



OT Specialist from Canada visits IHIF



Dr. Christine Lefavre, Senior Occupational Therapist, and President of Rainbow Rehabilitation from University of British Columbia, Canada and Ms. Wendy Bodsworth Special Educator, visited IHIF Delhi & Jodhpur Rehab Centres from 08 Feb to 11 Feb 2017. During a number of sessions organized and funded by IHIF, they shared various new techniques, methodologies and experiences with IHIF Members, students from Jamia Hamard University and Members of Rajdadisa Hospital & Marwar Chapter of Physiotherapy, Jodhpur. They held consultations with many of our head injury patients, interacted with caregivers and gave valuable rehab guidelines to Therapists and those involved in Home Rehab of Head and Spinal Injury victims. The various participants were also exposed to "RAINBOW Therapy" on Traumatic Brain Injury". A few of our members were identified to continue contact with the Visitors and give a feedback on the use of Rainbow Therapy and benefits if any.



Christine Lefavre expressed happiness at seeing the inspiration and dedication of the IHIF Rehab Team in Jodhpur & Delhi. Her advice for our Patients will be available on an as required basis.

Young India Summit On Road Safety

The Indian Head Injury Foundation participated in the First Young India Summit on Road Safety organized by the Delhi School of Economics, Department of Commerce and DIAGEO on 26 March 2017 at Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute, New Delhi. It was largely attended by young students of Delhi University and a number of experts on Road Safety. The focus was on preventing Drinking and Driving. Commodore Ranbir Talwar on behalf of IHIF was one of the Panelists. The proceedings were recorded by NDTV and subsequently shown on all NDTV Hindi and English Channels. Cmde Talwar during the panel discussion emphasized that neither NGOs nor the Government could alone work towards reduction of road accidents. It had to be done together by all Stakeholders.



Assistive Technologies in Neuro Rehabilitation

The Indian Head Injury Foundation organized a "Symposium on Assistive Technologies (AT) in Neuro Rehabilitation" on 21 March, 2017 at the IHIF Delhi Rehab Centre. Renowned speakers from various Agencies and Clinicians in the field attended and participated. The theme was to find ways to improve access of underprivileged patients living in remote areas, to Assistive Technologies for neuro rehabilitation. Assistive Technology (AT) could imply an equipment, a programme or a software which is used to increase, maintain or improve the functional capabilities of persons with neurological disabilities.

Use of this technology could help improve mobility, speech, learning, communication, vision, hearing and improve functions of daily living in such patients. Speakers included: Prof. Luc De Witte from Sheffield University, UK, Dr. Patanjali Nayyar, Regional Adviser to WHO, Dr. Neeraj Sharma, Scientist and Head of Technology Group, Ministry of Science and Technology, Dr. Mathew Verghese, Head of Department of Orthopaedics, St. Stephens Hospital, New Delhi, Dr. Amit Kishore, Senior Consultant ENT Surgeon, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals, Prof. P. V. Madhusudhan Rao, IIT Delhi, and Dr. Charu Guaba, Consultant Neurologist, Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals. The Symposium was inaugurated by Mr. B. N. Singh, MP who has himself undergone Neurorehab treatment at the IHIF Centre. He promised to promote the activities of IHIF at every level in the Government and find ways so that benefits of Assistive Technologies can reach end users in the Country.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, Senior Consultant Neurosurgeon & Spine Surgeon, Apollo Hospitals and Hon. Medical Director, Indian Head Injury Foundation alongwith Dr. Tarun Lala, IHIF Rehab Advisor coordinated and organized this Event, which for the first time, brought together Clinicians, Engineers and Officials from various Government Agencies, WHO and other Stakeholders in the field of Assistive Technologies.



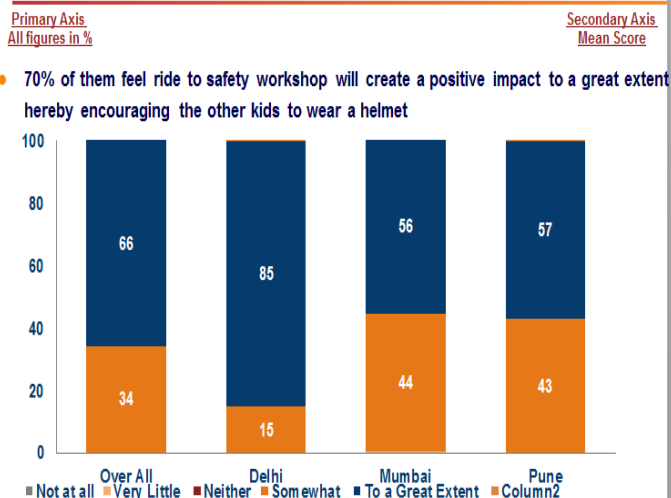
Ride to Safety Campaign Supported By ICICI Lombard

As elaborated in our last newsletter, we are delighted to inform our esteemed well wishers and readers that the IHIF has successfully completed in March the Ride to Safety Campaign 2016-17. A total of 16 Schools were selected in Central Delhi (Karol Bagh Zone), where IHIF conducted Awareness Workshops. These schools were mainly Government aided and Charity supported, and in each school, separate workshops for children and their parents were conducted. In some schools, we had to conduct 3-4 sessions because of the large number of children who wanted to participate.

A total of 3550 children and 857 parents attended these workshops and 2500 free helmets were distributed amongst the children against driving licenses of their parent(s). If we include IHIF's similar activities in the previous year, we have now totally covered 7500 children, 3000 parents and distributed 5500 helmets. It is a matter of joy when we regularly see children riding as pillions wearing the ICICI Lombard distinctive helmets and this is a common sight in Delhi's Karol Bagh Zone. We are already underway with the next part of this programme and will cover another 3000 children, 1000 parents and distribute about 3000 helmets before the year 2017 closes.



Impact of Ride to Safety Workshop



Q. Will the workshop create a positive impact?

Ride To Safety Programme- Survey report

The helmet and road safety programme sponsored by ICICI Lombard has been a grand success and over 25000 helmets were distributed to children in Mumbai, Pune and Delhi. In addition, workshops for over 40000 children, parents and teachers were conducted during the last two years. IHIF was tasked to handle the Delhi part of the programme.

The post Event Survey conducted in the three Cities by a professional agency has clearly brought out that immense benefits and value has accrued by educating young children and making them our Ambassadors.

The survey also brings out that the Delhi zone of which IHIF and Synergie were incharge, has shown the best output amongst all three zones.

Drive-Thru Rally

As a culmination of the programme for Ride to Safety Campaign 2016-17, a Motorbike Rally was conducted by ICICI Lombard in association with IHIF and other NGOs on 08 May at Talkatora Stadium. Around 3000 children with a large number of parents participated in this bike thru rally. It was inaugurated and flagged off by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways.



Paediatric Neuro Rehab & Autism Camp

To observe World Autism Day on 08 April, the IHIF conducted a free paediatric neuro rehab camp in which parents were educated about autism and its cure. Many parents and kids participated and the children were examined by our Occupational and Neuro Therapists for identifying problems faced by them and related rehab issues. They were advised on the way ahead, and some were advised to use the IHIF Neuro Rehab facilities for further treatment.



Primary Trauma Care Trainers' Course

In continuation of training of First Responders, IHIF organized the Second Responders Course for Trainers and 60th Primary Trauma Care Course for Nurses and Staff of American Embassy Health Unit, American Embassy School and Emergency Staff of Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals.

The focus of the Course was to train them on best processes and methodologies for training First Responders in the field of Trauma Care. There were 20 participants, and six volunteer Doctors of Apollo Hospital and Ms. Gaya Stanka Turowicz of the American Embassy School formed the faculty. These Trained Staff are now qualified and expected to further train First Responders in the field.





Wheel Chair Donation

With the support of CITI Group, the IHIF donated an active wheel chair to Mr. Nuruddin, a needy spinal injury patient so as to help him to get back to near normal life.

Activities in Aligarh, UP

IHIF Senior Volunteer, Mr. Arun Srivastava has been very active in the field of Road Safety and Head Injury Prevention in the Aligarh and surrounding belt. He has recently conducted a series of workshops with the support of the local police and some of them are as below:

->On 11 Jan. 2017, an awareness programme was organized with the support of the RTO's Department and UPSRTC at Roadways Bus Stand, Aligarh. Bus drivers, other employees of UP Roadways and passengers participated.

->On 05 February 2017, a School Bus Drivers Eye checkup, Driving Skills Test & Training Workshop was organized with the support of RTO Aligarh.



Slow Down Week

IHIF observed the UN Slow Down Week on 12 and 13 May 2017 by participating in a Slow Down National Conference held at Jaypee Siddhartha Hotel, New Delhi. The IHIF has also become a life member of Indian Alliance of NGOs For Road Safety which had organized the Event.



BE SAFE..TRAVEL SAFE..SAFETY SAVES!!

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