

Dear Fellow Members

Greetings to all of you. This edition of the news letter provides a brief description of the activities carried out by IASP in the recent past and gives an idea regarding the forthcoming academic and professional events to be organized during 2010.

Thirty First Annual Conference

The XXXI Annual Conference of the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) was held at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati during Nov 3-5, 2009. The theme of the conference was **“Population and Disease Burden”** with sub-themes being (1) Methodological Issues related to Large scale sample Surveys (2) Research on Disease Burden (3) Epidemiological Transition (4) Infectious Diseases (5) Disease Burden and Health Policies (6) Adult and Adolescent Health and Nutrition (7) Child Health, Nutrition and Care (8) Reproductive Health and (9) Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS.

The conference began with the President’s address by Prof Arvind Pandey President, IASP, key note address by Dr. Nesim Tumkaya, UNFPA Country representative and Chairman’s remarks by Prof N Prabhakar Rao, Vice Chancellor, Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. The inaugural session was attended by over 300 researchers, teachers, policy and programme managers and programme officers from various organizations such as UNICEF, UNFPA, NSSO, ICMR, AIIMS, IIPS, IEG, Intra health, ISEC, TISS, PRCs, BHU, JNU, SV University faculty and students etc.

The IASP felicitated six senior demographers including Prof. P.C. Saxena, Prof. U.P. Sinha, Prof. P.H. Reddy, Prof. L.B. Venkatarangan, Prof. S. Krishnamoorthy and Shri K.S. Natarajan.

Prof. K. Srinivasan Award was given to two best papers - technical paper by N.P. Das and R.M Patel, and substantive paper by Shampa Kundu, Sushil Kumar Halder and Dubesh Chakraborty published in 2008 volume of IASP’s peer reviewed Journal “Demography India”.

Prof K.B. Pathak award for best published paper in the field of population and health was awarded to Dr Sanjay Kumar Mohanty.

There were two memorial lectures during the conference – (1) Mari Bhat Memorial Oration by Prof Krishnan Namboodri, Ohio University, USA on the topic “Demographic Diversities” and (2) George Simmons Memorial Lecture by Prof. S. Parasuraman, Director, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai on the topic “Economic Liberalization, Informalization of Labour and Social Protection in India”.

During the conference, two books: (1) The proceedings of 30th Annual Conference in the form of a published book “Population, Gender and Health in India: Methods, Processes and Policies” and (2) “Unwanted Daughters: Gender Discrimination in Modern India” by Dr TV Sekher and Neelambar Hali were released.

In addition, first ever supplement of Demography India, Vol. 37(2) on large scale surveys was released during the conference.

Awards

On the last day of the conference, Dr. C. Chandrasekharan Memorial Award presentation was organized as commonly done in the IASP conferences. Four papers were presented for this award by the young scholars in the field of demography. Evaluators selected two papers for the award. The young scholars selected were: Santosh Kumar Singh for his paper “*Estimation of Maternal Mortality Ratio using Regression Approach: A Study of India, its States and Districts*” and Dr. Shiv Shekar Dutta. for his paper “*Determinants of child health in tribal area: conceptual analysis of qualitative findings*”

Rachna Patel, Anup Kumar and Arpita Das were given Dr. S.N. Singh award for the best posters presented at the XXXI annual conference.

EC and GB Meeting

On Nov 2, 2009, the Joint Meeting of Board of Trustees and Executive Committee held at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati approved the membership application of 22 Life and 10 Annual members for admission to IASP.

The General body meeting of the IASP was held on Nov 4, 2009 at Sri Venkateswara University, Tirupati. The members condoled the sad demise of five members of the Association, namely, Mrs. Nafees Bisht, Prof. Aneeta A. Minocha, Mr. S.D. Kapoor, Mr. Vir Narain and Dr. Stan D’ Souza by observing two minutes silence.

The GB meeting ratified the decision taken in the Executive Committee meeting held on 26.04.09 regarding increasing the Annual membership fee of the Association to Rs. 500/- and Life Membership fee to Rs. 5000/- The GB also decided to enhance the Auditor’s fee by Rs. 5000.

Announcement 1, XXXII Annual Conference

We are happy to inform you that the next Annual Conference of the Association will be held at Bhubaneswar sometime in the last week of November 2010. The final date and details would be communicated shortly. The theme of the conference is "Population and Public Health". We request the members to help in generating funds for special sessions at the Conference and send their valuable suggestions regarding the sub-themes of the conference.

Announcement 2 Contributions to association

Prof. P.M. Kulkarni, Sri C.V.S. Prasad and Dr. K.M. Sathyanarayana contributed Rs. 10000/- (Rupees ten thousand) each, Dr T B Singh contributed Rs5,000 (Rupees five thousand) and Dr. Muniappan contributed Rs. 1000/- (Rupees one thousand) to the Association. Prof. K.K. Singh contributed Rs. 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand) to the IASP to use the same for Prof. SN Singh award to the best posters presented at the Annual Conference.

Announcement 3 UNFPA's generous support to Demography India

We are delighted to inform the members that UNFPA has extended generous financial support of US\$ 10,000 (Rs 465,000) to meet the expenses of Demography India for five consecutive years. The MOU between UNFPA and President IASP has been signed recently. IASP is grateful to UNFPA, in particular, Dr Nesim Tumkaya for this greatest ever support to IASP.

Announcement 4: Renewal of Annual Membership

The annual members who have not renewed their membership are requested to send the membership fee of Rs 500.

Announcement 5: Updating the Address of IASP Members

All the members are requested to kindly communicate change of address, if any, along with e mail address. We seek cooperation of all the members in updating the member information.

News:

We are proud to inform that Dr. Vinod Mishra, Director, Research, Macro International, has been appointed as Chief, Population Policy Division, United Nations, New York, a prestigious position. Congratulations Vinod!!

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