

## **Reports of the rapporteurs – Dr. I. Arul Aram and his research scholars**

### **45<sup>TH</sup> INDIAN SOCIAL SCIENCE CONGRESS DAY 1- MARCH 28<sup>TH</sup> 2022**

**Inaugural session:** Gold medals were presented to Mr. P. Sainath, for his rural reporting examining the process of poverty and deprivation going beyond mere covering news as events. Mr. Sainath receives this ISSA Silver Jubilee P.V. Sukhatme Gold Medal. Mr. Ravish Kumar was conferred the Basant Sarkar Gold Medal for his courageous Hindi journalism particularly upholding the freedom of expression and contributing to the protection and enrichment of democratic values through the dedicated and fearless pursuit of scientific journalism.

#### **Distinguished lecture/Presidential Addresses:**

##### **1. Dr. Madhavan Nair Rajeevan on Energy, Environment and Health**

Air pollution is the single largest risk factor in ill-health in India, next only to malnutrition. Particulate matter and ground-level ozone have increased substantially. Increase in heavy industries have increased pollution of water bodies, and 86% of our water bodies are critically polluted. Electricity demand of the country has increased rapidly, and now 37% of India's total installed capacity is from renewable sources including hydroelectric plants. Despite our health services in the rural areas is poor, our healthcare system had done+ a commentary work in dealing with Covid-19.

##### **2. Dr.G. Parthasarathy- President Indian Social Science Academy Materials from Nature, and for Nature: Society, Environment and Energy/ Circular Economy**

He talked about various naturally occurring chemicals that are intertwined with man's daily life and how many are mined in excessive quantities and the adverse results it has on humans. A few

examples: although Chromium III is produced in nature and useful to human health, Hexavalent chromium results in negative effects on human health and is found in tannery waste in several areas in India. A few other minerals he mentioned were green clay, ferrous chamosite and REE (Rare earth elements). He mentioned that one of the main reasons of Russia-Ukraine war is the presence of lithium wealth in Ukraine, which is main material used in the present-day batteries.

### **Dr. Paramesh - Environment, Energy and Health**

Air pollution has detrimental impacts on health. He highlighted that doctor are the strongest link to mitigate effects of air pollution, global warming and climate change between scientists and policy makers. He also gave a detailed listing of the various policies and legislations brought into effect by the government to control pollution. Informative practical suggestions were made on strategies for carbon foot print reduction. He concluded by mentioning India's COP 26 pledges.

### **Dr. Prakash Diwan – Nano Technology Health Care: The power of small and its concerns: The next big innovations are really tiny.**

Nano technology is not a science of recent years but has been used even during the ancient Roman days. The gold and silver nano particles have been used for making stained glasses. Nano Technology in nature is seen in wall lizards through which they get stuck to the walls. The word NT was first articulated by Richard Feynman in 1959. He spoke about the power of Nano particles and the various applications in medicine and pharmaceuticals – in research and clinical applications. He also highlighted the advancements in NT. With all these advancements, the speaker concluded that it is possible for people to live up to 150 years but is the society ready?

**Mr. Ravish Kumar, Hindi journalist,**

Lamented that journalism in the recent decades manipulates people.

New patterns of news consumption are now being created.

Ethics of journalism are not being upheld. The way the profession of journalism is being carried out has changed a lot, and it is not possible to go back to the old days. Social media is influencing and manipulating people in diverse ways, and it is very difficult to understand this phenomenon. Certain amount of sycophancy has spread in society and this has affected journalism too.