



Network India

WORLD HEALTH DAY 2025

COLLECTIVE ACTION

FOR BETTER HEALTH ACROSS SOCIETY



**COLLECTIVE ACTION
FOR BETTER HEALTH
ACROSS SOCIETY**

10:00 AM

Monday, April 7, 2025

Global Compact Network India

NOIDA CITY

3 GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



INTRODUCTION

World Health Day, observed globally on April 7 each year, serves as a crucial platform to highlight health priorities and mobilize collective efforts for improved well-being. The 2025 theme, “Collective Action for Better Health Across Society,” emphasized the importance of inclusive and cross-sectoral collaboration to address contemporary health challenges in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Recognizing the urgency of shared responsibility in health promotion, UN GCNI and IEEE Delhi SIGHT organized a dynamic event to inspire meaningful dialogue, foster partnerships, and promote grassroots engagement.

BACKDROP

Health outcomes today are influenced not only by healthcare systems but by broader societal determinants—Health, clean water, energy access, climate resilience, urban infrastructure, and socio-economic equity. By aligning the observance of World Health Day with SDGs, particularly Goals 3, 6, 7, 11, and 13, the event aimed to address these interlinkages and promote integrated, community-driven solutions.

OBJECTIVES

- To raise awareness of health-related SDGs and their interconnections.
- To engage a diverse range of stakeholders—from grassroots to governance—in health dialogues.
- To inspire community members, particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds, to adopt healthy practices.
- To recognize and amplify the role of volunteers and civil society in health promotion.
- To initiate cross-sectoral collaboration for sustainable healthcare outcomes.

PARTICIPATION

The World Health Day 2025 event witnessed enthusiastic participation from around 150 individuals representing a vibrant cross-section of society. Attendees included students from schools and engineering colleges, corporate professionals, representatives from government and public sector organizations, and members of academia and civil society. Notably, the event also welcomed community participants such as domestic workers, security guards, tea vendors, and women ambassadors from underserved urban areas, ensuring that voices from the grassroots were heard and valued.





GCNI played an instrumental role in engaging participants and facilitating inclusive interactions. This diverse and inclusive gathering reflected the true spirit of the event's theme, "Collective Action for Better Health Across Society," and underscored the importance of bringing together stakeholders from all walks of life to promote public health and sustainable development.





SPEAKERS & HIGHLIGHTS

The event featured a distinguished lineup of speakers whose perspectives spanned governance, corporate responsibility, community action, and holistic wellness, each reinforcing the event's central theme, “Collective Action for Better Health Across Society.”

The session commenced with a keynote address by Shri C.M. Bhandari, Retired Ambassador and a respected voice in international diplomacy. With eloquence and wisdom, he emphasized the importance of individual responsibility in illness prevention and the power of small lifestyle changes. His advice, grounded in lived experience, was particularly well-received by the youth and community representatives present.





Dr. K. Madan Gopal, Advisor and Head of Public Health Administration at NHSRC, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, brought a policy-level lens to the discussion. He articulated the Indian government's roadmap toward achieving Universal Health Coverage and stressed the role of community partnerships in sustaining public health outcomes. His address offered participants a clear view of the national health strategy and the critical importance of decentralized implementation.

From the corporate sector, Mr. R.K. Singh, Head of Electric Vehicles at Tata Power, highlighted how companies can contribute meaningfully to public health through their sustainability and CSR programs. He shared examples of Tata Power's community health interventions and emphasized the synergy between environmental sustainability and health equity.

Representing the organizing partner, Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director at UNGCNI, provided a thematic overview of World Health Day 2025, drawing attention to the role of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in shaping health outcomes. He emphasized how environmental factors such as clean energy, water, and resilient infrastructure are intricately linked with human health, advocating for collective action at all levels—policy, corporate, and community.

Mr. Ravindra Joshi, Past Chair of IEEE Delhi SIGHT, offered historical context and an impassioned call to action. He spoke about IEEE's legacy in promoting technology for humanity and the role of engineers and young innovators in advancing health solutions. His call— "Small Steps, Big Impact"—set an inspiring tone for participants to champion health in their everyday lives.



Mr. Vijay Shukla, Director at GIMS, highlighted the intersection of health and education, emphasizing the role of institutions in shaping health-conscious mindsets from an early age. His remarks focused on integrating public health awareness into academic discourse and institutional priorities.

On behalf of civil society, Mrs. Vallari Srivastava, Founder of INU Pulak Foundation, brought forth powerful examples of NGO-led interventions in marginalized communities. She stressed the importance of trust, empathy, and cultural sensitivity in addressing health disparities, particularly among urban poor and underserved populations.



Mrs. Jyoti Sahu, an expert in yoga and meditation, added a wellness perspective by sharing the benefits of holistic practices for mental and physical health. Her session encouraged participants to adopt daily mindfulness, movement, and nutritional balance as preventive tools for lifelong well-being.

Adding a multimedia dimension to the event, Mr. Vikas Gupta from Agile Consultancy engaged the audience through short videos and visual storytelling to reinforce health messages in a relatable and compelling way. He also played a key logistical role in ensuring the event's smooth execution.

Finally, Ms. Anamika, the event anchor, seamlessly guided the flow of the program. Her poised facilitation connected speakers, audience interactions, and engagement segments, ensuring the diverse content remained accessible and vibrant throughout the event.

INTERACTIVE ENGAGEMENT

A key strength of the World Health Day 2025 event lay in its thoughtfully designed interactive components, which encouraged meaningful audience participation and personal reflection. One of the most engaging segments was the Health Awareness Quiz, led enthusiastically by Ms. Seerat from UN GCNI. The quiz tested participants' knowledge of health practices, SDG linkages, and wellness-related facts through well-curated questions. The session not only sparked healthy competition but also served as a fun, educational tool that enhanced the understanding of health and sustainability themes. Six winners, including school and college students, were awarded prizes by the dignitaries, acknowledging their curiosity and attentiveness.

Following the quiz, a Feedback Circle was conducted, in which every participant, ranging from professionals and students to community members, was encouraged to share one healthy habit.





they pledged to adopt in their daily routine. The responses were heartfelt and diverse, reflecting a strong sense of individual accountability and motivation. Common commitments included

practicing yoga and meditation, reducing consumption of junk food, increasing physical activity, and drinking more clean water. This session symbolized the core spirit of the event—transforming knowledge into action through collective reflection and personal resolve.

Throughout the program, the audiences from UN GCNI and IEEE Delhi SIGHT facilitated small group conversations, assisted community participants in navigating the sessions, and created an inclusive atmosphere that made everyone feel heard and involved. The use of visual storytelling and short health-centric videos further enriched the learning experience and helped simplify key messages for all age groups. These engagements ensured that the event was not just informative but also transformative—leaving participants energized and empowered to take small but meaningful steps toward better health.

KEY OUTCOMES

Increased Awareness: Participants better understood the linkages between SDGs and public health.

Behavioral Shifts: Commitments to healthy habits indicated a shift toward preventive health consciousness.

Strengthened Partnerships: The event nurtured collaboration among government, academia, civil society, corporates, and communities.

Empowered Volunteers: The active involvement of youth and grassroots stakeholders highlighted a people-centric approach.

Future Aspirations: Multiple attendees showed interest in scaling up this initiative through regional follow-ups and campus/community campaigns.

CONCLUDING REFLECTIONS & WAY FORWARD

As the event drew to a close, participants left with a renewed sense of purpose and a deeper understanding of the multifaceted nature of health and well-being. The discussions throughout the day underscored the importance of collaboration, inclusivity, and action-oriented thinking. In his closing remarks, Dr. Somnath Singh, Deputy Director, UN GCNI, brought together the key messages of the day, emphasizing that advancing public health requires systemic thinking and unified efforts

across sectors. His reflections offered a powerful roadmap for sustaining the momentum generated by the event and translating insights into meaningful change.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Health must be viewed as an interconnected issue—linked to water, energy, infrastructure, environment, and equity.
- Community-led health promotion should be at the forefront of public health strategies.
- Collective action must extend beyond dialogue to influence policies and foster long-term, sustainable practices.
- Technology, innovation, and local leadership play a crucial role in building inclusive and accessible health systems.

WAY FORWARD

- Expand awareness initiatives across educational institutions, residential welfare associations (RWAs), and local networks.
- Facilitate partnerships between corporates, civil society, and public institutions to advance SDG-aligned health goals.
- Strengthen volunteer networks to promote grassroots engagement and sustained community health outreach.

Dr. Somnath Singh expressed deep appreciation to all speakers, participants, volunteers, and partners for making the event a success. Special gratitude was extended to IEEE Delhi SIGHT and community representatives for their enthusiastic support and contributions.

“Let us transform today’s inspiration into tomorrow’s action—toward a healthier, more equitable society.”

