



**Divecha Centre for Climate Change**  
**INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE**  
**BANGALORE - 560012**  
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## **DIVECHA CENTRE SEMINAR**

**Title:** "W.H.O Survey Of Professionals Awareness On Climate Change On Health : 2020 "

**Sepaker:** Prof. Dr. H. Paramesh, MD, FAAP (USA), FIAP, FIAMS, FIAA, FICAAI, FPAI

Paediatric Pulmonologist and Environmentalist,  
Visiting Professor, Divecha Centre for Climate Change, IISc

**Date:** 23/12/2020 (Wednesday)

**Time:** 3:30 to 4.30 PM

**Venue:** Online using MS Teams

### **Abstracts:**

Air pollution, Global warming and Climate Change are inter-related and have greatest impact on health either directly from polluted air, water, soil (food) and sound or indirectly from agriculture, water resources, coastal areas, species and natural areas.

If the global temperature increases to 1.2 to 2.7 °C it will cause **Catastrophy**; between 2.2° to 4°C **Irreversible changes** occurs and at 5° to 6° C **Extinction** of all species occur in our planet.

We need to act on climate change for our survival on earth. Our ecosystem requires a climate similar to the one in which we evolved and flourished. Last century we lived in the world where CO<sub>2</sub> were at 300 PPM but now we are at 450 PPM and the International commitment is to limit the temperature at 2°C over preindustrial area.

To create the awareness W.H.O team on Climate and Health, and George Mason University of U.S. with Indian Academy of Paediatrics having the membership of 33,000 ,did a random sample survey of 9196 people. It is a 10 min voluntary survey, 4.5% of paediatricians participated and 3% of them completed the survey. The results are highlighted here:

- 98% think climate change is happening. 96% think it is appropriate for health organisations to advocate with national leaders for increased investment in health.
- 76% of the climate scientists are aware that it is anthropogenic.
- 96% of doctors feel that we have the responsibility to bring the health effects of climate change to the attention of the public and policy makers.
- 75% of them feel the professional bodies should cut any ties with fossil fuel companies.
- Over 80% feel over the next 10yrs the health issues from climate change will be more frequent, severe , both physical and mental.
- **How to propagate this knowledge to the public and policy makers?** 91% felt lack of time; 75% felt they need more knowledge; 72% felt it does not make any difference; -78% felt lack of support from peers and -54% felt it is too risky personally and professionally.
- The policy statements on climate change and health issues should come from professional associations. 97% do recommend and 97% feel there should be a training programme about climate and health

ALL ARE WELCOME