



**Report of the Universal health coverage (UHC)
Day Celebration (stakeholders meeting and Rally)
Organized by the School of Public Health, KIIT
Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha,
India on 12 December 2017**



Universal health coverage Day, celebrated each year on 12 December, from 2014 onwards, is the anniversary of the first unanimous United Nations resolution calling for countries to provide affordable, quality health care to every person, everywhere. Universal health coverage (UHC) means that all people and communities can avail the quality health care services they need, without being exposed to financial hardship. This definition of UHC embodies three related objectives: Equity in access, affordable quality health services and protection against financial-risk while availing the services.

To commemorate the UHC Day on 12 December 2017, the School of Public Health, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India organized a stakeholders' meeting on UHC Day followed by a rally with support from Global Health Strategies (GHS).

The UHC Day stakeholders' meeting started at 8.30 AM, 12 Dec. 2017, which was held at the Campus 6 of the University with an attendance of around 495 participants including Policy makers, the students, faculties, Deans/Directors from the Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS), Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences (KINS), Kalinga Institute of Dental Sciences (KIDS), School of Public Health (SPH) and Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS) Deemed to be University, management representatives of the University, Registrar of KISS Deemed to be University, Vice Chancellors of KIIT and KISS Deemed to be of the University and the invited guests and representatives of NGOs.

The meeting started with the welcome address by Prof. (Dr) Sudhir Kumar Satpathy, Director, School of Public Health, KIIT Deemed to be university. In his deliberation, Prof. Satpathy emphasized on the importance of Health for all, UHC, health as human right and highlighted the key dimensions of UHC – equity in accessibility to health care, quality and affordable (protected against financial-risk) health care to all people irrespective of geographic and socio-economic status. He mentioned that for the country like India, adequate financial provisioning should be made available to health sector and at least 5 – 6% of GDP should be spent on health sector for achieving UHC. Different kinds of Public Private Partnership mechanisms should be adapted for protecting the people against financial risk while availing the health services.

In his deliberation, Prof. (Dr) Hrushikesh Mohanty, Vice Chancellor, KIIT deemed to be University, emphasized that health care needs and coverage of poor and under privilege people in the society should be given importance in UHC modality and the health care delivery system of a country should be more responsive in catering the health needs of all the stakeholders of a society.

In his address Prof. (Dr) Hare Krishna Satpathy, Vice Chancellor, KISS Deemed to be University, highlighted that a state of harmony among physical, mental, social and spiritual wellbeing is needed for achieving good health and emphasized the importance of UHC.

In his deliberation, the chief guest, honorable Member of Parliament (MP), Bhubaneswar, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani emphasized on the prevention and promotional aspects of health. He highlighted that improvement in the health status of a state or a country depend lots on the positive health behavior and practices of its citizens at the individual level. Exercise and positive thinking are keys to the attainment of good health. Individuals with good health and positive mind set can do lots for the country.

A rally on UHC Day followed the meeting. The main objective of the rally was to spread awareness among the people regarding Universal Health Coverage. The rally was formally flagged off by the chief guest and other dignities, which started from the campus 6, KIIT Deemed to be University and proceeded towards KIMS, (campus 5) through Prasanti Vihar on foot. Around 495 participants including the chief guest, honorable MP, Bhubaneswar, Dr. Prasanna Kumar Patasani participated in the rally since beginning to the end. Participants wore T-shirts with UHC Day logo. Banners and placards reflecting UHC Day message were raised during the rally. After a 2.5 kilometer journey, the rally ended at the KIMS, Campus 5 of the KIIT deemed to be University. At the end of the rally, the Director, School of Public Health, Prof. (Dr) Sudhir Kumar Satpathy thanked all the participants for the enthusiastic participation in UHC day celebration. Fruit juice and snacks were provided to the participants. The Social Media Kit and financial support provided for this event by Global Health Strategies (GHS) was acknowledged with deep appreciation.

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