

INDIAN HEAD INJURY FOUNDATION

Newsletter (Jul-Dec 2017)



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

At the outset, on behalf of our Chairman His Highness Maharaja GajSingh of Jodhpur-Marwar and all Staff of IHIF, I wish you and your families a very happy and fruitful 2018. Our prayers and wishes, like always, are that we achieve rapid reduction of the mortality and morbidity caused by accidental traumatic injuries.

During the period July 2017 to December 2017, IHIF has far exceeded the targets set for itself in the areas of provision of Rehab support to victims of head and spine injury and to the children who are affected by congenital issues like CP and Autism. Also, we have expanded rapidly in educating school children and their parents about adoption of safety precautions to prevent such injuries in the first place. Our motto being "Prevention is better than Cure". During this six month period, over 5,000 specially manufactured helmets meeting ISI standards have been distributed to children in the age group of 8 to 13 who ride as pillions on two wheelers.

The high point of this half yearly period has been the very valuable and high recognition of our activities in spreading Awareness about Head Injuries and its Prevention awarded by the "British Medical Journal (BMJ)".

I wish to thank all our supporters for their valuable support and donations to IHIF without which our ever expanding activities would not have been possible. I request all our readers to please observe all safety precautions and remain safe throughout 2018 and beyond.

Commodore Ranbir Talwar
Executive Director

Assistive Technology in Neuro Rehab - IHIF Initiative

IHIF hosted the first of its kind symposium on Assistive Technologies at our IHIF-DCWA Neuro Rehab Centre, Delhi. The meeting was presided over by our Honorary Medical Director, Dr. Rajendra Prasad and was coordinated by Dr. Tarun Lala, Rehab Advisor-IHIF. It was largely attended by HODs and Senior Therapists from various Clinical and Academic Institutions across Delhi and NCR. It was also attended by a large number of PT, OT, SLT, Psychologists, Neurologists and Neuro Surgeons.

The aim of the meeting was to see what low cost assistive technologies are available in India and what more needs to be done for easy accessibility by challenged people. IHIF is keen to setup India's first AT centre which will also have the facility of Tele-Rehabilitation.



Wheelchair Rugby National Tournament 11-12 August

India's first-ever Wheelchair Rugby event was held in Patna and teams from 8 states participated. Dr. Tarun Lala, IHIF Neuro Rehab Advisor & Senior Neuro Physiotherapist at Apollo Hospital, was invited as the Head Physiotherapist during the Wheelchair Rugby National Tournament. He was involved in all the matches, during the warm-up, and any post injury remedy. We are looking forward to support more such tournaments in which differently abled people participate.



IHIF Road Safety Awareness Programme In Noida

IHIF welcomes young students to be associated with our aims and objectives. Towards this end, we have started an awareness drive for two wheeler riders in Noida. One of our young volunteers Ms. Sneha Makhijani, a school student, is leading this programme.

The message given to road users includes practicing patience, following lanes, avoiding honking and wearing helmets. During the campaign, relevant free stickers and pamphlets were distributed and two wheelers rides were requested to put them on their bikes and follow the traffic rules.





Participation at UNITAR

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) invited a team of Indian Head Injury Foundation members to participate in a workshop “Strengthening Road Safety and Transport Systems in India” at the Taj Palace Hotel in New Delhi on 22-23 August 2017. It was an intensive interactive session in which very useful ideas were exchanged to improve the present situation of accidents on our roads.

World Physiotherapy Day, 08 Sept 2017

IHIF organized special events for the differently abled to share problems faced by them & caregivers during the World Physiotherapy Day at our Rehab Centres in Delhi and Jodhpur. The Events gave the management and patients a chance to thank the Therapists who look after them. The occasion was utilized to engage patients in games and other useful activities.



Helmet Awareness Workshop at Jodhpur

As a part of expanding our Helmet Awareness Campaign, IHIF conducted a two day Helmet Awareness Programme in Jodhpur sponsored by HT Parekh Foundation/HDFC for 600 children & their parents on 01-02 Oct 2017. His Highness Maharaja GajSingh ji, Yuvraj Shivraj ji & Shri Bhanwar Baisa Vaara distributed 480 helmets specially manufactured to ISI standards, to school children who ride as pillion on two wheelers.



World Cerebral Palsy Day

IHIF celebrated the World Cerebral Palsy Day at IHIF Delhi Rehab Centre on 05 October, 2017. Dr. Bhatia and Dr. Shashi Aggarwal, both pediatricians at the Delhi Commonwealth Women's Association Medical Centre gave an educative talk on CP. Thereafter a few activities for children suffering from CP and their parents were conducted. We highly appreciate the efforts of our Rehab specialists Dr. Prateek Sharma, incharge of the IHIF Delhi Rehab Centre and Dr. Neelima Mohan, Occupational Therapist alongwith all our support staff for making the Event a total success and very enjoyable for the children.



World OT Day, 27 October, 2017

IHIF celebrated the World Occupational Therapy Day at our Rehab Centre in Delhi. Both, children and adults participated enthusiastically by colouring sheets and participating in gainful activities under the guidance of our Therapists – Dr. Prateek & Dr. Neelima. Patients were also given gifts on the occasion.

Safety of Vulnerable Road Users 09-11 November

A very useful three day Conference on "Safety of Vulnerable Road Users" (Pedestrians | Elderly | Differently Aabled Persons | School Transporters) was organized by the Institute of Road Traffic Education (IRTE). IHIF participated in full strength and shared new ideas to reduce mortality and morbidity on our Roads.



Wheelchair Donation At Chandigarh Spinal Centre

IHIF supported by HT Parekh Foundation/HDFC donated 20 active wheelchairs to the spinal injured patients during a para-motoring event 'Udaan' organized by the Chandigarh Spinal Rehab Centre. Over 100 differently abled and wheelchair bound persons participated. Our Executive Director, Commodore Ranbir Talwar was the Chief Guest.

BMJ Recognition For Indian Head Injury Foundation

We are delighted to inform our readers that the Indian Head Injury Foundation (IHIF) has won the most prestigious British Medical Journal (BMJ) Award 2017 in the category of “Non Communicable Diseases Initiative. This Award is for IHIF’s work in spreading wide awareness among our populace in the area of Head Injury Prevention through the use of safety devices like helmets and seatbelts. Our focus has been on children who ride as pillions on two-wheelers, and thereafter, use them as our ambassadors to spread the message among other children and parents.



The main theme of the Program was and continues to be “Prevention is better than Cure”. A very large no and categories of Road Users were exposed to our initiative through lectures, workshops, practical and interactive sessions, and undoubtedly, there has been a small but noticeable change in public attitude to Road Safety.

The IHIF Team which navigated us through a few demanding and comprehensive rounds till final selection and victory, was led by Dr. Rajendra Prasad our Honorary Medical Director. Indeed, this is a great and singular recognition for IHIF and its efforts to reduce mortality and severe debilitation on our roads. We are indeed humbled by this recognition.

Safe Roads India Summit 2017

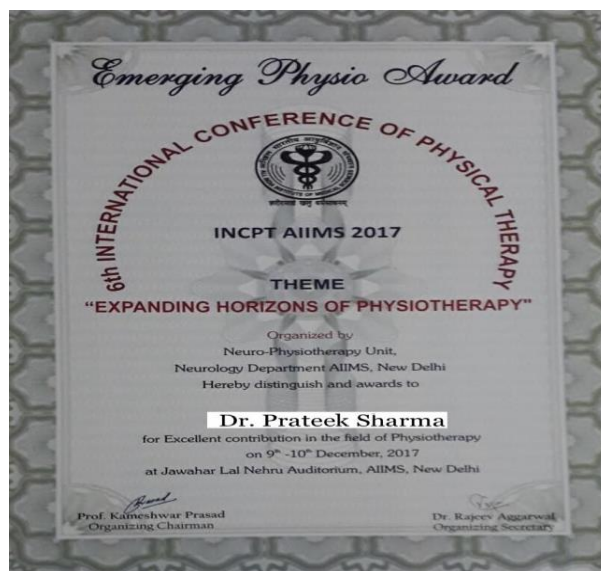


IHIF participated in the Safe Roads India Summit organized by Mercedes-Benz in New Delhi and the theme was “Safer Roads For Children”. Around 338 school children participated and were involved in various games related to traffic rules. On behalf of ICICI Lombard, IHIF distributed ISI approved children’s size helmets to them so that they remain safe on two wheelers while riding as pillions.

IHIF also conducted a Primary Trauma Care Course for first responders during this Summit and it was focused on College students. We are hopeful that such workshops on life saving skills will help these young students help others and save accidents victims from secondary injuries.

Recognition By AIIMS, New Delhi

Our very own Senior Physiotherapist at IHIF, Dr. Prateek Sharma received the “Emerging Physio Award” during the 6th International Conference of Physical Therapy conducted by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) on 09 and 10 December 2017. This is a proud moment for us and eggs us on to do better.





Ending the Year With Christmas Celebration

What could be a better way than to end the year with Christmas Celebration at our Rehab Centre. There was active involvement of a large number of patient, children, caregivers, Therapists and Staff members. The occasion was used to educate and enlighten the participants about Christmas and to enjoy the celebrations to the fullest. To end the Event, Santa gave traditional gifts to the children.



Current Activities

Among the many on going activities, we would like to highlight atleast three. One is the conduct of “First Responder Courses” for 150 College students supported by Mercedes Benz, the second is Road Safety Education for about 6,000 school children and parents followed by Helmet distribution to 4,000 children who ride as pillions on two wheelers, and the third is a major Awareness and Head Injury Prevention Programme for school children in the age group of 9-14 years sponsored by Apollo Foundation. As these are major ongoing programmes and will end in March 2018, the details will be shared in our next newsletter.

Once again “HAPPY NEW YEAR”.

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

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