

## IAOH Karnataka Activities during the period of Jan 2025- June 2025

### 1. Office Handover Ceremony

- Date: 22nd February 2025
- Venue: Citrine Hotel, Bengaluru
- Time: 7:00 PM onwards

The official handover of responsibilities of the AOHK office was conducted in the presence of outgoing and incoming executive committee (EC) members.

Outgoing President Dr. Srinivasa HK and his team ceremoniously handed over the office to the new leadership team, led by Dr. Suman R.

The meeting witnessed the transfer of key roles, responsibilities, and institutional knowledge, ensuring a smooth transition. All relevant documents, reports, and data were shared to empower the new team to take forward the activities of the association effectively.

Role	Name	Mobile Number	Mail ID
President	Dr. Suman R	9845109070	<a href="mailto:prezaohk@gmail.com">prezaohk@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:sumangowda@hotmail.com">sumangowda@hotmail.com</a>
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Vice President	Dr. Sathyaprakash S V	9448703450	drsathyaprakash27@gmail.com
Hon. Gen. Secretary	Dr. Shanthi Bhoomagoud	9980764969	<a href="mailto:secretaryaohk@gmail.com">secretaryaohk@gmail.com</a> ; <a href="mailto:drshanthigoud@gmail.com">drshanthigoud@gmail.com</a>
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Hon. Treasurer	Dr. Guruprasad H S	9901944311	<a href="mailto:drguruprasadhs@gmail.com">drguruprasadhs@gmail.com</a>
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2. AOHK conducted its first EC meeting and CME on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2025 at API bhavan

**Association of Occupational Health  
Karnataka**

**AOHK's CME**  
SATURDAY, APRIL 19, 2025

**Agenda**

7:00 - 7:15 PM - Case Presentation	<b>Dr. Ravi Kumar T</b> (Toyota Kirloskar Motors)	
7:20 - 7:35 PM - Case Presentation	<b>Dr Sakthi Arasu MD AFIH</b> (St. John's Medical College)	
7:40 - 8:10 PM- Insight on the Remarkable Story	<b>Dr. Sudarshan M K</b> (Professor, Community Medicine)	
8:15 - 8:45 PM - Transportation of Victims After Industrial Accidents	<b>Dr. Darshan Kumar A Jain</b> (Hand Surgeon, Apollo Hospital )	
8:45 PM - Vote of Thanks	<b>Dr. Guruprasad</b> Treasurer	
8:45 PM - Join Us for Dinner		

**Venue:**  
API Bhavan, Bengaluru

The new AOHK Executive Committee launched a mission to broaden participation and inclusivity among Occupational Health Physicians (OHPs) across Karnataka. A key strategy has been to create platforms for OHPs to present real-world experiences, including workplace case studies, best practices, and innovations in the field.

Dr. Ravikumar and Dr. Sakthi Arasu showcased their field work and on-site interventions. Dr. Sudarshan, a veteran in both Occupational and Community Health, enthralled the audience with compelling stories and reflective insights from his vast career.

Dr. Darshan Kumar A Jain, an expert hand surgeon, delivered critical guidance for factory medical officers, especially on handling industrial trauma cases involving amputations or detached body parts, and emphasized the importance of timely, well-coordinated referrals.

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### 1. CME in North Karnataka Region

Date: 29th June 2025

Venue: Auditorium, Kirloskar Ferrous Industries Ltd, Koppal

Expected Participants: 40 Occupational Health Physicians and PG students from Community medicine department participated in CME

- This initiative targeted outreach to OHPs in the North Karnataka industrial belt, where many physicians have been actively working but are not yet members of the Indian Association of Occupational Health (IAOH).
- Session was given on IAOH and ICOH and encouraged participants to become members of association.
- Four industry-based doctors Dr. Praveen Kumar Meundi (KFIL), Dr. Preethi Latha B (JSW), Dr. Chandrashekhhar CS (JSW) and Dr. Basavaraj Bachalapur (Mukand Sumi Special Steel Ltd) presented challenges and best practices, New labour codes, TB prevention at workplace and 100 days to fitness from their occupational health experience.
- A key objective is to strengthen the regional presence of AOHK and foster peer learning.



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### 3. Achievements of AOHK members during H1 2025:

DR MERLYN JOSEPH

1. Attended the Global Health Workforce Week at Barcelona between March 12-14, 2025 presenting poster titled “Mental health status and barriers to seeking mental health care among migrant tea plantation workers of South India”.
2. Received full travel bursary (travel grant) to attend the 2nd World Congress on Migration, Ethnicity, Race and Health taking place in Lisbon from 2nd to 5th September 2025.
3. Received acceptance to present oral paper at EPICOH 2025, Utrecht, Netherlands. Oral paper titled “Mental health status, knowledge, and barriers to care seeking among female tea plantation workers: A comparative study of local and migrant populations.”



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Dr. Sashikala Chandrasekar

NAFSA 2025 Conference dedicated to international education was held in May at San Diego, California. This global event was attended by professionals from more than 100 nations representing numerous educational and allied institutions.

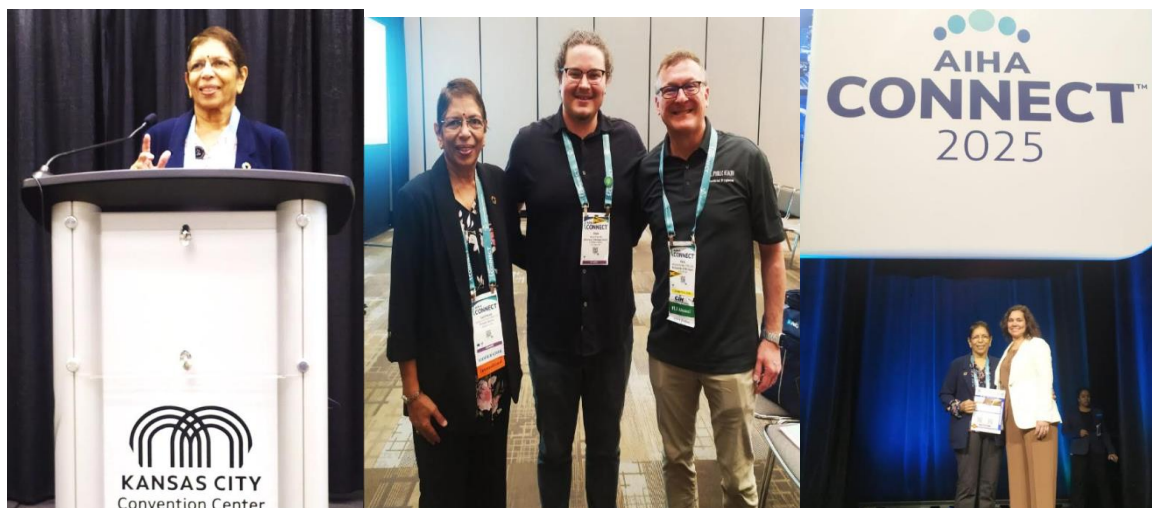
Dr. Sashikala Chandrasekar attended the conference and had the opportunity to promote ICOH 2027 with the medical institutions which participated in the conference.



American Industrial Hygiene Association Conference, AIHA Connect 2025 was held in Kansas City Convention Centre from May 19 – 21. This premier conference on occupational and environmental health and safety is dedicated to protecting workers health.

Dr. Sashikala Chandrasekar participated as a moderator for the Research Roundup session on Hazard Recognition and Exposure Assessment and as a judge for selecting the best paper and film on Occupational Health and Safety.

Dr. Sashikala had the opportunity to promote ICOH 2027 with the delegates and the various medical universities which participated in the conference.



Dr. Sakthi Arasu

Dr. Sakti Arasu from Department of Community Health under the Division of Occupational Health received the INSIGHT Fellowship Grant funded by the NIH Fogarty Center 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 for the grant year July 2025 to June 2026 for his research work in the field.

Dr. Kowshik Kupatira, Dr. Gautham Melur Sukumar and Dr. Suhash Chakraborty



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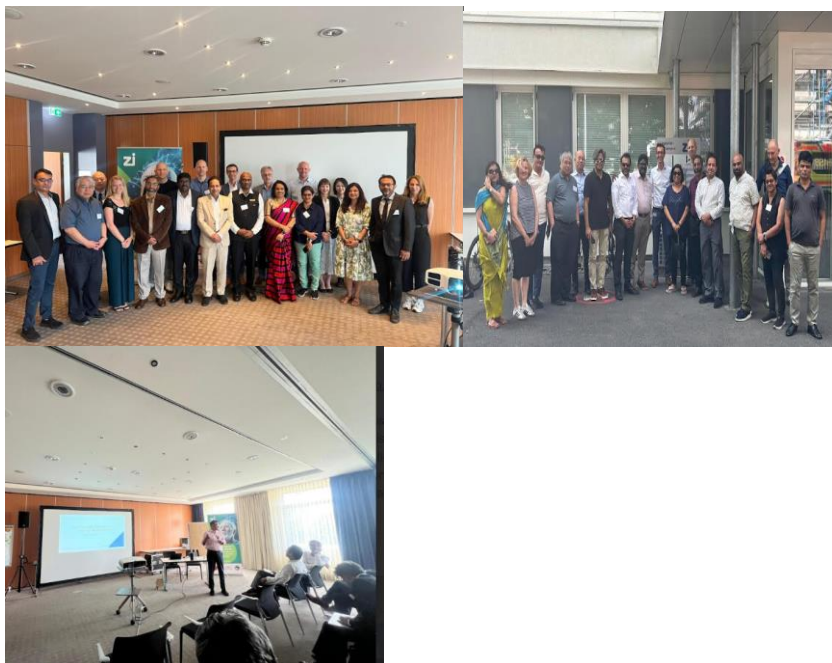
A three-day International workshop on Ageing, Mental Health, and Workplace, sponsored by IGSTC was conducted at Mercure hotel Mannheim Germany, in collaboration with the Central Institute of Mental Health[ CIH], Mannheim, Heidelberg University, and NIMHANS, brought together experts from India, Germany, and other countries to discuss how organisations can better support mental health and prepare for an ageing workforce. The workshop covered key topics such as memory decline, emotional well-being, biological changes with ageing, and workplace challenges faced by older employees.

Among several experts from CIH, Heidelberg and NIMHANS , key highlights relevant to corporate healthcare systems were as follows:

Dr. Kowshik Kupatira, Chief Medical Officer at Toyota Kirloskar Motor, emphasised integrated wellness for ageing employees through the concept of a Constructive Mind, Energetic Body, rooted in the Mendoimi mindset. He advocated for age-inclusive policies with psychological safety, ergonomic interventions, physical health promotion, and age-specific health checks as workplace mandates. Dr. Gautham Melur Sukumar, Professor from the Department of Public Health, NIMHANS, stressed the need to align workplace mental health programs with national public health priorities to build healthier, more resilient workforces.

Dr. Suhas Chakraborty, Medical Superintendent at HAL, reinforced that mental health is essential for business success and must be a core organisational priority to support employee well-being.

The workshop concluded with a clear message: Companies must be future-ready with integrated mental health support, preventive care, and age-friendly policies to build healthy, productive, and inclusive workplaces.



**Dr. PreethiLatha B**

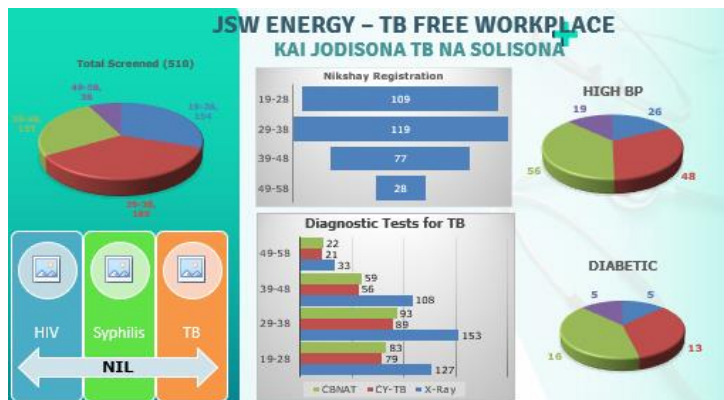
### **KAI JODISONA TB NA SOLISONA' A Workplace Wellness Initiative Integrated with TB-Free Workplace by JSW Energy Ltd:**

JSW Energy Ltd recognizes the need to support the Nation's TB Elimination efforts and thus has initiated various initiatives to support with Pradhan Mantri TB Mukta Bharat Abhiyaan.

As part of stepping up its commitment to maintaining a healthy – work environment, we started Workplace Wellness Initiative Integrated with TB-Free Workplace **"KAI JODISONA TB NA SOLISONA"**.

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This comprehensive initiative aims to curb the transmission of tuberculosis (TB) and create a healthier workplace for the JSW Energy employees.



#### 4. Memberships:

From February 2025 to June 2025, we have added 15 new members to the association.

#### 5. What's on the Cards? – Planned Activities for H2

The new Executive Committee has outlined a vibrant calendar of events aimed at expanding the reach of AOHK, fostering knowledge exchange, and enhancing engagement across the occupational health community in Karnataka.

#### 1. 2nd Executive Committee Meeting & CME – Occupational Health Day

Date: 12th July 2025

Location: Bengaluru

- In celebration of Occupational Health Day, a dedicated CME will be organized.
- Topics will focus on emerging occupational health challenges, regulatory updates, and mental well-being in workplaces.

#### 2. 74th State Annual Conference of AOHK

Dates: 30th & 31st August 2025

Location: Bengaluru

- The highlight event of the year, bringing together occupational health professionals, industry leaders, policy makers, and academicians.
- Includes paper presentations, panel discussions, workshops, and networking opportunities.
- Expected to attract participants from across the state and beyond, further positioning Karnataka as a hub for occupational health excellence.

#### 3. Webinar on Burns: Management & Referrals

Date: (To be finalized)

Organized by: Department of Plastic Surgery, St. John's Medical College Hospital

Target Audience: Industrial Medical Officers and OHPs across Karnataka

- A focused educational session on the management of burn injuries in industrial settings.
- Covers first-line treatment, referral protocols, and rehabilitation.
- Aims to improve emergency response skills and coordination among factory medical teams.

#### 4. BOHS Activity – Health Check-up for Pourakarmikas

Location: Jayanagar, Bengaluru

In Association With: BBMP (Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike)

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- A community outreach program under Basic Occupational Health Services (BOHS).
- Free health screening for pourakarmikas (sanitation workers) including general health, respiratory, musculoskeletal, and dermatological assessments.
- Reinforces AOHK's commitment to inclusive occupational health and social responsibility.

### Looking Ahead

These initiatives reflect AOHK's commitment to:

- Strengthening its network
- Spreading awareness
- Delivering value-driven engagement to all stakeholders in the occupational health ecosystem.

With a focused approach, the new EC aims to bring more inclusivity, innovation, and impact into the activities of the association.