



IFUNA *news*

Quarterly Magazine of Indian Federation of United Nations Associations

Vol. 7 No. 2

April - June 2007



Inside

World Environment Day
5th June 2007

MAHARASHTRA UNITED NATIONS ASSOCIATION

WORLD HEALTH DAY – 2007

Report by: **Ms. Mohini Mathur**, Executive Chairperson, MUNA

Maharashtra UNA observed "World Health Day" on 9th April 2007 at Godrej Bhawan at 5.30 P.M.

The programme started with tea and refreshments and fellowship amongst members of MUNA, Guest Speakers and other distinguished participants. It was a matter of great joy and privilege for members of MUNA to have Shri Ram Niwas Mirdhaji, President, IFUNA amongst us on this occasion.

At the outset Ms. Pheroza Godrej welcomed the gathering and expressed her gratitude to Mr. Mirdha for joining us on this day. This was followed by an erudite address by Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha who spoke about IFUNA and the relevance of the World Health Day.

Ms. Mohini Mathur, Executive Chairperson, MUNA read out the World Health Day 2007 message sent by Dr. Samlee Pilan Bangachang Regional Director WHO for South East Asia and elaborated on the relevance of the theme – "INTERNATIONAL HEALTH SECURITY" and the slogan "INVEST IN HEALTH – BUILD A SAFER FUTURE". She emphasized on the point that in today's globalized world, characterized by an increasing interdependence, the intricate link between human health and collective security is in sharper focus.

The distinguished guest speakers on the panel were – Dr. Mrs. Nilima Kshirsagar, Dean K.E.H. Hospital, Dr. Ruksana Ayaz – Psychiatric Consultant, Masina Hospital and Mrs. Kunika Lall, well



From left to right Mr. Ram Niwas Mirdha, President IFUNA; Ms. Pheroza Godrej, President MUNA; Dr. Ms. Nilima Kshirsagar, Dean K. E. H. Hospital; Ms. Mohini Mathur, Executive Chairperson, MUNA

known actress and activist working for HIV/AIDS. Dr. Ruksana Ayaz spoke on "Physiatrist Emergency" and said that one should be prompt in taking help. The alteration in behaviour and emotions can be treated through proper counseling and medical intervention. She further said that psychiatric problems are on the increase due to drugs, rape, sex addiction, poor achievers etc. and one must not have the taboo of consulting a psychiatrist to seek help.

Ms. Konika Lall in her speech said that there is lot of awareness created about HIV/AIDS and it is manageable medical disorder she said that our National budget for health should be increased which is 0.5% towards health.

Dr. Nilima Kshirsagar, Dean K.E.H. Hospital observed that the theme "International Health Security" chosen by WHO as the World

Health Day is very apt and said there is some threat to international health. She mentioned about avian flu, Bird flu transmitted through chickens, SARS and said that there are 40 new diseases that have affected mankind – one each year, and some already controlled diseases like malaria plague and have come back. She also elaborated on diseases caused by natural disasters like floods etc. and man made disasters like bomb blasts etc. and informed how K.E.H. Hospital helped victims of both these disasters through their disaster management plant.

The presentations were very informative and enlightening followed by interactive session amongst audience and speakers.

Mr. A.A. Syed, Secretary General MUNA proposed a Vote of Thanks.