

## Dear Fellows Members

Greetings to all of you. Through this newsletter, we wish to update you about the activities carried by the IASP in the past one year.

## XXXV Annual Conference of Indian Association for the study of Population (IASP)

The XXXV fifth Annual Conference of Annual Conference of Indian Association for the study of Population (IASP) was held Ch. Ranbir Singh Institute of Social & Economic Change, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak during Dec 15-17, 2013. More than 200 delegates representing various universities, research institutions, population research centres, government departments, NGOs and International donor agencies from length and breadth of India have actively participated and attended the conference. The thematic areas for the conference were as follows-

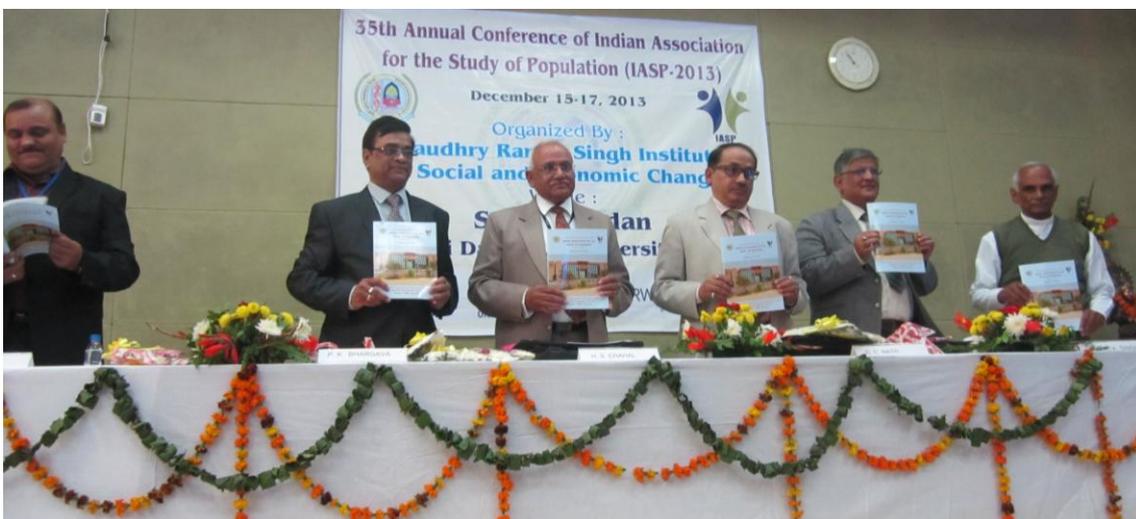
Fertility and Family Planning  
Population and Ageing  
Mortality and Health  
Migration and Urbanization  
Population and sustainable development  
National Food Security Bill and MDGs  
Health Management Information System: Content, Quality and Utilization  
Demographic dividend: Evidence from the Indian States  
Population Projections  
Demographic Data and Analysis  
Marriage and family  
Adolescent and Young Adult: Sexual and Reproductive Health needs  
Burden of Disease and Premature Mortality  
Emerging Concerns in Low Fertility Population in India  
Universal Health Coverage in India: Challenges Ahead  
Population and Development in Haryana

The Inaugural session was held 15th December, 2013 in the auditorium of Ch. Ranbir Singh Institute of Social & Economic Change, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak. Honb'le Vice Chancellor of Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak Er. H. S. Chahal graced the occasion as Chief Guest and made contextual remarks on "improving the quality of life by averting unwanted migration to urban areas", "As we are youth nation, need to use this energy by providing them with quality higher education" and requirement of "Institute of Public health to cater the needs of massive scale health care" in our country and state of Haryana. Prof D. C. Nath Senior Vice-President of the Indian Association for the Study of Population chaired the Inaugural Session and delivered presidential address. He highlighted urgent need for

achieving the MDGs and the gaps with respect achieving the goals of child mortality. Further he focused on the universal health coverage. The Souvenir of the conference was released by the chief guest of the conference. Prof. K.K. Singh, General Secretary of IASP spoke about the objectives and activities of the association. Prof. P.K. Bhargava, Director, Chaudhary Ranbir Singh Institute of Social & Economic Change, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak, the organizing secretary of the conference welcomed the delegates while Prof. S.K. Singh, Treasurer, IASP proposed the vote of thanks.

Continuing with its tradition of felicitation to senior demographers, three senior demographers namely Prof S. C. Gulati, Prof S. Lahiri and Shri Deepak Grover were felicitated during the session. Prof. Gulati was present for the occasion and was humbled by the honour. He made very encouraging and nostalgic remarks and took the everyone present in the hall at a historical journey of IASP.

As an attempt to promote demographic research IASP awards two papers respectively as Prof K Srinivasan and Prof KB Pathak Awards. Prof Srinivasan award was given first two Technical papers to **Dr. Dibyojyoti Bhattacharjee and Dr. Jianjum Wang** and for the best substantive paper to **Dr. Vijay Korra** for the work published and Prof Pathak award was given to Dr. Abhishek Singh “Infant and Child Mortality in India in the Last two Decades: A Geospatial Analysis” published in the journal PLoS One. The awards were announced by Prof. K.K. Singh, General Secretary of the Association.



Release of the book of abstract by the chief guest and other dignitaries.

### **Inaugural session**

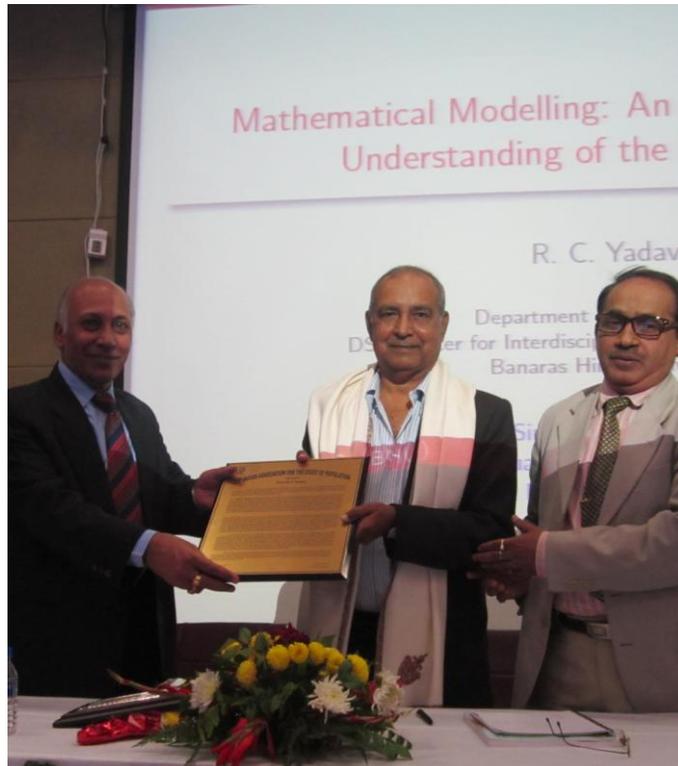


Felicitation to Prof S. C. Gulati as senior demographer by IASP President and Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Er. H. S. Chahal.

## Memorial Lecture

Dr. George Simmons memorial oration

in the memory of Prof George Simons was organized as a part of the Conference. This memorial oration was delivered by eminent statistician and demographer Prof RC Yadava. He chose a very interesting topic as “Mathematical Modelling” and made an exclusive presentation of the process of model building with enough illustrations. The enlightening oration gave ample scope to provoke the thoughts of many as Prof Yadava discussed the nitty-gritty of understanding phenomenon. He cited good example of models on human fertility. Good illustrations to the work by Prof K. Srinivasan, Prof. S.N. Singh and Prof K. B. Pathak were cited. During his presentation he remarked that fundamental research requires self motivation and cited philosophical thought “स्वान्तः सुखाय रघुनाथ गाथा”.



## Plenary sessions

Two plenary sessions were organised at the conference-

First Plenary session

Dr ME Khan presented on BCC for child survival where he highlighted through a Meta Analysis (extensive literature survey) need for sound design by comparing cross country experiences and had explicit recommendations for evaluation studies.

Dr Sanjay Pandey presented on Urban Health Mission where it was mentioned that Urban poor are worse than the rural poor. Institutional strengthening and specified budget allocations were needed to fill the gaps in service provisioning specially for the urban poor. He also deliberated on core strategies for NUHM.

Dr Ravi Verma while walking the talk- highlighted that “gender discourse need be more balanced rather to be dealt as women’s issue” only. In order to be responsive he suggested for a. Search for theory of change, b. Push for arguments for change, c. be transformative.

## Second Plenary session

Prof K. L. Sharma remarked on issues of “limits to population control” highlighting the contexts of policy change in China. Dr Alok Bhargava presented on diet quality and child health in context of developing countries. where he mentioned that long term interventions are required to have improvements in cognitive development of children. He substantiated arguments by presenting data pertaining to India, Kenya and Philippines. He clearly brought out that child health outcomes depend on intake and absorption of food to their bodies.

Dr Sanjay Kumar presented interesting evaluation of red ribbon express and shared encouraging results and highlights. The evaluation bases on strong methodological framework and at the stage of analysis some smart techniques like ‘propensity score matching’ were used.

## Technical Sessions

Numerous technical sessions were organized at two parallel locations. In total there were 16 technical sessions where 80 oral presentations were made. Also three poster sessions were organized where 68 posters highlighting various issues were displayed.

## Awards

On the last day of the conference, Dr. C, Chandrasekharan memorial award presentation was organized in the IASP Conference . Six young demographers presented the papers for Chandrasekharan Award who were working in the field of Demography. Three independent evaluators selected the paper "Probability Models for Number of Menstrual Cycles Required for First Conception: A Review Study" by Ms. Gunjan Singh for the Dr. C Chandrasekharan award.

Three best posters were given Dr. S.N. Singh award. The winners of the best posters were: Mr. Pradeep Salve (Health Risk among Municipal Labour Workers in Mumbai), Ms. Shruti Verma (Trends and Differentials in Parity Progression among Northern and Southern Women in India) and Ms. Ruby Jain (The Linkage between the urbanization and Economic Development in India): A State Level Comparison).

## Valedictory Function

The valedictory session of the conference was held on December 17, 2013. The participants expressed their satisfaction with the way the conference was organized and appreciated the efforts of the organizing committee and the IASP. Dr. Rajesh Chauhan, joint secretary presented the rapporteur general's report. Prof. K.K. Singh, General Secretary of IASP thanked UNFPA, UNICEF, ICRW, IIPS and Ch. Ranbir Singh Institute of Social & Economic Change, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak for their generous financial support on the behalf of IASP. He also thanked Ch. Ranbir Singh Institute of Social & Economic Change, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak,

Department of Statistics, Banaras Hindu University and IIPS for their active support in the activities of IASP in general and the conference in particular. Prof. P.K. Bhargava, local organizing secretary thanked IASP and its members for making the conference a success.



### EC and GB Meeting

The Joint Meeting of the Board of Trustees and Executive Committee held at Ch. Ranbir Singh Institute of Social & Economic Change, Maharshi Dayanand University, Rohtak on 14th December, 2013 approved the membership applications for admission to IASP.

Minutes of the EC meeting of IASP held at RSISEC, M. D. University, Rohtak

On the eve of XXXV Annual Conference of IASP the EC meeting was held at RSISEC, MD University, Rohtak on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2013.

**Members present:** The following members were present in the meeting.

Prof. D C Nath	Vice President
Dr. Suresh Sharma	Vice President
Prof. K. K Singh	General Secretary
Prof. S. K Singh	Treasurer
Prof. M. C. Nair	Joint Secretary
Dr. K. V. R. Subrahmanyam	Joint Secretary
Prof. B. Paswan	Member
Prof. T. V. Sekher	Member
Prof. P. K. Bhargava	Member
Dr. Rajesh Kr. Chauhan	Member
Dr. U. V. Somayajulu	Ex Officio Member

Prof. F. Ram, President could not attend the conference owing to some personal constraints.

At the outset, Prof. D C Nath, read out the email message sent by Prof. F Ram, President expressing his inability to attend the conference and requesting Prof. Nath to carry on with the conference. As such, Prof. D. C Nath laid before the EC to endorse the view expressed by the President. All the members present endorsed the view and requested Prof. Nath to be the acting President during the conference in absence of the President.

The EC meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Prof. D C Nath, Vice-President of IASP. The meeting expressed condolences at the sad demise of Prof. R. C Singh, member, IASP and observed silence for one minute. It is resolved that EC will send a condolence message to the bereaved family.

Item 1 : Confirmation and approval of minutes of the last EC meeting held at IIPS, Mumbai on September 7, 2013– The members approved the same

**Item 2 : General Secretary's annual report for 2012-13.** Prof. K K Singh, General Secretary presented the report and while briefing the members Prof Singh highlighted on the following points.

**New Office Bearers for 2013-15:** The EC elected the new office bearers for the term 2013-15.

**XXXV Annual Conference:** The EC decided to hold the 35<sup>th</sup> annual conference at MD University Rothak

**IUSSP – 2017:** In continuation to information provided at the EC meeting held at IIPS with regard to hosting of IUSSP – 2017 conference in India jointly by IASP and IIPS the General Secretary asked Prof T V Sekher to update on the further developments. Dr Sekher informed that in the IIPS executive council meeting on 11-12-13 the Union Health Secretary agreed to the proposal of IIPS to host the IUSSP conference in India. As informed by Dr Sekher The Health Secretary suggested having a high powered National level committee drawing members from other ministries like Foreign affairs and Home affairs. Since the last date for submitting Expression of Interest to IUSSP was 15<sup>th</sup> December, the same was sent through email by IIPS.

**Item 3: Presentation and approval of Balance sheet for 2012-13.** Prof S.K Singh, Treasurer presented the balance sheet for the year 2012-13 and the EC Members approved the same.

**Item 4: Appointment of Auditors for the year 2012-13.** Prof S.K Singh, Treasurer proposed that the present auditors More Datta & Co be continued for the present and the EC Members approved the same.

**Item 5: Admission of new members** The EC members approved membership of 18 annual members and 5 life members. Prof S. K. Singh, Treasurer, mentioned about the large number of annual membership dues for renewals. It is resolved that those whose dues are pending for more than two years will be intimated and be given time up to 31<sup>st</sup> January, 2014 initially. Even after the reminder if these members default their membership will be withdrawn.

**Item 6: Demography India** Dr T V Sekher briefed the members about the status Prof K K Singh suggested that 2-3 back log issues may be merged to make journal update to avoid criticism. It is resolved that while exploring the option of e journal publication hard copy should be continued for about 2-3 years.

**Item 7: 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference arrangements.** Prof. P.K Bhargava, local organising secretary briefed the members about the arrangements made for the 35<sup>th</sup> annual conference and the EC members thanked the MD University in general and Dr Bhargava in particular for hosting the conference.

Item 10: Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

Prof. D C Nath raised the issue of selection procedure to be followed with respect to Prof Srinivasan and Prof. Pathak awards. Following the discussion on the matter an Award committee was formed with Dr U V Somayajulu, Prof. K K Singh and Prof. B Paswan. It is resolved that the committee will decide the procedure to be followed for these awards.

With regard to have a permanent office and shifting registered office of IASP from IEG to IIPS there was no consensus among EC members. The discussion revolved around President of IASP being from anywhere in India having a permanent office may be an unworkable proposition. No decision in this regard was taken.

The issue relating to alleged plagiarism with respect to Dr Suresh Sharma, Vice-President was raised and Dr Suresh mentioned that a committee is enquiring the matter. Since the matter is like sub-judice because of the enquiry the acting president and members felt that it should not be discussed further.

The acting President informed that IEA offered to enroll IASP members at concessional rates and that the IASP members to be encouraged to avail this opportunity. All the members endorsed to this view.

Prof. S. K Singh, Treasurer informed that there is some amount given by APA which is supposed to be used only towards the travel grant of scholars from SAARC countries. It is resolved that for the next conference some eminent researchers from these countries may be called by using the available amount.

The members also discussed about renewal of Annual Membership and decided that no application form is needed for renewal of membership. The EC also nominated Dr. Rajesh Kumar Chauhan to be the representative of EC in the BOT as Secretary of BOT.

Prof. D.C Nath thanked all the members present at the meeting and the meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

The General body meeting of the IASP was held on 16th December, 2013 and in the GB various issues relating to the association including Demography India has been discussed.

#### Updating the Address of IASP Members

All the members are requested to kindly communicate change of address, if any, alongwith email address. You can visit the website of IASP ([www.iasp.ac.in](http://www.iasp.ac.in)) and check the mailing address.

#### **Executive Committee**

##### **President**

Prof. F. Ram

##### **General Secretary**

Prof. K.K. Singh

##### **Vice-President**

Prof. D.C. Nath  
Dr. Suresh Sharma

##### **Joint Secretaries**

Prof. Mohanchandran Nair  
Dr. K.V.R. Subrahmanyam

##### **Treasurer**

Prof. S.K. Singh

##### **Members**

Prof. Balram Baswan  
Prof. P.K. Bhargava  
Prof. T.V. Sekher  
Dr. Rajesh Kr. Chauhan

##### **Co-opted Members**

Prof. P.M. Kulkarni  
Dr. Shireen Jeejbhoy

##### **Ex-Officio**

Dr. U.V.S Somayajulu

##### **Board of Trustee**

Prof. K Srinivasan  
Shri Jeetendra Yadav

Shri A R Nanda

Dr. Ratan Chanda (Co-opted)  
Dr. Jayanta Kumar Basu