



## **INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF POPULATION**

### **Subject: Minutes of the General Body meeting held on November 9, 2023 during 44<sup>th</sup> IASP annual conference held in Rourkela, Odisha**

The members took 3-breaks to ensure that the quorum was completed.

**Agenda item 1:** Condolence to pay homage to our beloved IASP members Late Dr. P K Bhargava and Dr. C M Pandey

The members observed a one-minute silence and paid homage to two senior IASP members.

**Item 2:** Welcome and remark by the president

The president welcomed the members and thanked them for their constant support and participation in all IASP activities during the reporting period and requested for their continued support in future.

**Item 3:** General Secretary's annual report for the year 2022-23

Dear Members,

With immense pleasure I submit the accomplishments of the current EC team of the IASP before you. The team completed number of activities during 2022--2023 listed as follows:

#### **I. 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of IASP scheduled to be held during November 8-10, 2023**

##### **Conference Sessions**

The 44th Annual Conference of IASP is scheduled to be held during 8-10 November 2022 at the Centre of Excellence on Public Health Nutrition, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology Rourkela, Odisha. The abstract submission and review process was done through online submission on

IASP website. The theme of the Conference is '**1.4 Billion Aspirations, One Sustainable Future: Unfolding India's Path to Development**'. The papers were invited under the following twelve subthemes related to the proposed theme of the Conference:

<b>1</b>	<b>Nuptiality, Fertility, Infertility and Family Planning</b>
1.1	Fertility preferences, intention, timing and childbearing, parenthood, correlates of infertility/fertility; Covid pandemic and fertility
1.2	Marriage, marriage dissolution, Covid pandemic and marriage
1.3	Demand for and unmet need of contraception, contraceptive dynamics, Barriers to contraceptive use, covid-19 and contraceptive use, post-partum contraceptive use
1.4	Marriage practices, issues and challenges of child/forced marriage
<b>2</b>	<b>Policy Implications of Population Dynamics</b>
2.1	Demographic Transitions and Development
2.2	Population Composition and Diversity
2.3	Policy Implications of Population Dynamics
<b>3</b>	<b>Urbanisation and Rural Demography</b>
3.1	Demographic Transformations in Urban and Rural Areas
3.2	Sustainable Urban and Rural Development
3.3	Urban and Rural Inequalities
3.4	Urbanisation Trends and Dynamics
<b>4.</b>	<b>Mortality, Longevity, Morbidity,</b>
4.1	Maternal and child morbidity and mortality
4.2	Causes of death
4.3	Mortality and Life Expectancy
4.4	Adult mortality
4.5	Health/epidemiological transition
4.6	Stillbirths
4.7	Traditional Healthcare Practices
4.8	Indigenous child-rearing practices
<b>5</b>	<b>Poverty, Income inequality and health</b>
5.1	Insurance coverage, out-of-pocket health expenses
5.2	Poverty, Nutrition, and Food Insecurity
5.3	Poverty, Health, and Vulnerable Populations
5.4	Income Inequality and Health Disparities
5.5	Impact of Poverty on Health Outcomes
<b>6</b>	<b>Ageing and Generational Dynamics</b>
6.1	Health and Well-being in an Ageing Population
6.2	Social and Economic Implications of Population Ageing
6.3	Intergenerational Relationships and Family Dynamics
6.4	Policy and Planning for an Ageing Population
6.5	Health risk protection and Ageing
<b>7</b>	<b>Reproductive and Sexual Health</b>
7.1	Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescents and Youth
7.3	Men and sexual and reproductive health
7.4	Reproductive wastage, Abortion
7.5	Covid pandemic and reproductive and sexual health

7.5	Empowerment and equity in reproductive and sexual health
<b>8.</b>	<b>Migration, Refugees and Development</b>
8.1	Migration pattern
8.3	Migration and socioeconomic inequality
8.4	Migrant rights, discrimination and migration policy
8.5	Health and migration
8.6	Migration, women and children
8.7	Covid-19 and migration
8.8	Refugees inflow and issues of citizenship
<b>9</b>	<b>Adolescent, Gender, and Development</b>
9.1	Gender inequalities: drivers and impact
9.2	Gender based violence.
9.3	Child/Early Marriage: Policies, Causes and impact.
9.4	Female empowerment
9.5	Access to equitable and quality education
9.6	Gender equality in Matrilineal Society
<b>10.</b>	<b>Public Health and Nutrition</b>
10.1	Undernutrition during the first 1000 days- causes and solutions
10.2	Anaemia during life cycle: Determinants and outcome
10.3	Nutrition and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs)
10.4	Food Security and Nutrition
<b>11</b>	<b>Application of Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Public Health Nutrition research</b>
11.1	Early Detection of Nutritional Deficiencies and Disorders
11.2	Food and Nutrient Intake Monitoring
11.3	Personalized Nutrition Recommendations
11.4	Predictive Analytics for Disease Prevention
11.5	Nutrition Education and Behaviour Change
<b>12</b>	<b>Tribal Health and Nutrition</b>
12.1	Health and Nutrition Inequalities among Tribal Population
12.2	Traditional Food Systems
12.3	Cultural Preservation and Nutrition
12.4	Food Security and Sovereignty
12.5	Maternal and Child Nutrition
<b>13</b>	<b>Demographic Data and Methods</b>
13.1	Creating and using data for program design
13.3	Data Privacy and Ethics:
13.4	Data Visualisation and Dissemination
13.5	Data Quality Assurance and Validation
13.6	Data Collection Methods and Tools
<b>14</b>	<b>Demographic Approaches to Sustainable Development</b>
14.1	Population, Health, and Sustainable Development
14.2	Demographic Dividend and Sustainable Development
14.3	Urbanisation and Demographic Trends
14.4	Demographic Change and Climate Change
14.5	Population Dynamics and Environmental Sustainability
<b>15</b>	<b>Miscellaneous:</b> Any topics which do not fall in the above-mentioned

	themes
<b>16</b>	<b>PROF CHANDRA SEKHARAN AWARD</b>
Single-author papers on the conference theme/sub-themes are invited from young scholars (below age 30 years) for the Prof. Chandrasekharan award. Authors of selected papers would be invited to present their research in the Conference. The selected paper will be awarded Prof Chandrasekharan Award. Please note that the paper should not be of joint authorship. Those who apply for Prof. Chandrasekharan Award should select sub-theme 16 as the choice.	

A total of 320 abstracts were received. After review, 131 papers were accepted for oral and 93 for poster presentations.

The scientific organizing committee of the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the IASP consisted of the following:

Prof Usha Ram, Chairperson  
Dr. Anil Chandran, Member  
Dr. Ajay K Singh, Member Secretary

### **Conference Delegates**

The Conference will be attended by academicians, researchers, students, administrators, development practitioners, NGO representatives, et al.

### **George Simmons Memorial Oration**

The George Simmons Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Professor SudeshNangia, former Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India at 6:00 PM on Day 1 (November 8, 2023).

### **The sessions at the Conference:**

The three-day Conference will have an Inaugural Session, plenary sessions, 14 technical sessions on specific themes, two poster sessions, and the valedictory session on the last day of the Conference. Senior demographers would be felicitated on day one of the Conference.

The winners of the essay competition held online from graduate and post graduate students from social science from various universities and colleges would be presented certificates in the conference.

### **Prof.K.B.Pathakaward**

The Prof.K.B.Pathakaward would be presented for the best paper by a young and mid-career scholar in the field of 'Demography/ Population and Health' published in peer reviewed journals in the inaugural session on day 1, November 8, 2023.

### **Prof. K. Srinivasan award**

**Prof. K. Srinivasan award** would be presentedfor the two best research – one each in **Technical and Substantive field** by a young and mid-career scholar Published in **Demography India, an IASP Journal** in the inaugural session on day 1, November 8, 2023.

## **Dr Chandrasekharan Award**

Dr Chandrasekharan Award is presented for the best paper authored and presented by a young scholar at the IASP annual conference in a special session scheduled on day 2, November 9, 2023 at 2.30 PM in the TIIR auditorium. The winner would be presented the award in the valedictory session on the last day of the conference.

## **Prof. S. N. Singh award**

Prof. S. N. Singh award for the best poster authored and presented by young scholars at the valedictory session on the last day of the conference.

## **II: The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of the IASP**

The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of IASP was held during December 1-3, 2022 in collaboration with the Population Research Centre, Dept. of Sociology Mohanlal Sukhadia University (MLSU), Udaipur, Rajasthan.

The organizing committee received an overwhelming response from the researchers across the country. Nearly 400 abstracts were received. Besides faculties and students of the MLS university, Udaipur from several departments of humanities, more than 350 participants from nearly 40 organizations, institutions and associations located in various part of the country attended the 3-day conference. This included academicians, researchers, students, administrators, development practitioners, NGO representatives, et al. In the conference 251 attendees registered for the conference. A total of 122 oral presentations in 20 technical sessions and 71 research papers in three poster session were presented during the three-day conference. The participants represented - IIPS (Mumbai), JNU (New Delhi), BHU (Varanasi), Kerala university, Annamalai university, Allahabad university, Delhi university, IGNOU, TISS (Mumbai), University of Gujarat, ICRW (New Delhi), Population Council (New Delhi), UNFPA (New Delhi), NHSRC (New Delhi), IHAT (Lucknow), USAID-Swati (New Delhi), IEG (New Delhi), Piramal Swasthya (Hyderabad), Path India (New Delhi), JHPIEGO (New Delhi), KHPT (Bengaluru), UNICEF (New Delhi), MLS University (Udaipur), Population Research Centres, Ministry of petroleum and natural gas, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, NIHFW (New Delhi), Shanti Niketan (Kolkata), Puducherry University, Representatives of NGOs/Govt. Departments from Assam, Manipur, ICMR institutions, AIIMS, NIITs, Asia Foundation, GS College (Jabalpur) etc.

The session themes were as follows:

<b>Tech. sessions</b>	<b>Theme</b>
I	Family planning, marriage and fertility
II	Sexual and Reproductive Health
III	Age Patterns of Mortality
IV	Health System and Data Tools
V	Violence against Women
VI	Gender and Health
VII	Mental Health

VIII	BacklashofCovid19Pandemic
IX	MorbidityandDiseaseBurden
X	Poverty,Incomeinequalityandhealth
XI	Genderandhealthofelderly
XII	Objectiveand SubjectiveWellbeingoftheElderly
XIII	Economicburdenofhealth,HealthInsurance,OOPEand PublicPolicy
XIV	NutritionamongChildren
XV	NutritionamongAdults
XVI	Demographic/Epidemiologicaltransition
XVII	Internal migration: Issues and challenges
XVIII	Internationalmigration:IssuesandImplicationshealth
XIX	MaternalandChildHealth
XX	Miscellaneous

**Inaugural Session:** The Conference began with an inaugural session and was attended by over 200 participants. The conference started with inaugural session at 10.00 AM on December 1, 2022. Prof. P M Yadav, Honorary Director, PRC Udaipur welcomed the participants and Prof. Suresh Sharma, President IASP delivered presidential address. In his inaugural address, Shri C R Dewashi, RAS and Registrar, MLSU emphasized the need for intensive research in understanding implications of population growth for future generations and the need for developing policies and programs for the aging population. He emphasized that the population scientists must undertake local and minority issues to help authorities developed evidence based programs and strategies.

**Ms.Andrea Wojnar,** Resident Representative for UNFPA India andCountryDirectorfor Bhutan gave keynote address. She emphasized on the need to undertake rigorous scientific research to look for solutions to facilitate government efforts in reaching the SDGs. She emphasized how fertility and mortality reductions in populations are impacting age-composition of the population which in turn influence future demands of various services and program. She said that the women empowerment, adolescent nutrition, menstrual hygiene, health care needs of the greying population are some of the challenges that are crucial for a country like India. prof. Usha Ram, General Secretary, IASP announced the winners of the Prof. KB Pathak and Prof. K Srinivasan awards and gave concluding remarks. She mentioned that India's socio-demographic, economic and cultural heterogeneity is an asset. However, it becomes a huge challenge for the policy and program managers to provide universal access to affordable quality of the health care services to enhance population health and well-being. Dr. Jeetendra K Yadav proposed vote of thanks.

**Dr George Simmons Memorial lecture:** Dr. K S James, Director and Sr. Professor, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, India delivered The George Simmons Memorial Lecture on December 1, 2022. He talked on the "The Demography of Families in India: An Exploration. He emphasized that the demographers have been interchangeably considering families and households as synonyms. He further stated that the families in India are undergoing tremendous changes. The available evidence suggests that children are going out for higher education leaving parents behind alone as early as in their 40s. Thus living alone is not only an issue of elderly population but is also evident among parents of young

children as well. He stated that it was the education that was the most important driver of the family change in India. He advocated for more research on the changing families in India to understand how these effect population health and well-being.

The **first plenary session** was on NFHS 5 findings. Chair Ms. Andrea Wojnar highlighted the importance of unit level data and NFHS in the field of research and in policy making. She mentioned the role of NFHS in various steps taken by government in farming several programs currently running in the country.

Prof. Chander Shekhar presented on Fertility preferences & Stopping Behavior. He emphasized that the fertility is declining in India and that the differentials in fertility levels persist across states. He pointed out that fertility has been declined substantially in most of the states and overall it is lower than replacement level. Maximum decline has been witnessed in the states like UP, Nagaland, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Arunachal Pradesh. However, variation in TFR is clearly visible by socioeconomic status, Education and place of residence. Rural urban difference in TFR is maximum Odisha, West Bengal, Delhi and Assam. Similarly, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala showing a striking difference according to socioeconomic status of women. Though the TFR showing an overall positive figure, but Adolescent Fertility rate is still a challenge in most of the states of North east, Bihar Jharkhand, Telangana, Maharashtra, etc. Age of marriage has been increased a lot but still age specific fertility rate is very much high in the 20-24 years and this is age group is contributing major part of TFR. Additionally, difference in wanted and actual TFR is also and stressing issue, which needs special attention especially in Meghalaya, Bihar Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Haryana and Gujarat. This gap is more wide according to socioeconomic status. Relatively, a larger gap between TFR and WFR is found in Bihar, UP, MP, Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat. Additionally, Son-preference is still a factor in few states.

Prof. Laxmi Kant Dwivedi presented on State of birth weight and child nutrition and highlighted that the measurement of low birth weight babies suffers from errors and there is a need to address the measurement issues in the future rounds. He also stated that there is a clustering of low birth weight at the women level. He said that although the quality of child anthropometric measurements has improved notably. The birthweight needs to record from MCP cards for further improvement in the birthweight data. He highlighted the clustering pattern of malnutrition among children. In NFHS-5, higher proportion of malnutrition children are from same households and mother, mainly in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand and more the less the pattern was same in NFHS-4. Full immunization, initiation of breastfeeding, exclusive breastfeeding, adequate diet are the main factors impacting nutritional status of children. Apart from stunting, wasting and underweight, low birthweight also shows a clustering pattern. Additionally, low birthweight children are converting in stunting and wasting children in coming ages. Malnutrition level of mothers also determining the nutritional status of children.

Dr. Sarang Pedgaonkar presented on High blood glucose and obesity among women and highlighted that the co-existence of diabetes and obesity, known as diabetes, is becoming a greater challenge for India and urgent actions are required to create awareness in the population about future challenges of this. He noted that the diabetes and hypertension are increasing and both the contribution of both indicators in disease burden is increasing over the time. Obesity has increased among women as well as among men in most of the States. Prevalence of obesity is

highest in southern states, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana. In north, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu Kashmir also shows higher prevalence of obesity. High blood glucose and obesity both are showing a clustering pattern. Early diagnosis of diabetes and hypertension needs attention and it should be done at primary health centre level.

Prof. Hemkothang Lungdim spoke on Empowerment and its reflection on women's health and emphasized that although progress has been made, however, the levels are lower than many populations and there is a greater variability across regions. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls, which is Inter-ministerial but also essential for other SDG Goals. He reminded that as identified by the WHO, concerted effort needed to address Gender issues at two levels – harmful and rigid gender norms. He also emphasised on strengthening and expanding the ARSH programs and consider including a module for/on Boys and Men.

The **second plenary session** was on Maternal and Neonatal Mortality Transition in India: Findings of MNH Exemplar Study. Prof. Usha Ram presented on Analytical Framework, Data Source, Methods and Mortality Transition Model. She stated that positive public health approach is needed to understand and identify drivers, processes and health system changes that help attain India exemplary reductions in maternal and newborn mortality over the past two-decades. These learnings can help develop strategies and policies to bring similar achievements in other populations. Dr. KISHajy presented on National Results: The maternal and newborn mortality transition in India. The findings suggested that improvements in coverage indicators during prenatal and natal period coupled with rise in c-section deliveries and reductions in inequality, especially during the NHM+RMNCHA period have led to impressive reductions in maternal and newborn mortality in India. The contextual changes and fertility reduction too have contributed towards these achievements. Dr. Ravi Prakash presented study results on State Cluster Results: The maternal and newborn mortality transition in higher and lower mortality states in India. He emphasized that the trajectories of the change in the maternal and neonatal survival improvements in India has been different in the higher and lower mortality state clusters. The lower mortality state cluster has experienced the declines in the levels more than a decade earlier than the higher mortality state cluster and that the lower mortality state cluster has advantage over the higher mortality state cluster since they began with much higher levels of intervention coverage, enabling social and economic environment. The C-section coverage and lower fertility played a significant role in mortality reductions in both clusters.

Dr. Manoj Alagarajan presented on State Results: Trends, levels, and drivers of maternal and neonatal mortality rate reduction in six states of India. He discussed on the pathways and facilitating factors in each of the six states within the higher and lower mortality state clusters and emphasized that they were similar in many ways, yet differed in nature and relative importance across states.

Dr. Himanshu Bhushan summarized the findings of the study and way forward under Conclusions: How did India reduce maternal and newborn mortality since 2000? The MNH transition model provides a tool to guide discussions on progress, current situation and future strategies, incorporating progress on six key dimensions of mortality transition – Mortality levels, cause pattern, coverage for interventions, inequalities, fertility and socioeconomic development. It is useful for benchmarking for future progress. For instance, the strategy development for the higher mortality states can draw upon some of the lessons learned in the lower mortality states during the past



15 years. Similarly, a comparison of the most recent values for key indicators in the lower mortality state cluster (2017) with the common (median) values obtained from all countries in stage V may give some strategic insights for future planning. Despite major reductions in inequalities in coverage, the poor-rich gap in neonatal mortality remained surprisingly large in both the state clusters (21 and 19 per 1,000, respectively). Reducing this gap remains critical through a comprehensive pro-poor focus, as is typical for countries in advanced stages of the transition (to only 7 per 1,000 live births). The study findings suggested that the Exemplar states with higher mortality baseline levels started with less density of facilities and human resources for health, and thus focused on expanding health facilities and improving quality ANC, BEmONC, and later HBNC with in-service training, mentoring and upskilling of CHWs, nurses and general doctors, with recent focus on increasing specialists through training/need-based deployment. Further, the Exemplar states with lower mortality baseline levels started with good availability of services and health workers, and so were able to target efforts to improve access to disadvantaged groups specifically, and quality of CEmONC facilities and SNCUs (mainly hospitals) generally through enhanced training and need-based deployment.

The study found that at different time points, all states streamlined public procurement systems by establishing medical services corporation, engaged in regular review processes, enhanced quality and use of digital information systems, and established GIS-fitted emergency transport with integrated call centres. The shifts from equitable access towards quality in public MNH services in the exemplar states was underpinned by strong central and state political will, leadership, coordination, and partnerships across government, private organizations and civil society. This was buttressed by widespread NRHM/NHM's administrative reforms that allowed flexibility for localized planning, spending, innovation and implementation. He concluded saying that to help India further reduce NMR and MMR and reach the SDG targets, it would be valuable to focus on further support to disadvantaged groups and regions to access and afford high-quality MNH services, and especially CEmONC for those who need, complemented by efforts to continue socio-economic development and women's empowerment.

The **Third plenary session** was on Tribal health. Dr. ADITI, Piramal foundation presented on Tribal health population and Covid-19. She discussed findings of project named Anamaya (Disease free tribal population) implemented in 2021-2022 on Ashwasan campaign to reach out to the tribal communities. The key learnings from the project informed that the engagement with the community is crucial and that the misconceptions and myths are the main source of stigma in the tribal population. She further emphasized that building and integrated service delivery system during the pandemic was helpful in building a resilient healthcare system. And that the tribal communities, surveillance is important to understand the disease transmission.

Ms. L. Chawnthu from MIMI, Jhpiego, India spoke about NISHTHA, an initiative by Jhpiego which focuses on tribal health population and comprehensive primary healthcare. It follows the approaches as – Acceptable, Appropriateness, Accessible, Decentralized planning, Flexible, Comprehensive, and Dynamic. The efforts have played a great role in strengthening the midwifery care in the areas where the tribal population is hard to reach. The key innovations of the projects include – Tale track, Swasthya Vani Swasthya sampark, Covid sanchar, and Floating home isolation kit band. The major conclusion of the project emphasized that the increased accessibility to the remote population is important, training of the frontline workers is essential and that

there is a need for strengthening the overall health care system including the PHCs, and sub-centers.

Dr. J. F. Munjattu, KHPT, India began by saying that the KHPT is focused on addressing the issue of T.B. among tribal population and eliminating T.B. Through community engagement.

The major gaps found include, T.B. PREVENTION is not a major concern for any community, Late and incurable diagnosis is common, Low family and community support, and that the Prevention activities are not prioritized. He stated that their intervention has brought better understanding of the behaviour of the patients through qualitative study.

The T.B. Health Auto: to tackle the problem of transportation to the health care facilities and the role of educating and empowering the caregivers (Jaanch coupon) is useful. He concluded by saying that the T.B. Mukht certificate (Treatment completion certificate) to reduce the stigma. The last presenter, Dr. Dinesh Baswal, Path, India mentioned that the Path is focused to address tribal health challenges, share technical know-how and increasingly support local innovations. They have started some major initiatives to tackle the problem of accessibility and affordability of appropriate health care among the tribal population. Their major problem is sustainability. He informed that they are working on strengthening the frontline workers (AAAs) and VHSNCs (Village Health Sanitation and Nutrition Committee) to focus on the prevention of outbreak in the tribal communities.

The **Fourth plenary session** on the theme Nutrition policy of India had two presenters: Dr. William Joe and Dr. Preeti Khanna. They addressed the presentation on anemia in India with specific reference to anemia amongst the pregnant women and social protection policies for nutrition. Dr. William Joe, the first presenter highlighted concept of anemia and made it a point to capture the relevance on the topic followed by the prevalence of an anemia and its association with life expectancy; status of anemia in India & its prevalence. He mentioned that there is a need for holistic approach for anemia and AMB will be more resourceful to improve the IFA coverage among pregnant women and anemia testing along with identification of causes should be initiated with the national programs like PMMVY and public health insurance funds. He added that the Life cycle approach should be strengthened through ensuring iron consumption. Social protection schemes can play a critical role in reaching out the poor and vulnerable section.

Dr. Preeti Khanna, the second presenter, focused on Social Protection Policies for nutrition which cover range of policies & programs to reduce the lifelong program of poverty and exclusion. These programs were: ICDS, JSSK, JSY, PMMVY, TPDS etc. She stated that the major determinants which affect the nutritional status of women and children are: immediate determinants (good diet & care), underlying determinants (adequate feeding & healthy environment) and enabling determinants (good governance & positive norms). In Philippines and Bangladesh, Cash transfer and workforce program increase expenditure on food as well as caloric intake. Increased intake of healthy foods (vegs, milk, eggs) which reduce the maternal and neonatal death were noted. She emphasized that the improved cash transfers in general has increased the per capita expenditure on medical and health services and increased the health seeking behavior especially for children. The session concluded stating the need for a comprehensive approaches including multiple sectors as social protection, health, education and WASH can better tackle complex challenges of malnutrition and poverty. Multiple competing priorities like fund transfer- cost of nutritious diet, intertwined decisions between consumption and livelihood needs.

The **fifth Plenary session** dealt with Gender Transformative Programming with Adolescents: Insights and Learning. Dr. Hemlata Verma was the Chair. There were four presenters in the session. Dr. Hemlata Verma commenced the session with her opening remarks by highlighting the conceptual framework on "Gender Transformation for Gender Equity". Various aspects were examined as gender inequity is the root cause of every problem that is faced worldwide. In such a scenario, action is to be taken and there is an immediate need to reshape the policies by understanding the gender norms in-depth. Several issues were elaborated at an individual, community, and local level. The topic took an approach of socio-ecological approach. The research has indeed, illuminated by informing solutions, creating sustainable practices, expanding the mindset of the young generation and lastly, addressing the challenges. Aditi Vyas from ICRW mentioned that the research was undertaken in Delhi and Jharkhand amongst girls studying in 9<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> standard. It was an action-based research which comprised multi-level, multi-stakeholder approach. Ms. Vyas captured the session by highlighting gender integration, life skills, employability skills plays an integral part in any girls' life. She stated that the training imparted to students had a curriculum which targeted adolescent girls and focused areas such as: Self, Self-Efficacy, Resourcefulness, and Employability. Thus, the implication from this training was that there is a need to: Commence early as to influence identity, gender attitudes, and aspirations, Leverage mothers as potential allies, and Safe spaces in schools and thereby enable a friendly environment. She concluded that the onus for change is not on the Cohort but not on the entire ecosystem.

**SapnaKedia** of ICRW share their work on **Working with Men and Boys** The session captured issues such as their risk taking behavior, violent behavior, reasons on why suicides are majorly happening amongst the men/boys. This was examined with young men/boys; young girls/women as to understand their perspective across different socio-economic strata and gender identities. Several questions were probed as to understand the root cause behind it and on what levels should we work with this gender such as Individual/Family/Community/Institution/Media. And its impact on one's individual behavior, attitudes, and changes in policies.**RonakSoni, ICRW talked on Gender Equity Movement in Schools(GEMS)**, a school-based intervention which aims to promote equality among girls and boys which considers social norms that defines men and women's role. It was a primary based research in the state of Rajasthan and specifically in 2 districts namely i.e., Udaipur and Sirohi from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> class boys. Here school was a medium as an institution to foster gender equality. Numerous approaches were used to make them aware such as Classroom instructions, workshops, school campaigns etc. By the end of the program, there would be perspective building, learning through key messages. The recommendations on this aspect were many: Engagement at personal level, the training should be started at a very young age, provide safe space as to share their experiences, and Self-initiation should be adopted within the school officials. Overall, the session articulated the strategies for adopting a gender transformative approach in designing, implementing, and gauging the gender inequality. The nuances were well captured by all the presenters.

**Technical and Poster Sessions:**Besides plenary session, the three-day conference had 20 technical sessions and three poster sessions on specific themes. **The detailed 3-day program including technical sessions and poster sessions along with the papers presented is available in the annexure A1 at the end of the report.**

**Valedictory session:** The valedictory session began with a formal welcome address by the IASP president Prof S Sharma. The General Secretary IASP in her concluding remarks summarized the key messages emerging from the deliberations and debates in the conference for future research. She emphasized on undertaking more rigorous scientific research to understand changing families in India as pointed out by Prof James in his George Simons memorial lecture. More efforts are needed to understand changing family planning / contraceptive needs, sex ratio at birth and challenges of anemia/under-nutrition, Aging and burden of NCDs, more specifically related to hypertension, diabetes, CVDs. She stated that there is need to take positive public health approach in our research where we attempt to understand factors that led to success in reducing mortality/fertility and gaps in them from states/districts within India. She reminded that learning of success stories from varied contexts and setting within countries can be translated in other populations/areas where improvements needs acceleration. She also said that more research is needed to understand prevailing health inequalities, minority health issues, health system research to identify corrective measure for future improvements. She later announced the winners of S Chandrasekaran award, Dr. S N Singh award and Essay Competition. The president presented the certificate and prize money to all winners and congratulated them for their achievements. The president welcomed all participants and invitees who joined the annual conference. This was followed by a brief description of the 3-day activities during the conference by the conference general rapporteurs Dr. Anil Chandran. The session and conference was declared closed after the vote of thanks by Dr. Jeetendra Yadav, Treasurer, IASP.

**Felicitation of the Senior Demographers:** The IASP – EC recommended felicitating five senior demographers to acknowledge their contribution in the field of demography/population studies. They are:

1. Dr. C M Pandey
2. Dr. A K Sharma
3. Dr. MallikaMestry
4. Dr. R K Sinha
5. Dr. P M Nair

**Dr Chandrasekharan Award Papers:** Dr Chandrasekharan Award session was scheduled on the second day of the conference in a special session. The Dr Chandrasekharan award for the year 2022 was jointly awarded to Mr. Prakash Kumar and Ms. Aditi B Prasad for their research on “Years of life lost on roads in India: Analysis of gain in life Expectancy after elimination of road traffic fatalities” and “Theburdenofunpaid activitiesongender equalityinIndianstate”, respectively.

**Dr S N Singh Award:** Dr. SN Singh award was presented for best posters in each of three sessions to the following:

- Poster session 1: Ms. Veena Vinod P for the best poster on “Factors affecting neonatal mortality”
- Poster session 2: Binayak Kandapan for the best poster on “Ill-treatment and associated mental health outcomes among older female adults in India”
- Poster session 3: Ms. TruptiMeher for the best poster on “Premature menopause among women in India: Evidence from national family health

survey – 5”

**Essay Competition:** For the first time, essay competition was organized for young researchers at the annual IAPS conference. The theme of the essay was: **What is sustainable development? Discuss the factors that lead to sustainable developments.** The word limit for the essay was set at 1500 words. Winners of the essay competition were presented the certificates and token prize in the valedictory session. The names and affiliations of the winning essays are given below:

- **First prize:** Ms. Archana Satheesh, Deptt. Of Demography, University of Kerala
- **Second prize:** Puja Kumawat, Deptt. Of Geography, Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, Rajasthan.
- **Third prize:** Mr. Krishna Kumar, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi

**General Body Meeting:** A General Body Meeting of the IASP members was held on day 2, December 2, 2022 on of the conference between 5.30 PM to 6:30 PM in the auditorium of the MonhanlalSukharia University, Udaipur, Rajasthan.

**Conference Scientific organizing committee:** The organizing committee of the 43<sup>rd</sup> annual conference of the IASP consisted of following:

Prof Usha Ram, Chairperson  
Dr. Archana Muthye, Member  
Dr. Ajay K Singh, Member  
Dr. Kunal Keshri, Member Secretary

### **III. North-eastern Regional Conference of IASP 2023**

The IASP promotes and facilitate dissemination and stimulation of research on population issues at local levels. For this, the IASP organizes regional conferences in different parts of the country. In this series, the IASP organized its Northern Eastern Regional conference comprising of eight north eastern states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura. The conference was organized jointly with the Bodoland University, Kokrajhar, Assam during May 18-19, 2023. The theme of the conference was **‘Population, Development and Health in Northern-Eastern India: Challenges Ahead’**

The committee received a total of 213 abstracts of which 51 were selected for oral presentations and 21 were selected for poster presentations. The participants included academicians, researchers, students, administrators, development practitioners, NGO representatives, et al. from within and outside state. In the conference 40 attendees registered for the conference. A total of 40 oral presentations in 8 technical sessions and 10 research papers in a poster session were presented during the two-day conference.

The call for abstract submission was made under the following broad themes:

<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Broad themes</b>	<b>Possible sub-themes</b>
1.	<b>Nuptiality, Fertility, Infertility and Family Planning</b>	A. Fertility preferences, intention, timing and childbearing, parity and parenthood, correlates of infertility; Covid pandemic and fertility B. Marriage, marriage dissolution, Covid pandemic

S.No.	Broad themes	Possible sub-themes
		and marriage C. Demand and unmet need for contraception, contraceptive dynamics, Barriers to contraceptive use, covid-19 and contraceptive use, post-partum contraceptive use D. Issues and Challenges of child marriage
2.	<b>Mortality, Longevity, Morbidity, Public Health and health care expenditure</b>	A. Maternal and child mortality and morbidity B. Causes of death C. Health and life longevity D. Insurance coverage, Out of pocket health expenses E. Adult mortality F. Health/epidemiological transition G. Stillbirths H. Traditional Healthcare Practices I. Indigenous child rearing practices
3.	<b>Reproductive and Sexual Health</b>	A. Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescents and Youth B. Men and sexual and reproductive health C. Reproductive wastage, Abortion D. Covid pandemic and reproductive and sexual health E. Empowerment and equity in reproductive and sexual health
4.	<b>Migration and Development in Northeast India</b>	A. Out-migration from Northeast India B. Migration Pattern C. Migration and socio-economic inequality D. Migrant Rights, Discrimination and Migration Policy E. Health and migration F. Migration, Women and Children G. Covid-19 and Migration H. Issues of Illegal migration to Northeast India I. Refugees Inflow and Issues of Citizenship J. Ethnic conflict and Internal Displacement of Population
5.	<b>Adolescent, Gender, and Development</b>	A. Gender inequalities: drivers and impact B. Gender based violence. C. Child/Early Marriage: Policies, Causes and impact. D. Female empowerment E. Access to equitable and quality education F. Gender equality in Matrilineal Society
6.	<b>Health and Nutrition</b>	A. Undernutrition among children, pregnant women B. Anemia during pregnancy: Determinants and outcome
7.	<b>Data management and Quality</b>	A. Data quality and management B. Creating and using data for program design

S.No.	Broad themes	Possible sub-themes
8.	<b>Special Session on Assam</b>	A. MMR and IMR in Assam B. Maternal and Child Nutrition C. Migration, causes consequences in Assam D. Access to health care services in Assam

The Conference began with an inaugural session and was attended by over 100 participants across the country. The session began by opening remarks from Dr. Ajay K Singh, joint secretary, IASP followed by presidential address from Prof. Suresh Sharma where he highlighted the importance of holding regional conferences for capacity building of local researchers on one hand and provide a platform to bring them and the policy makers and planners together to discuss and come up with solutions for evidence based planning of program and strategies to achieve health and demographic goals. The key note address was delivered by Dr. Manjil Basumatary, Academic Registrar, Bodoland University. Prof L Ladu Singh, the Vice Chancellor of the Bodoland University gave special remark on the relevance of the conference and how this would encourage discussion and debates among the local researchers, policy makers and program implementers to work towards better understanding of population and health issues in the region and thereby help towards improving the lives of people in the region. Prof. Usha Ram, General Secretary gave concluding remarks. She highlighted the great demographic and health diversity in this region and the larger intra-region variations in fertility and mortality. She emphasised that the papers that would be presented during the two-day conference would help us understand the demographic diversity in the region. The session concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Jeetendra Yadav, Treasurer, IASP.

The **first plenary session** was on "RASTA: Knowledge Building on Health and Nutrition in Northeast Region organized by the Population Council, India". The session was chaired by Prof F Ram, Former Director, IIPS, Mumbai and moderated by Dr Rajib Acharya, Population Council, India & Dr. Subrata Mondal of the USAID. Four presentations were made in this session. Dr Hemanta Meitei, Manipur University, Imphal discussed on 'Family Planning in the Northeast India: Geographic, demographic, and programmatic priorities'. This was followed by a presentation on 'Sexual and Reproductive Health of Adolescent and Youth in NE India: District level analysis' by Prof H Lhungdim, IIPS, Mumbai. Prof Bimal Kumar Kar, Guwahati University, Guwahati presented on 'Assessing geographical vulnerability for MNCH in Northeast India' and Prof Vandana Upadhyay, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar discussed on 'Tribal Health and Nutrition status in North-Eastern States of India'

The **second plenary session** was on "Maternal Mortality with Special Focus on North-East Region". Prof. K S James, Director IIPS chaired the session and Prof. Ladu Singh was the moderator. The session had four experts who covered various aspects of maternal mortality in the region. The four speaker of the session were – Dr. Sanjay Kumar UNFPA, Dr. Subrata Mondal, USAID, Prof. Dilip Chandra Nath, Professor Emeritus, School of Applied & Pure Sciences, The Assam Royal Global University, Guwahati and Prof. Polly Vauqueline, Department of Women's Studies Guwahati University, Guwahati

**Technical and Poster Sessions:** Besides plenary session, the two-day conference

had 8 technical sessions and one poster sessions on specific themes. **The detailed 3-day program including technical sessions and poster session along with the papers presented is available in the annexure A2 at the end of the report.**

**Valedictory session:** The valedictory session was chaired by Prof F Ram, Former Director, IIPS. The session began with a formal welcome address by the IASP president Prof S Sharma. The chairperson in his address congratulated the IASP and Bodoland University team for a successful conduct of the regional conference. Prof Ladu Singh reiterated on importance of the regional conference and how these could be catalyst in promoting research culture among young students and productive interactions between the researchers, academicians, government planners and policy makers and the development partners to work collaboratively to improve health status of the people living in the region.

The General Secretary IASP in her concluding remarks summarized the key messages emerging from the deliberations and debates in the conference for future research. She emphasized that the North-eastern region is not a homogenous group. Rather heterogeneity in the region is much more than we see across other parts of the country primarily due to the fact that the region is home to several tribes which have their own unique and distinct socio-cultural practices. Additionally, geography of the region and having internal borders with several other countries bring in additional vulnerabilities to the local populations. In spite of progress, the socio-economic and health indicators in the region are poorer than several other states in the country. As a result, maternal, newborn and child health status of the people poses greater challenges. Access to health care services, both in public as well as private health sector is poor due to lack of health infrastructure, especially in the remote areas of the region. At the same time, quality of available health care services too is challenge for a major part of the population in this region. The progress in coverage of maternal and child health intervention indicators continues to be a challenge for the peoples.

The session and conference was declared closed after the vote of thanks by Dr. Jeetendra Yadav, Treasurer, IASP.

Organizing Committee of the conference comprised of following members:

**A: Members of the IASP**

Prof. Suresh Sharma, President  
Dr. D P Singh, Vice-President  
Prof. Usha Ram, General Secretary  
Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary  
Dr. Jeetendra Yadav, Treasurer

**B: Members of the Bodoland University**

Prof. LaishramLadu Singh, Vice-Chancellor  
Dr. ManjilBasumataryAcademic Registrar  
Dr. Pralip Kumar Narzary, Professor, Dept. of Geography  
Dr. SibaniBasumatari, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Geography  
Dr. KonitaBasumatary, Associate Professor, Dept. of Economics  
Dr. JhaninMushahary, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Political Science



Dr. ManabMedhiAsst. Professor, Dept. of English  
Mr. BhobeshDaimary, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Geography

#### **IV. Publication of Demography India**

The Volume 52, Issue 1 of January to June, 2023 of the Demography India is published and can be accessed on <https://demographyindia.iasp.ac.in/>

#### **V. Activities undertaken by the present IASP team (2022-2024)**

##### **A. IASP News letter**

The March 2023 newsletter of the IASP is published and is accessible on the IASP website.

##### **B. World Population Day 2023**

The Population Research Centre, Institute of Economic Growth, in collaboration with the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP), organized an event to observe World Population Day on July 11, 2023. The event was financially supported by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (Statistics Division). The event saw in participation a total of 178 participants from various institutions and agencies including eminent demographers, who have contributed extensively to the field of population and health sciences.

The event commenced with the ceremonial Lamp Lighting, followed by a tribute to Prof. V.K. R.V. Rao, the honorable founder of the Institute of Economic Growth. Following this, the distinguished guests were welcomed to the dais, including Ms. Anjali Rawat, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; Professor Chetan Ghate, Director, Institute of Economic Growth; Professor K. Srinivasan, a renowned demographer; Ms. Andrea Wojnar, Resident Representative, India, UNFPA; Dr. Niranjana Saggurti, Country Director - India, Population Council; Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary, Indian Association for the Study of Population; and Professor Suresh Sharma, President Indian Association for the Study of Population, Head, Population Research Centre Delhi. The distinguished guests were welcomed and regarded with a symbolic memento.

Prof. Suresh Sharma delivered the welcome address. Prof. Chetan Ghate formally declared the event open and spoke about population dynamics and the economic of population growth.

Professor K. Srinivasan was felicitated for receiving the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP) Laureate award 2023. This followed first session on the theme "Unleashing the power of gender equality: Uplifting the voices of women and girls to unlock our world's infinite possibilities." Ms. Anjali Rawat, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, chaired the session. Professor Srinivasan, discussed the continuing stability of the institution of marriage in the context of improving gender parity in India. His talk shed light on the dynamics and implications of marriage in relation to gender equality and offered an insightful gendered lens into the married dynamics of the country. Dr. Niranjana Saggurti spoke on adolescent rights and on the status quo of adolescents, their aspirations, their

deprivations, and what key sectoral areas need to be strengthened to promote a holistic growth of adolescents in India. Key note speaker, Ms. Andrea Wojnar spoke on the “hope” that the human population must be envisaged as, while planning for sustainable development and growth and emphasized on the need to look beyond population stabilization and focus on a holistic development approach for the upliftment of women and girls primarily.

The second session focused on perspectives related to population and health governance. Dr. Subrato Mondal,

of the USAID, shared his thoughts on the role of the private sector in promoting health and wellbeing for all. His presentation included important insights into the CSR landscape of India, and the need to strengthen collaborations and partnerships through a strategic framework for enhanced public welfare. Ms. Anjali Rawat, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare shared her valuable insights on the role of real time monitoring systems in surveilling public health programs. Her presentation included an informative background on the development of Health Management

Information System (HMIS), and its design. The presentation highlighted the centrality of leveraging technology in strengthening the public health planning in India.

The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Jeetendra Kumar, Treasurer, IASP, expressing gratitude to all the participants and attendees.

### **C: Distinguished lecture series**

Beginning June 2022, the IASP initiated a new activity under the ‘distinguished lecture series’ by the eminent demographers and the population scientists. In the reporting period, nine lectures have been organized in this series.

**Lecture 6:** Prof Parveen Nangia, Interim Dean, Faculty of Arts, Laurentian University, Canada delivered on December 23, 2022. He presented on **Prevalence of discrimination in Canadian labour market.**

**Lecture 7:** Dr. Agnihotram V Ramanakumar, PhD, an accomplished healthcare researcher specializing in cancer epidemiology, health service research, biostatistical methodology, and artificial intelligence techniques. He has nearly two decades of experience working in high-profile global organizations such as the World Health Organization (IARC), McGill University, McGill University Health Center, and Analysis Group delivered on August 27, 2022. He presented on “Evaluating the impact of COVID-19 on Cancer Declarations in Quebec, Canada.”

**Lecture 8: Dr. Gunjeet Kaur** delivered the 8<sup>th</sup> distinguished lecture on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2023 on **“HTA: An Introduction”**. She discussed how Health Technology Assessment (HTA) is a well-established process for deciding which health interventions to choose and fund under publicly funded healthcare in high-income and few upper middle-income countries and how it acts as a bridge between the world of research and decision-making process. She emphasized that HTA is becoming increasingly important in lower-middle-income countries and low-income countries for resource-allocation decisions in health and provided a glimpse of HTA across globe, its concepts and applications.

**Lecture 9: B M Ramesh**, Assistant Professor at the Department of Community

Health Sciences, and Assistant Director, Research and Knowledge Translation at the Institute for Global Public Health, Rady Faculty of Community Health Sciences, University of Manitoba (UoM), Canada. He is also a founding member of India Health Action Trust (IHAT). Dr. Ramesh delivered the 9<sup>th</sup> lecture in the series on **April 7, 2023 on "Geographic and socioeconomic inequalities in the coverage for selected MNCH services and outcomes in rural Uttar Pradesh, India."**

**Lecture 10:** Dr. Li Liu, Associate Professor in the Department of Population, Family and Reproductive Health at JHBSPH delivered the 10<sup>th</sup> lecture in the series on May 4<sup>th</sup> 2023 on "Pushing the conventional envelope of Demography: considerations of stillbirths and their misclassification with neonatal deaths"

**Lecture 11: Professor Prabhat Jha**, University Professor at the University of Toronto, Endowed Professor in Global Health and Epidemiology and Canada Research Chair at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, and the founding Director of the Centre for Global Health Research at St. Michael's Hospital delivered the 11<sup>th</sup> lecture in the series on June 26<sup>th</sup> Monday 2023 on **"Nationwide mortality studies: Counting the dead to help the living"**

**Lecture 12:** Dr. Manoj Murhekar, Director of the National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE), Chennai, a permanent institute of the Indian Council of Medical Research delivered the 12<sup>th</sup> lecture in the series on July 26<sup>th</sup> 2023 on **"Sero-surveys for public health decisions making"**

**Lecture 13:** Prof Lisa Stronchein, Professor in the Department of Sociology at University of Alberta, Canada delivered the 13<sup>th</sup> lecture in the series on August 11<sup>th</sup> 2023 on **"An appetite for change?"**. Lisa is known internationally for her work on how family dynamics influence the health, development and well-being of children and adults.

**Lecture 14:** Dr. John Stover, Vice-President and Director, Centre for Modelling, Planning and Analysis at Avenir Health (formerly Future Institute) delivered the 14<sup>th</sup> lecture in the series on October 25<sup>th</sup> 2023 on **"Monitoring the performance of the family planning program in India"**. Dr. Stover has 40 years of experience in assessing population and health issues in developing countries and in providing technical assistance in policy analysis, awareness- raising, modelling and planning.

**D. Monthly meetings of the IASP executive committee:** Since its inception last year in May 2022, the IASP Executive Council members continue to meet on the First Sunday of every month at 11.00 AM and discuss matters related to various activities of the IASP and review the progress. The members also plan strategies to strengthen existing activities as well as plan new ones to make the association more engaging and visible. During the reporting period, nine more such meetings have been held and the minutes are posted on the IASP website.

**E. Edited book entitled "Population Health and Development Experiences and Challenges" based on the papers presented in the 43<sup>rd</sup> IASP conferences held in 2022**

The success of any academic association lies in its contribution to the body of

literature in the discipline. As the oldest association of demographers and public health researchers, the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) has been at the forefront, contributing to the growth of the discipline. In its 52 years of existence, IASP has been organising annual conferences and workshops and several other similar programmes to the cause. The 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of IASP was held at the Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, during December 1-3, 2022. We are happy to come out with an edited volume of selected papers presented at the Udaipur Conference.

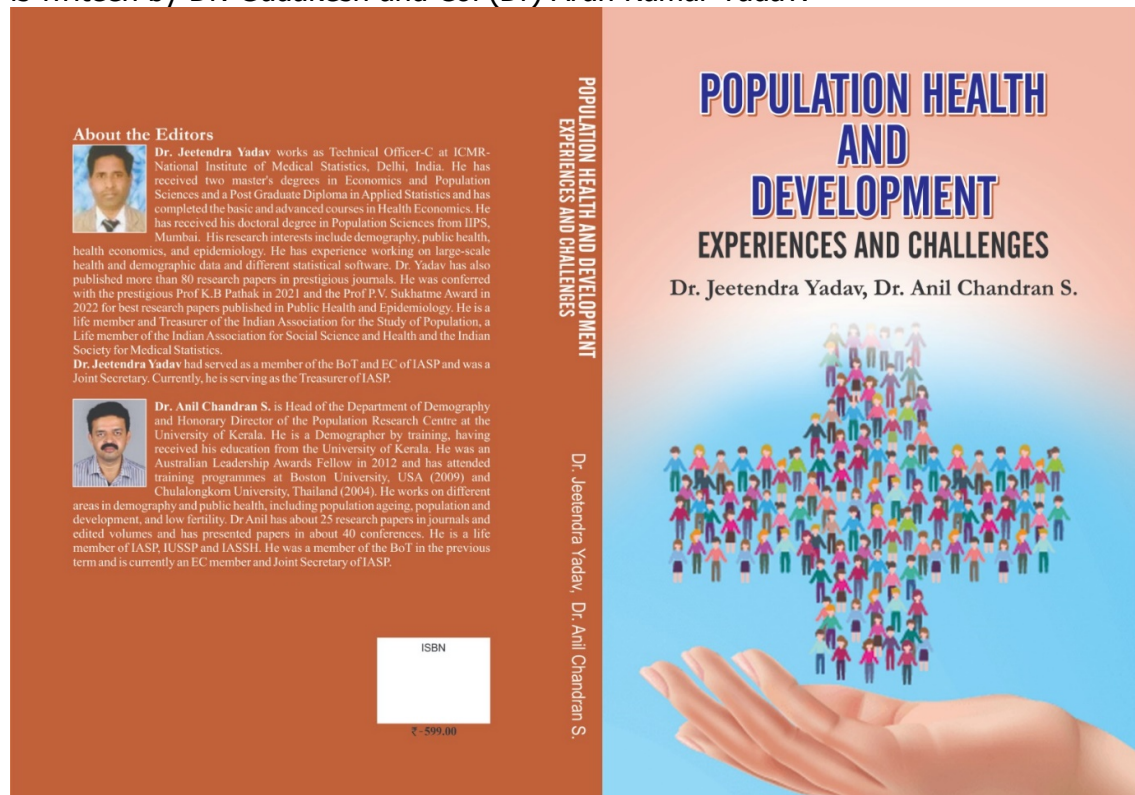
Dr Jeetendra Yadav and Dr Anil Chandran S. came up with this edited volume published on October 23, 2023. This volume has 19 chapters covering population dynamics and public health issues. The first paper is by Dr. Sujata Choudhury entitled Analysis of the Contentment And Acceptability Indices of NRHM among Rural Households of Assam. Dr RajeswariABiradar has worked on 'Status of co-morbidities, food practices and its association with hypertension in Jammu and Kashmir' and is included as Chapter 2. The paper, Mental And Motor Development of Children (0 To 42 Months) At Anganwadi Centers of High Burden District of Central Regions of Uttar Pradesh, India written by Dr. Priyanka Suryavanshi is presented as Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 is written by Dr Anil Chandran S and Dr Asha T. Chacko on Depression among Older Persons: Another Public Health Challenge for Kerala.

Chapter 5 is written by Aditi Das on COVID-19 and Women Associated with Bamboo Crafts in Assam. While the sixth Chapter is by Abhishek Sharma and Dr Kaushalendra Kumar on Medication nonadherence among inpatients in India: Commenting on Current scenario, Chapter 7 deals with Non-Communicable Diseases among Males And Females in Rajasthan: A Brief Comparison by Dr Archana Muthye. Dr. Malika B. Mistry has contributed the eighth Chapter entitled Disability among the Elderly Population and Institutional Support: A Case-Study from Pune City. The work on 'Prevalence of disabilities and its financial burden in Northern Region of India' carried out by Ravina Ranjan and Dr Jeetendra Yadav is presented as Chapter 9. Chapter 10 is on Spatial Clustering of Diabesity and its predictors among reproductive-aged women in India: Insights from NFHS-5 (2019-21), written by KirtiKirti and others. Dr AK Tiwari's paper entitled Socioeconomic Status Measurement Scale for Rural Population:

A Caste-Wise Analysis is given as Chapter 11. 'Our poverty has no Shame; the Stomach has no Shame, so we Migrate Seasonally: Women Sugarcane Cutters from Maharashtra' is the 12<sup>th</sup> Chapter and is authored by Dr Saroj Shinde and Dr Prof. Bal Rakshase. Chapter 13 is written by RichaPanchgaur and others on Mortality Analysis in Rural Regions of Northern India during Covid Pandemic: A Cross-Sectional Survey Using Verbal Autopsies. Chapter 14 discusses 'Linkages of Intimate Partner Violence, Coercive control, Alcoholism and Mental Well-being: A Community-based Study in Delhi' and is written by SampurnaKundu and Dr Sanghmitra Sheel Acharya. Chapter 15 is written by Labhita Das and Prof. Chander Shekhar on Immediate and Delayed Adoption of Postabortion Contraception in India.

Chapter 16 is on Sibling sex composition is associated with unintended pregnancy and future family planning method among reproductive women in India: Findings from NFHS-5, written by Manish Kumar and others. Chapter 17, written by Ravina Ranjan, discusses Extent of Sex-Preference and associated factors among Married Couples for their Children in India. Rajesh Raushan and others contributed Chapter 18, which discusses Child Marriage and Intimate Partner Violence among 20-24 Years Women in Indian States using Large Scale Survey Data. The last chapter, Chapter 19, entitled Spatial Clusters and Correlates of Childhood Malnutrition in India

is written by Dr. Gudakesh and Col (Dr) Arun Kumar Yadav.



### **E. Edited book entitled “Health and Demography in Northeast India: A regional perspective”**

This book edited by Dr. Suresh Sharma, is based on the selected papers presented in the North region conference held at PRC, Srinagar (2022) and is published by the B.K. Books International, Delhi

About the Book: North-eastern India stands out for its diversity in terms of cultures, languages, and landscapes. Yet, this diversity is mirrored in the complexity of health issues that the region faces, necessitating an in-depth study of its healthcare landscape. This book serves as a comprehensive exploration of the health and healthcare landscape in the North-eastern India.

This edited compilation fills a crucial gap in the broader discourse on public health in the country. As an assemblage of research submissions by various authors, this book offers a holistic perspective on the distinctive health challenges, patterns, and determinants particular to this region. The chapters within this book are meticulously curated to address the pressing health concerns in North-eastern states, shedding light on the importance of studying these topics in this context.

The region's health scenario is marked by singular challenges that necessitate specialized interventions. The chapters explore topics ranging from maternal and child health, morbidity patterns, to violence and healthcare access, uncovering critical facets of public health. Moreover, this collection accentuates the need for a comprehensive understanding of the intricacies of health and healthcare in the North-eastern states. It is a valuable addition to the broader discourse on public health in India, ensuring that the health landscape of this region receives the attention it merits.

Notably, discussions on the health landscape of Northeast India have been scarce,

and this book takes a significant step towards addressing this gap. By providing a platform for informed commentary and constructive dialogue, it contributes to the enhancement of healthcare in this unique and diverse region. This book not only serves as an academic resource but also as a catalyst for better healthcare policy and practice in the North-eastern states of India, ultimately improving the well-being of its people.

## **VI. New Initiatives by the EC:**

**A: Essay Competition 2023:** *The IASP organized an essay competition on "Rising Population and Its Environmental Impact" in view of ever-increasing global population presents substantial challenges to our environment. The growing demand for resources exerts immense pressure on ecosystems and natural systems. This surge in population leads to increased energy consumption, intensified industrial activities, and expanded agricultural practices, all of which contribute to elevated greenhouse gas emissions, deforestation, habitat loss, and water scarcity. This resultant environmental degradation exacerbates climate change, disrupts biodiversity, and compromises vital ecosystem services. This emphasizes the pressing need for sustainable population management and responsible resource utilization to mitigate the detrimental impacts on our planet.*

**A time window from August 18 to August 31 was open for an online registration via Participating Regional Chapters (PRCs), relevant Universities, and the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) and invited young students to express their intent to participate in the Essay competition. It garnered interest from 126 students across India. All the consenting participants were given the essay title two hours before the competition along with detailed instructions. The submission window was open on September 11, from 11 AM to 1 PM. The evaluation committee, comprising Dr. Dilip, Dr. Archana, and Dr. Ajay, assessed the essays between September 12 and September 20.**

**The official announcement of the winners was made on September 25 who would receive their certificates in 44<sup>th</sup> IASP annual conference. The winners are:**

**First:** Ms. Saumya Chauhan, PhD Scholar, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvavur

**Second:** Ms. Saumya Chauhan, PhD Scholar, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai

**Third:** Ms. Saumya Chauhan, PhD Scholar, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai

## **B: Commemoration of the World Population Day at regional level**

### **i. At IIPS, Mumbai**

On the occasion of World Population Day 2013, the India Association for the Study of Population (IASP) organized a symposium in collaboration with International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, under the theme "On the top of the world: India's challenges for a sustainable future for all" in the seminar hall of

IIPS, Mumbai on July 13, 2023.

Prof. Usha Ram, General Secretary, IASP and Professor at IIPS chaired the session and welcomed the guests and briefed them about the World Population Day symposium. Prof. D. P. Singh felicitated the guests Ms. Anuja Gulati and Dr. MR Pradhan.

The chief guest of the program was Ms. Anuja Gulati, Programme Management Specialist at the UNFPA, Mumbai. Other guests were Prof. D. P. Singh, Vice President, IASP and Professor at the School of Research Methodology, Tata Institute for Social Sciences; Dr. Priyanka Dixit, Assistant Professor, Centre for Health and Social Sciences, Tata Institute for Social Sciences, Mumbai. Dr. Manas Ranjan Pradhan, Assistant Professor, and Dr. Kunal Keshri, Assistant Professor from International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, were also present at the symposium. The Ph.D. scholars from International Institute for Population Sciences and Tata Institute for Social Sciences, Mumbai, and a few research staff members of the IIPS also participated in the symposium.

Ms. Anuja Gulati deliberated on the theme "**Harnessing the Gender Dividend: Key to Achieving the 2030 development agenda**". Ms. Gulati raised the issue of inadequate representation of women in the workforce in general and stressed on the need for elevating their involvement through the provision of proper education, skill development, and be creating a positive social environment. Ensuring these supportive environments and their participation in workforce will ensure harnessing the gender dividend and overall growth of the economy and society. She further cited several examples from different parts of the country where positive intervention opened avenues for the participation of women in economic activities. She concluded that the involvement and development of women are indispensable for harnessing gender dividends and achieving sustainable development agenda of 2030.

Dr. Manas Ranjan Pradhan complemented Ms. Gulati for her ground-level work and an excellent presentation. He also emphasized that gender is central to all social science research and thus needs special focus at all levels in future research, program and policies.

The organizing committee sent out an invite to the IIPS research scholars to present their views in the symposium on a pre-identified theme suitable for the overall symposium theme. Five IIPS research scholars submitted their willingness to present and provided with a title of the presentation. The detail themes of these presentation is presented in the table below.

Initially five scholars were selected for the presentation, however, one research scholar could not present due to ill-health. Each presenter was given 8-10 minutes of the time.

Post their presentation, other participants raised questions and comments which were discussed and debated. Ms. A Gulati, Prof. Usha Ram, Dr. Manas Ranjan Pradhan, and Dr. Kunal Keshri also reflected their views on the student presentation and complemented each one them for an excellent presentation.

The research scholars presented their views on the following topics:

SN	Name	Title of the presentation
1	Ms. Ananya K V	From Quantity to Quality: Navigating the Educational Challenges of India's rising youth population
2	Ms. PratyasheeOjah	India Towards Sustainable Ageing-Where's the Hitch?

3	Mr. Manish Mamgai	"The 1.4 billion" under the shadow of climate change: demystifying the demographic challenges
4	Mr. Rahul Mondal	Behind the question of sustainability: India's population, environmental emergency, and neoliberal policies

The symposium concluded with a formal closing remarks from Prof. Usha Ram. Dr. Kunal Keshri proposed a vote of thanks and expressed his gratitude to Ms. Anuja Gulati for her gracious presence and enriching talk. He also thanked Dr. Manas Ranjan Pradhan and Dr. Priyanka Dixit for accepting our invitation for the symposium. He thanked Professor K. S. James, Director IIPS for providing infrastructure for organizing the symposium. Dr. Keshri expressed his gratitude to the IASP for providing financial support. He conveyed his thanks to Prof. D.P. Singh and Prof. Usha Ram for their contribution. Last but not the least, he thanks the research scholars for taking active participation in the symposium.

Organizing Committee: Prof. Usha Ram, GS, and Dr. Kunal Keshri, EC Member, IASP

## **II. At Population Research Centre (PRC), Kerala**

The Department of Demography, University of Kerala, in collaboration with the Indian Association for the Study of Population, organized the observance of World Population Day on July 11, 2023.

Dr. Anil Chandran S, Head of the Department, presided over the event, guiding its proceedings. The event was inaugurated by Professor C. Veeramani, Director of the Centre for Development Studies. Professor Veeramani's talk emphasized important issues such as gender equality, inequalities in the job market, and fair wages. A highlight of the event was a keynote address by Dr. William Joe, Assistant Professor at the Population Research Centre, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi. Dr. Joe shared valuable insights on the topic, "Well-being of Women and Girls in India: Equity in WHEELS Approach." His presentation offered a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities in improving the lives of women and girls in India. His words helped the audience grasp the complexities of this crucial issue.

## **C: A one-day Capacity Building Pre-Conference workshop:**

The Centre of Demography of Gender International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai in Collaboration with Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) and Centre of Excellence on Public Health Nutrition, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Institute of Technology (NIT) Rourkela is organizing a one-day capacity building pre-conference workshop on **"UNDERSTANDING DATA THROUGH GENDER LENS"** on November 7, 2023. Young scholars from various research institutions and universities will participate in the workshop. The day long workshop would have several session covering topics including Concepts, Indicators and Measurements, Overview of Available Gender Data Sources, Exploring NFHS Data through Gender Lens, and Hands-on Practice of Gender Data using NFHS-5, along with a Hands-on Practice of Gender Data using NFHS-5.

**D. New Membership of IASP:** EC approved life membership 30 new life members and 109 annual members during the reporting period.



**Item 4:** Presentation and Approval of Balance Sheet for 2022-23

The treasurer IASP presented the audited balance sheet and explained the efforts taken to solve pending matters. Prof. SudeshNangia approved the balance sheet and Dr. R J Yadav seconded the same.

**Item 5:** Tenure based appointment of the IASP – BoT

Following the series of discussion including the present BoT life and elected members it was decided to change the nominated member's tenure from lifetime to a fixed period of 3-years. Further, the BoT members could serve a maximum 2 consecutive terms. Further it was suggested to consider former president and senior members for the of the IASP for this position.

After a detailed discussion with all present in the GB, it was decided to nominate Prof. SudeshNangia, Prof F Ram and Prof. S C Gulati for the IASP-BOT.

**Item 6:** Demography India Status

The EC proposed to allocate 10% of the funds raised for the annual conference of the IASP for improvement of the Demography India. The members appreciated the proposal and approved the same with immediate effect.

**Item 7:** Next Conference of IASP

The IASP has received two proposal for the 45<sup>th</sup> annual conference of the IASP 2024. The first proposal is from the JNU, Delhi and the second from the PRC, Kerala. It was suggested that more details can be obtained from both and the EC may decide accordingly.

The IASP has also received to organize a regional conference from the Annamalai University, Tamil Nadu for souther region. The same was approved by the members.

**Item 8:**Any other items with permission of the chair

1. The members advised and approved merging of the BoT and EC accounts. The members also suggested to seek legal advise, if required.
2. Prof. S Acharya suggested that the IASP must invite full papers from the presenters in the IASP conference and publish the same as edited volume or a special issue of the Demography India, depending on the number and quality of the papers after a rigrousscrutination process.
3. The members also suggested that the new initiave of the present EC of distinguished lecture series should be also placed on IASP website (after seeking presenter consent) and if possible, publish the same in Demography India.

4. It was further suggested that the experts for the distinguished lecture series should also be invited from India and not just outside India.
5. Prof F Ram congratulated the team for organizing a pre-conference capacity building for the young researcher and scholars. He also suggested that the IASP should do a need assessment before the conference to identify the themes for the pre-conference capacity building workshop. The IASP may also consider organizing multiple such workshops.

The meeting concluded with a formal vote of thanks.

**Prof. Usha Ram**  
**General Secretary, IASP**

**CC to:**

1. President, IASP
2. All EC and BOT Members of the IASP
3. All members of IASP
4. Joint Secretary IASP for Uploading on the IASP Website

## **Agenda for the GB Meeting**

Date & Time: November 9, 2023, 6.00 to 8.30 PM

Venue :TI-016, TIIR Building NIT, Rourkela, Odisha

**Item 1:** Condolence to pay homage to the IASP members Late Dr. P K Bhargava and Dr. C M Pandey

**Item 2:** Confirmation of Minutes of Last EC Meeting

**Item 3:**General Secretary's Annual report for 2022-23

**Item 4:** Presentation and Approval of Balance Sheet for 2022-23

**Item 5:** Tenure based appointment of the IASP – BoT

**Item 6:** Demography India Status

**Item 7:** Next Conference of IASP

**Item 8:**Any other items with permission of the chair