Accidents at work and occupational diseases claim the lives of millions of workers resulting in significant economic and financial losses. According to ILO estimates, every year, 250 million accidents occur causing absence from work, the equivalent of 685,000 accidents every day, 475 accidents every minute, 8 accidents every second. ILO estimates further show that the fatality rate in advanced industrialized economies is almost half that of Central and Eastern Europe, China and India.

Providing safe and healthy workplace is one of the common goals of all countries. To achieve this common goal, cooperation and exchange of knowledge, experience and best practices among the countries on occupational safety and health is essentially required. The First International Vision Zero Conference on OSH, New Delhi was attended by 1300 participants from all over the world.

About the Conference:

The concept of ‘VISION ZERO’ is fast emerging as an effective tool in improving the occupational safety and health status worldwide and in achieving the goal of ‘Zero Accidents’. The fifth global conference on this concept is being organized from 18th to 20th, February 2019 at Indian Institute of Technology Bombay, Mumbai, India by Directorate General Factory Advice and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI), Government of India, Ministry of Labour and Employment jointly with German Social Accident Insurance (DGUV), Germany and Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) with strong support of International Social Security Association (ISSA) Sections on Construction, Mining & Electricity, Transportation and Information.

The conference aims to focus on the Occupational Safety and Health challenges and issues in the Manufacturing, Construction, Mining and Transportation sector. During the conference, experts in the field of Occupational Safety and Health reinforce and build networks and alliances while laying the groundwork for cooperation and strengthening relationships. The conference will have high profile content driven to highlight key issues and developments to be attended by 1500 key stakeholders.

An exhibition showcasing personal protective equipments (PPEs), Occupational Health, High-Risk Prevention, Environmental Protection at Work, etc. is also being held during the conference by Safety Appliances Manufacture Association (SAMA) which will provide the most efficient platform to support technological communication and business trade.
Vision Zero - The Concept:
Considering health as being the highest good of man, the primary focus should be on maintaining human health by all possible means. A reliable method for maintaining human health is to invest in the prevention of health hazards. At the same time investing in prevention helps to avoid much higher costs caused by occupational accidents, occupational diseases, and lost working time, and can also be regarded as a key competitive factor. Thus, prevention contributes to sustainable economic success of the companies as well as the preservation of employability of people.

To achieve this, the International Social Security Association (ISSA) sets Seven Golden Rules and describes a measure which forms the basis for achieving the Vision Zero.

The concept is based on four fundamental principles, viz., life is non-negotiable, humans are fallible, tolerable limits are defined by human physical resistance, and, people are entitled to safe transport and safe workplaces.

For implementing Vision Zero, there are Seven Golden Rules.

• Take Leadership – Demonstrate Commitment
• Identify Hazards – Control Risks
• Define Targets – Develop Programmes
• Ensure a Safe and Healthy System – be well-organized
• Ensure Safety and Health in Machines, Equipment and Workplaces
• Improve Qualifications – Develop Competence
• Invest in People – Motivate by Participation.

About the Organisers:

DGFAISLI
The DGFAISLI is the 'Technical Arm' of Ministry of Labour and Employment, Govt. of India and assists Ministry of Labour and Employment in formulating the National Policies and Strategies on OSH in Factories and Docks, advises on matters related to Safety, Health, Efficiency and Well-being of people at Work. DGFAISLI is an apex organisation of excellence in encouraging hazard free workplace to achieve continual reduction in the incidence of work related injury, illness and to play a lead role in promotion of Occupational Safety and Health in India and South East Asian countries.

IIT Bombay
Established in 1958, the institute is recognised worldwide as a leader in the field of engineering education and research. Reputed for the outstanding calibre of students graduating from its undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, the institute attracts the best students from the country for its bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral programmes. IIT Bombay has made concerted efforts to align its R&D focus with the national goal of achieving technological self-reliance. Students and faculty conduct research projects in thrust areas of science and engineering.

DGUV
The German Social Accident Insurance is a dedicated part of the statutory German social insurance system. The concept was “invented” by Otto von Bismarck in 1885. In accordance with the German Social Code the statutory accident insurance system provides prevention against occupational accidents, commuting accidents and occupational diseases as well as rehabilitation and compensation services out of one hand.

ISSA
The International Social Security Association is the principal international institution bringing together social security agencies and organizations. The ISSA provides access to information, expert advice, business standards, practical guidelines and platforms for members to build and promote dynamic social security systems worldwide.

Participation:

Everyone who is interested and deals with Occupational Safety and Health issues at work

• Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), Senior Managers, and Trade Union Leaders;
• High-level Government Officials, Decision Makers working for Public and Private Sector Organizations; Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) professionals such as Safety Officers, Safety Engineers and Factory Medical Officers.
• Occupational Hygienists, Occupational Physicians and others dealing with Occupational Medicine, OSH Scientists & Researchers, Competent Persons;
• Occupational Safety and Health inspection Officials;
• Instructors, trainers and teachers in the field of OSH education;
• Employers and their organizations, including human resource (HR) managers;
• International and National OSH organizations and institutions; and,
• Manufacturers and Traders of Safety Materials and Equipments.