



Two-day meet on environment, health

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A two-day conference on Environment, Health and Policy Nexus with focus on implications of poor water quality on public health began here on Thursday.

Academicians, scientists, researchers and professionals from many countries will be sharing their experiences and research results on environment, health and the relevant policy issues at local, national and global-level.

Organised by JSS University's Division of Environmental Sciences, the participants are taking stock of the health burden of poor water quality in developing and under developed countries.

T.V. Ramachandra of Indian Institute of Science, in his keynote address, spoke on 'Unplanned Urbanisation with Fragmented Governance and Poor Environment Health – Nexus' and warned that rapid and unplanned urbanisation has serious environmental implications.

He said in developing countries like India, the urban population was growing at rate of 2.3% per annum and global urban population had increased from 220 million in 1900 to 3.2 billion in 2005 and is projected to increase to 4.9 billion by 2030. He said unplanned urbanisation and urban sprawl in the metropolitan areas have posed problems like lack of infrastructure and basic amenities.

Nearly 300 participants are taking part in the conference.