

December 21, 2012

**29th DAE Safety & Occupational Health Professionals Meet at Rawatbhata
Rajasthan Site (RR Site) during Dec 17-19, 2012.**

The 29th DAE Safety & Occupational Health Professionals Meet (SOHPM) was jointly organized by Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), Mumbai, Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) and Heavy Water Board (HWB), at New Community Center, Rawatbhata during December 17-19, 2012. The SOHPM is organised annually with different themes on Industrial Safety and Occupational Health by AERB with a Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) unit to promote and motivate Safety and Occupational Health aspects in DAE units under the regulatory control of AERB. The theme for this year's three day Meet was "Emergency Preparedness for Chemical Industries and Emergency Medicine". About 150 delegates from various DAE Units and aided institutes participated in this Meet. Shri J.P. Gupta, Site Director, RR Site welcomed the gathering. Shri R. Bhattacharya, Secretary, AERB and Director, Industrial Plants Safety Division (IPSD) & Information & Technical Services Division (ITSD), AERB briefed about the important milestones, significant achievements of the past Meets and highlights of this year's Meet. A Monograph on "Hazardous Chemicals & Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Medicine" was released by Shri R. Prakash, Chairman & Chief Executive, Heavy Water Board. Shri K. C. Purohit, Chairman & Managing Director, NPCIL distributed prizes to winners of logo competitions conducted for the Meet and gave Presidential Address. Shri S.S. Bajaj, Chairman, AERB presented the AERB Environmental Protection Awards (erstwhile Green Site Awards) to the winners of DAE units for the year 2011 who have performed commendable work for the protection, sustainability and preservation of the environment. The winners of this year Environmental Protection Awards are Indian Rare Earths Limited (IREL), Chavara, Narora Atomic Power Station and Kakrapar Atomic Power Project 3&4. Shri Bajaj also released the technical proceedings, commemorating the Meet and delivered the Inaugural Address. One of the major highlights of this year's Meet was that the Dr. S.S. Ramaswamy Memorial Endowment Lecture was delivered by Shri B. Bhattacharjee, Member, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), New Delhi on 'Science and Technological Inputs for Emergency Preparedness in Chemical Industries'. The vote of thanks to the august gathering was rendered by Shri R. K. Agarwal, Station Director, Rajasthan Atomic Power Station (RAPS) 1&2. A Technical Exhibition on Nuclear Technology, Safety Appliances, Public Awareness & Safety and Regulatory aspects was organised during the Meet. Shri S.S. Bajaj, Chairman, AERB inaugurated the exhibition. About 20 exhibitors including NPCIL, HWB, AERB and other manufacturers/suppliers had put up their stalls.

The inaugural session was followed by three technical sessions out of which two were on Emergency Preparedness and one on Emergency Medicine. Each of these technical sessions had two invited lectures delivered by renowned experts from DAE as well non-DAE facilities. On the second day, there were two plenary sessions and two parallel sessions. Presentations were made by various participants on Industrial & Occupational Health Statistics, Serious and Near Miss Accident cases, Hazard Identification & Risk Assessment, Process Safety, Hazardous Waste Management, Occupational Health and Emergency Medicine etc. The technical sessions were interactive with active participation of the safety and occupational health professionals. There were about 50 presentations on the Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Medicine and other topics by various professionals from DAE units and AERB

On the third day, there were presentations on 'Contract Safety Management & other topics'. The Meet was concluded by a Valedictory Session, where in prizes for winners of Poster, Cartoon and Slogan Competitions conducted amongst DAE Employees were distributed.