

WORLD DIGESTIVE HEALTH DAY 2009
HOTEL SWOSTI PLAZA, Bhubaneswar
29th May 2009

The World Digestive Health Day [WDHD] 2009 was observed on 29th May 2009 at Hotel Swosti Plaza at **Bhubaneswar, Orissa in India**. This was organized by Prof. S.P. Singh on behalf of the **Orissa state chapter of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology [ISG] and Kalinga Gastroenterology Foundation [KGF]**, Cuttack. The Meeting was chaired by Prof Mihir Kumar Mohapatra, President of the Orissa Chapter of ISG, & Head of the Department of Surgical Gastroenterology, SCB Medical College, Cuttack. The program included a Synposium on “Irritable Bowel Syndrome” the focus of this year’s WDHD, and the formal observation of **World Digestive Health Day**.

WORLD DIGESTIVE HEALTH DAY [WDHD] CEREMONY

The Program began with the **World Digestive Health Day [WDHD]** ceremony. The meeting was inaugurated by the customary lighting of the lamp by Dr. Uday Ghoshal, Associate Professor of Gastroenterology at SGPGI, Lucknow who is the Secretary of the Asian Neurogastroenterology & Motility Association (ANMA). In his introductory address Prof. SP Singh, the Convenor of the Meet spoke about the importance of observing the World Digestive Health Day to promote digestive health. He spoke about the history of formation of the OMGE, and enlightened the audience about the history of O.M.G.E./W.G.O., and how this day the world over everyone was commemorating the anniversary of the creation of the World Gastroenterology Organisation.

Irritable Bowel Syndrome SYMPOSIUM

This Symposium was attended by gastroenterologists, physicians and gastrointestinal surgeons from coastal Orissa. Dr. C.R. Panda, Vice President of the Orissa Chapter of ISG conducted the IBS Symposium. The Symposium Faculty consisted of Prof Premashish Kar, President of the Indian Society of Gastroenterology [ISG], Dr. Uday Ghoshal, Associate Professor of Gastroenterology at SGPGI, Lucknow, Dr Karmabir Chakravartty, Senior Consultant Gastroenterologist at the Kothari Medical Centre, Kolkata and Dr. Haribhakti Seba Das, Assistant Professor of Gastroenterology at the SCB Medical College, Cuttack. The topics for IBS Synposium included:

- IBS in Indians: Problems in Diagnosis & Management
- Alarm Symptoms in IBS
- Role of Probiotics in Management of IBS
- Case Studies: Small Bowel Diseases mimicking IBS

Following the lecturers, there was a lively interactive Question-Answer Session on IBS management.

RELEASE OF “Questions & Answers” on IBS for Patient Education in ORIYA, HINDI & ENGLISH:

The Highlight of the meeting was the release of “Patient Educational Literature” on IBS in the Indian languages Hindi and Oriya by Dr. Uday Ghoshal. There is a dearth of “patient educational literature” in Indian languages on major gastrointestinal diseases. It was hoped that these literature on IBS would go a long way in educating IBS patients which helps in alleviating their pain and misery.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by Dr Prakash Dalai, Assistant Professor at KIMS, Bhubaneswar. The Meeting was possible due to logistic support and a generous grant from Dr Reddy’s Laboratories Limited, the main sponsors of the meeting.