

Dear Fellow Members

Greetings to one and all. Through this news letter, we wish to update you about the activities carried out by IASP in the past one year.

Thirty Third Annual Conference

The XXXIII Annual Conference of the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) was held at Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, (SGPGIMS), Lucknow during Nov 11-13, 2011. The sub themes of the conference were: Census 2011 Results : Challenges Ahead, Poverty, Drinking Water and Sanitation : Achievements and Major Challenges, Maternal Health : Can India afford to delay MDG?, Child Health : Issues and Challenges, Fertility and Family Planning in UP and Bihar, NRHM in Priority States : Implementation and Implications, Urbanisation : Issues and Challenges, Aging in India : Psychological, Social and Health Issues, Mathematical Methods of Demography, Innovations in Demographic Analysis, Population, Development and Environment, Sexual Behaviour/Health, and Reproductive Health

About 200 delegates representing various universities, research institutions, population research centers, government departments, NGOs and international donor agencies participated in the conference. The inaugural session was held on 11th November in the auditorium of the SGPGIMS. Prof. F. Ram, President of IASP, in his presidential address discussed about the current demographic scenario in the country and the need for more interventions in the health sector. He also elaborated on the challenges for bringing down the maternal mortality and infant mortality and the contribution of programmes like Janani Suraksha Yojna. The inaugural address was delivered by Prof. R.K. Sharma, Director of SGPGIMS. He highlighted the need for better collaboration between medical community and population scientists. He further added that many of our research findings are not leading to policy decisions mainly because there is no proper dissemination of the research studies. The souvenir of the conference was released by Prof U.K. Mishra, Dean, SGPGIMS

The IASP felicitated seven senior Demographers - Prof. Sumati Kulkarni, Prof. K.E. Vaidyanathan, Prof. R.C. Yadava, Prof. M. Sivamurthy, Prof. T.K. Roy (in absentia), Dr. J.N. Srivastava and Late Prof. B.N. Bhattacharya (posthumously) - for their immense contribution to Indian demography in general and IASP in particular.

Prof. K. Srinivasan Award was given to Chandralekha Basu and Debesh Chakraborty for their paper entitled "Migration from Bihar, Orissa and Uttar Pradesh to West Bengal during 1901-1991" published in Demography India Volume 39, No 1, 2010.

Prof K B Pathak award for best published paper was presented to Dr Nandita Saikia for her paper entitled "Trends and Geographic Differentials in Mortality Under Age 60 in India". The awards were announced by Dr. U.V. Somayajulu, General Secretary, IASP.

Prof. Pradeep Mishra, Vice President of IASP spoke about the objectives and activities of the association. Prof C.M. Pandey, the organizing secretary of the conference welcomed the delegates while Prof. Sayeed Unisa, Treasurer, IASP proposed the vote of thanks.

In all, the conference had 2 Plenary sessions (on Millennium Development Goals: Challenges for India and Census of India 2011) with 6 paper presentations, 24 technical sessions with more than 80 paper presentations and 3 poster sessions with about 70 poster presentations.

Memorial Lecture

One memorial lecture was organized as part of the conference. Dr George Simmons Memorial Lecture was delivered by Prof. P.M. Kulkarni, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi on the theme of "Towards an Explanation for Fertility Transition in India". Prof. U.K. Mishra and Prof F Ram chaired this session.

Awards

On the last day of the conference, Dr. C. Chandrasekharan memorial award presentation was organized as commonly done in the IASP conferences. Seven papers were presented for Dr. C. Chandrasekharan award by the young scholars working in the field of Demography. The evaluators selected the papers "Structural Determinants of Simultaneity in the Use of Contraceptives and Maternal Child Health Care Services in Uttar Pradesh, India" by Diwakar Yadav and "Sex Ratio at Birth : A Model Based Approach" by Anup Kumar for the award.

Three best posters were given Dr. S.N. Singh award. The winners of the best posters were: Ritwika Mukherjee ("The Tale of the Missing Girls"), Nidhi Sharma ("A Methodological Innovation to Study HIV Vulnerability among Urban Youth : A Sequential Analysis of Critical Events") and Baiju Dinesh Shah and Laxmikant Dwivedi ("Causes of Neonatal Death and New Born Care").

Valedictory Session

The valedictory session of the conference was held on November 13, 2011. The valedictory address was delivered by Mr. Amit Mohan Prasad, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. Prof. F. Ram, President of IASP delivered the presidential address. The participants expressed their satisfaction with the way the conference was organized and appreciated the efforts of the organising committee and IASP. Dr. T V Sekher, Joint Secretary presented the rapporteur general's report. Dr. U.V. Somayajulu, General Secretary of IASP thanked UNFPA, UNICEF, ICRW, Urban Health Initiatives Project and IIPS for their generous financial support on behalf of IASP. He also thanked SGPIMS, PRC Lucknow, IIPS, NIMS, Sigma et al for their active support in the activities of IASP in general and the conference in particular. Prof. C.M. Pandey, local organizing secretary thanked IASP and its members for making the conference a success.

EC and GB Meeting

The Joint Meeting of Board of Trustees and Executive Committee held at SGPIMS, Lucknow on Nov 10, 2011 approved the membership applications of 3 Life and 40 Annual members for admission to IASP. And the General body meeting of the IASP was held on Nov 12, 2010. The EC discussed about various issues relating to the association including Demography India.

Announcement 1: Thirty Fourth Annual Conference of IASP

We are pleased to inform that the Thirty Fourth Annual Conference of IASP will be held at the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune during December 13-15, 2012. The broad themes and sub themes are listed below :

General Themes

- Gender Analysis of 2011 census data
- Ageing, Women and Development
- Program Evaluation
- Population, Nutrition and Development
- Population and sustainable development
- Health Management Information System: Content, Quality and Utilization
- Demographic dividend: Evidence from the Indian States

Subthemes

- Youth: Sexual and Reproductive Health needs
- Urban health Needs
- Burden of Disease and Premature Mortality
- Longitudinal Study in India: Methodological Challenges
- Emerging Concerns in Low Fertility Population in India
- Universal Health Coverage in India: Challenges Ahead

Dates to remember

- On line submission of abstracts begins : May 1, 2012
- Last date for submission of abstracts : August 31, 2012
- Announcement regarding selection of papers and travel support : October 31, 2012
- Confirmation of participation by delegates : November 16, 2012

Announcement 2 Prof. C. Chandrasekharan Award

Papers on the conference theme /sub themes are invited from young scholars (below 30 years of age) for Dr. Chandrasekharan award. Authors of the papers selected by the Screening Committee would be invited for presentation during the Annual Conference. The eligible members are requested to send the abstract by Aug 31, 2012 (through email as word document along with age proof) and full paper by September 30, 2012 to the General Secretary, IASP (iasp.nims@gmail.com). The author of the selected paper would be intimated by October 15, 2012. The first and the second best papers will be presented with Dr. Chandrasekharan Award during the annual conference. The young scholars whose papers are selected will be reimbursed up to maximum AC-3 Tier train fare for their travel if requested in advance. Please note that the paper should not be of joint authorship.

Announcement 3 Prof K B Pathak Memorial Award

The annual award in memory of Prof K B Pathak would be presented in the annual conference of IASP to the author of the best paper in the field of Population and Health with significant contribution in terms of methodological innovation. The papers must have been published in any refereed journal on Population/Demography and Health in the past two years. The author must be below 40 years of age. The papers along with age proof must be sent to the General Secretary of IASP (Sigma Research and Consulting, C23, South Extension I, New Delhi – 110 049) before September 1, 2012.

Announcement 4: Prof K. Srinivasan Award for best papers Published in Demography India

Two of the best papers published in Demography India in issues of 2011, one on Demographic techniques and the other on substantive Demography, will be selected for Dr Srinivasan Award. The selection of the best papers will be made by the Editorial Committee of the Journal and communicated by the Chief Editor during the next conference.

Announcement 5: Demography India

Volume 39, No 2 of 2010 of Demography India was dispatched to the members in January 2012 and Volume 40 No 1 of 2011 is in press.

Announcement 6: Renewal of Annual Membership

The annual members who have not renewed their membership are requested to send the membership fee.

Announcement 7: Updating the Address of IASP Members

All the members are requested to kindly communicate change of address, if any, along with e mail address. You can visit the website of IASP (www.iasp.ac.in) and check your mailing address given under the "Member: Annual/Life". Due to non availability of correct address of the members, many a times the communication sent by IASP including copies of Demography India comes back. We seek cooperation of all the members in resolving this problem and appreciate your timely help in updating the member information. The members are requested to send the information relating to demise of any of the members and change in the address of other members to the General Secretary so that the member data base can be updated.

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