



SREE BALAJI MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY MEDICINE

SEMINAR ON

"HEALTH PROGRAMMES RELATED TO ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH"

Date: 27.02.2025

Time: 2:15 PM

Speaker: Dr. Praveen Murugesan, 2nd Year Postgraduate, SBMCH

Guide: Dr. S. Hariharan, Associate Professor, Department of Community Medicine

Seminar Overview:

The seminar started promptly at 2:15 PM in the AV Hall, SBMCH, with Four faculty members and twenty one postgraduate students in attendance. Dr. Praveen Murugesan led an engaging discussion on "Health Programmes Related to Environment and Health," shedding light on pressing environmental concerns and their impact on public health.

Key Points Discussed:

Environmental Health Challenges in India

Dr. Praveen began by explaining the importance of environmental health, emphasizing how pollution, poor waste management, and climate change pose serious threats. He highlighted how rapid urbanization and industrial growth contribute to deteriorating air and water quality, leading to increased cases of respiratory and waterborne diseases.

Major Public Health Threats: Air and Water Pollution

- India is home to several of the world's most polluted cities, with PM2.5 levels far exceeding WHO guidelines.

- Over 70% of surface water sources in the country are contaminated due to industrial waste and sewage.
- Recent initiatives, such as the Supreme Court's firecracker ban and penalties on industries polluting the Yamuna River, were discussed as efforts to mitigate these issues.

Waste Management and Climate Change

- India produces over 277 million tonnes of waste annually, but only 30% is effectively processed.
- Climate change is increasingly affecting public health, with extreme weather conditions causing heat-related illnesses and an increase in vector-borne diseases.

Key Environmental Bodies and Regulations

Dr. Praveen outlined the role of major governmental organizations, including:

- **Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC)** – Responsible for environmental policy and regulation.
- **Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB)** – Monitors and enforces pollution control measures.
- **National Green Tribunal (NGT)** – Addresses legal aspects of environmental protection.

He also discussed the importance of laws such as the Environment Protection Act (1986) and the Air and Water Pollution Control Acts in maintaining ecological balance.

Health Programmes Addressing Environmental Concerns

The discussion covered various government initiatives aimed at tackling environmental health challenges, including:

- **National Programme on Climate Change and Human Health (NPCCHH)**: Strengthening climate resilience in healthcare.
- **National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP)**: Efforts to curb malaria, dengue, and chikungunya.
- **National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)**: Aiming for a 40% reduction in PM2.5 and PM10 levels by 2026.

- **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM):** Transforming sanitation and hygiene in India.
- **Jal Jeevan Mission:** Providing safe and accessible drinking water nationwide.

Global Efforts and Collaborations

Dr. Praveen also highlighted how India collaborates with international organizations:

- **WHO:** Supports India in mitigating air pollution-related diseases.
- **World Bank:** Funds clean water and air quality improvement projects.
- **UNEP:** Assists in developing sustainable waste management policies.
- **FAO:** Works with India to promote climate-resilient agriculture.

Case Study: Delhi's Air Pollution Crisis

Dr. Praveen analyzed Delhi's air pollution crisis and measures taken to tackle it:

- **Odd-Even Scheme:** Helped reduce vehicular pollution during peak smog seasons.
- **Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP):** Implemented strict regulations based on pollution levels.
- **Public Transport Initiatives:** Expansion of Delhi Metro and introduction of electric buses to curb emissions.
- Recent policies have led to a **30% drop in PM2.5 levels**, with Delhi recording its **cleanest winter AQI in a decade**.

Conclusion:

Dr. Praveen concluded by reiterating the urgent need for sustainable environmental policies and public participation in pollution control. The seminar wrapped up with an interactive Q&A session, where attendees shared insights and debated solutions for environmental health challenges.

Seminar Impact:

The session provided a comprehensive understanding of how environmental factors influence health and how policy-driven interventions can lead to long-term improvements. The discussion reinforced the importance of both

government initiatives and community participation in ensuring a cleaner, healthier future.

Seminar on 'Health Programmes Related to Environment and Health' successfully conducted on 27.02.2025 at AV Hall, SBMCH.







Water Pollution:

70% of surface water is contaminated.

Industrial waste, untreated sewage, and chemical fertilizers pollute rivers.

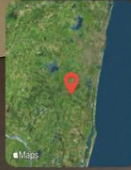
Leads to outbreaks of cholera, typhoid, and diarrhea.

Recent News: The National Green Tribunal fined ₹500 crores for industries dumping waste into the Yamuna River (January 2024).

Source-[https://www.weforum.org/stories/2019/10/water-pollution/?utm_source](https://www.weforum.org/stories/2019/10/water-pollution/?utm_source=)



GPS Map Camera



Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India

CLC Works Road, Chromepet, Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600044, India

Lat 12.953791, Long 80.137736

02/27/2025 02:27 PM GMT+05:30

Note : Captured by GPS Map Camera