

BRIEF ON 9TH SOMAARTH-INCLIN FOUNDATION DAY

1. **SOMAARTH-INCLIN Foundation Day** was celebrated with enthusiasm by all on **10th October 2018** from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM at **Advanced Institute of Engineering & Management, Mathura Road, Palwal (Haryana)**. A total of **339 participants** participated in the 9th SOMAARTH foundation day. The participants comprised of the following:

- (a) District and block administrative officials(20 participants)
- (b) District and Block level Medical Authorities.(07 participants)
- (c) Village level panchayat, religious leaders and important persons from villages (72 participants)
- (d) Village level frontline health workers (ANM, ASHA and ANGANWADI Workers) (163 participants)
- (e) SOMAARTH and IEO staff (77 staff).



2. The objective of the 9th **SOMAARTH Foundation Day** was to share the learning and experience of SOMAARTH-INCLIN with the district administration, Medical Authorities,community and simultaneously seek the opinion from various stakeholders regarding how to capitalize on the learning to delineate future course that will further facilitate a holistic development in community and at governance system. The focus was to address various aspects of **Super Village Challenge 2.0 (SVC 2.0)** which was launched by the **Deputy Commissioner of Palwal** in August 2018.

3. The event started with the arrival and welcoming of the guests and participants.

4. The **opening session** of the program started with a **welcome note** by Prof. NK Arora. He



9th SOMAARTH Foundation Day

expressed his gratitude towards the District Administration, Medical authorities, Sarpanches of various villages, the panchayat members and frontline health workers for their presence in large number for the event and their continued and extended support which SOMAARTH has been getting for the last nine years. He extended a warm welcome to the chief guest Shri Jitender Kumar, HCS, the SDM Palwal and the guest of Honour Dr Pradeep Sharma, Civil Surgeon Palwal. He then welcomed other district officials, medical authorities and technical experts present on the dais.

5. This was followed by **lamp lighting**, traditional invoking the Goddess of Learning by



Lighting the Lamp



Saraswati Vandana

reciting Saraswati Vandana and **inauguration** of the program by the community. As part of green initiative, the guests were felicitated by offering them green plants

SDM Palwal, Shri Jitender Kumar being felicitated by Dr NK Arora



Village Sarpanch being felicitated

9th SOMAARTH Foundation Day



CMO, Dr Pradeep Sharma speaking on the collaboration between System and SOMAARTH-INCLN

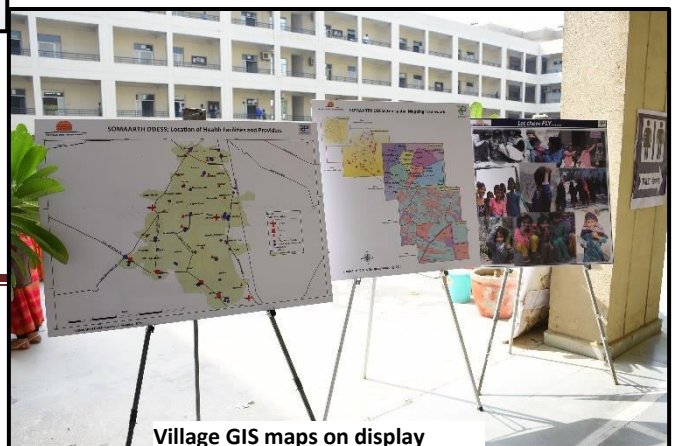
6. Dr Pradeep Sharma, Chief Medical Officer, Palwal the Guest of Honour, spoke to the gathering about the collaboration between INCLN-SOMAARTH and Palwal for the identification and treatment of sick newborns. It was highlighted by him that through this program, there has been a marked increase in the number of sick infants below 2 years of age who are being identified at ground level by ASHA workers and their being treated in government health facilities which was virtually nonexistent earlier. Compared to the whole of Palwal District where only 1.5% of sickness in newborns are identified by ASHA, in SOMAARTH villages, 15% of sick in newborns are being identified by ASHA. This has resulted in marked decrease in infant mortality rate in SOMAARTH villages. This collaborative effort by District Medical system and SOMAARTH-INCLN was cheered and loudly appreciated by the participants.

7. Dr Shikha Dixit, Senior Program Officer then gave a presented on the assessment of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WaSH) status of SOMAARTH villages highlighting the use of geographic information system (GIS) in preparation of these maps. She said that detailed maps are available for each SOMAARTH village depicting the solid and liquid waste spots in the villages. She highlighted that based on these maps, it was found that there are waste spots near every 10th house in these villages. These waste spots are there irrespective of the socioeconomic status of villagers i.e. the affluent localities as well as the



Dr Shikha Dixit of INCLN stressing highlights of GIS Maps created for each villages

economically poor localities are having similar density of wastespots - both solid as well as liquid.



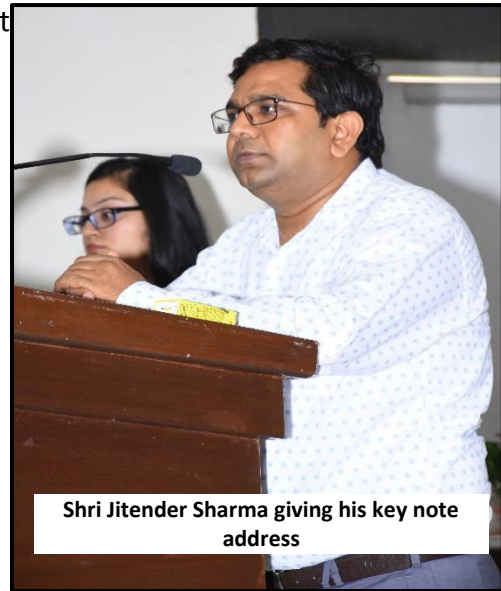
Village GIS maps on display

Wednesday, 10 October 2018

9th SOMAARTH Foundation Day

Similarly, there was not much difference in the localities of various religious groups. Almost 70% of the village ponds are unclean. These maps have been shared to all the Panchayats. She asked all representatives of the villages that these maps can be used extensively as a tool to coordinate sanitation related activities in their villages and improve the sanitation aspects of villages. Not only this, these maps will also be useful to assess the improvements made in sanitation as a part of the Super Village Challenge (SVC 2.0 challenge).

8. The **keynote address** was given by Shri Jitender Sharma. He congratulated Prof. NK Arora for the 9th foundation day. He emphasized on various programs which are to be implemented by the administration at district level and said that SOMAARTH-INCLIN has been acting as a catalyst in achieving this work of Administration. Hygiene, sanitation and health are important not only at a personal level but also at community level. SVC 2.0 as launched by the Deputy and said that all villages must participate in SVC 2.0. He emphasized that villages must take advantage of SOMAARTH research studies on various health and sanitation issues.



9. It was followed by detailed presentations on Sanitation and Health aspects of SVC 2.0 by Shri Navin Sharma,



Shri Navin Sharma, Project Officer- Sanitation, Dr Kanchan Yadav, Urban Child Health & Immunization Officer and Dr Divya Nair speaking on various components of SVC 2.0

Kanchan Yadav, Urban Child Health and Immunization

Officer respectively. They addressed the gathering regarding the concept of SVC and about the sanitation related parameters of SVC 2.0. Shri Navin Sharma and Dr. Kanchan Yadav, spoke regarding the importance of community participation in health and about the health parameters of SVC 2.0. Dr. Divya

9th SOMAARTH Foundation Day

Nair, Program Officer, INCLIN summarized the performance of the Urban Child Health and Immunization Officer

10. Dr. Archisman Mohapatra, Deputy Director (Research), INCLIN ten highlighted about a new initiative being launched by INCLIN-SOMAARTH titled “AADAR-“.



Dementia and Dementia related issues are affecting the elderly in villages and there is a need to identify them and take preventive measures. This is a project funded by Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India. Many distinguished clinicians and institutions are part of this study. As part of this project, detailed health assessment will be done for all senior citizens (above 60 years) in SOMAARTH villages.

11. Dr Rekha, Dy CMO then gave a brief on addressing the problem of TB, HIV Aids and importance of Family planning in Palwal District. She informed that separate task forces have been created to monitor the cases and to promote and educate on new measures available for family planning. She gave a brief account of facilities available in PHCs, CHCs and other hospitals in Palwal.



12. In the end, Prof NK Arora again expressed his gratitude to all those present for the function.



13. This was followed by lunch by all and then a group photograph of IEO and SOMAARTH staff was taken.