



**Report on
XXXVII Annual Conference held at Institute of
Economic Growth, Delhi, Dec 7-9, 2016**

The Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP) held XXXVII Annual Conference at Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), Delhi during Dec 7-9, 2016. About 150 participants representing UNFPA, UNICEF, USAID, MoHFW, RGI, Population Council, ICSSR, ICMR, ABT Associates, HFG, HelpAge India, Save the children, ICRW, TERI, IDS Kolkata, Plan International, WISH Foundation, Sight Savers, Sigma and academic Institutions including IEG, TISS, ISEC, JNU, BHU, Annamalai University, Delhi University, Kerala University, Manipur University, Amity University, SV University, Indian Statistical Institute, AIIMS, Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences, NIHF, Population Research Centres, NIT, and IIPS attended the conference.

Inaugural Session

The 37th IASP conference started on 7th December 2016 at Sri Ramakrishna Hall with lighting of the lamp by Mr. Diego Roberto Palacios Jaramillo, Representative, UNFPA and other dignitaries. The welcome address was given by Dr. Manoj Panda, Director, IEG. Dr. Ulimiri V Somayajulu, President, IASP, gave the presidential address. He highlighted the genesis of IASP and provided the future vision for strengthening the IASP. He also touched upon on the MDGs, SDGs, critical

linkages with population dynamics and crucial role of demographers in planning strategies for achieving the SDGs.

The key note address was given by Mr. Diego Roberto Palacios, Representative, UNFPA. He mentioned that some of the Indian states have shown improvements in the demographic, social and economic indicators. However, there is need to do lot more by some of the states that are yet to catch with change in the demographic, social and economic well-being of the country as a whole.

IASP felicitated Senior Demographers – Shri N. Rama Rao, Prof. P. S. Nair, Prof. C. P. Prakasam and Shri. R .P. Tyagi for their immense contribution in the field of population.

Dr. P. Mohanachandran Nair, General Secretary of the IASP announced the winners of Prof K Srinivasan award for the best papers published in last two years in Demography India (Journal of IASP). The paper on “Occupational segregation and gender wage gap” by Sonali Chakraborty and Molly Chattopadhyay was adjudged as best descriptive paper. Prof. K. Srinivasan Award for the best technical paper published in Demography India during the period was given for the paper on “Fertility reduction in India: application of Bongaarts PDF model” by Rajesh J. Nair and P.Mohanchandran Nair.

The paper on “Self-Reported Morbidity and Burden of Disease in Uttar Pradesh, India: Evidence from A National Sample Survey and The Million Deaths Study” by Ajit kumar Yadav, Jitendra Gouda and F.Ram, published in the Journal of Bio Social Science was adjudged as best research paper for the Prof. K. B. Pathak Award.

On line edition of Demography India, was launched by Mr Diego. He also released the conference souvenir and a book edited by Suresh Sharma and others.

Dr Suresh Sharma, Treasurer, IASP proposed vote of thanks and thanked UNFPA, USAID, HFG, ICSSR, ICMR and HelpAge India for their generous financial support to IASP for hosting this conference.

Dr George Simons Memorial Oration

Immediately after the inaugural session, Dr George Simons Memorial Oration, an integral part of the annual conference, was delivered by Dr. Ravi K Verma, on "Should Gender Equality be an Overarching Frame work for Family Planning from rhetoric to reality'. His view was that the gender equality can help woman and man to make informed, rational and sustainable choices. The family planning programme should have addressed gender equality but that is missing. He came out with findings of over 140 programme and some of the non-negotiable indicators like Individual level, Change in attitude and practices, and Normative level could enhance empowerment. Dr. U.V. Somayajulu chaired the session. Prof Arvind Pandey gave brief profile of Prof George Simons.

Plenary session, Invited Talk and Panel Discussion

The conference had a plenary session, Invited talk and panel discussion. The plenary session was held on 8th December 2016 on "Census and SRS Data". The session was chaired by Dr S Niranjana, Population Council with three presentations. Dr. Sanjay Kumar, UNFPA spoke on the rich data available from census that can be used by the Demographers. He presented Sex Ratio at Birth at national and district level by using reverse survival method and Sex ratio at birth by education. He mentioned about

sex selectiveness among 0-6 population due to excess female mortality. He also focused on school attendance and added that the dropout rate was estimated among children of 10-14 years and 15-19 years. Dr Kumar also talked about data on Age at marriage provided by the census. He also talked about female work participation rate and tempo of aging.

Prof. P. S. Nair compared the estimates of NFHS and SRS and also explained about SRS data, and the dual recording system. He compared the estimates of CBR, GFR, TFR and Infant mortality from NFHS and SRS and concluded that the NFHS and SRS estimates do not differ much.

Mr Rameswar Rao Ojha, Addl RG of India spoke about census 2011, house listing, and population enumeration. His presentation of the census data analysis indicated improvement in main source of drinking water- Tap water and tube well facilities, Improvement in location of drinking water in the premises, Main source of lighting in the household-availability of Electricity has increased by 11 percent from the earlier census. The presentation showed improvement in Drainage facility but no drainage facility is still common, open drainage is higher than the closed drainage. Though there is improvement in closed drainage, many households are still living with no toilet, about fifty percent of the households still use coal as main source for cooking and LPG was available in 29 percent of the households. He stated that since fertility has declined, proportion of child population is reducing. However major concern is that Child sex ratio shows a declining trend. The census data found that Gender gap in literacy is reducing, Work participation is increasing, People attending college has increased. He also spoke about the SRS data.

The Invited talk on Demographic Dividend in Arab countries was given by Prof. P. C. Saxena. The session was chaired by Prof. S.C. Gulati. The talk focused on the concept of window of demographic dividend in the context of immigration and emigration. Other studies had focused only on fertility and mortality variables. The emphasis was that there can be multiple demographic windows than only one demographic window as commonly perceived. He also talked about demographic and social engineering including, aspects of planning births, regulation of emigration of labour force and immigration of old age population. The chair as well as delegates felt that the same analysis can be carried out for Indian states.

The panel discussion on HMIS and its Utility was held on 9th Dec. The panellists included Dr. Alia Kauser of HFG, Dr. Vishnu Kant Srivastava, Chief Director Statistics, MoHFW, Govt of India, Ms. Neeta Rao USAID and Dr. A. Jayachandran with Dr Lysander of HFG being the moderator. The panelists highlighted the utility of HMIS data for meaningful analysis and research. They also suggested that HMIS data can be used for validating the findings or explaining the trends from large scale surveys such as NFHS. The panelists also presented the findings of HMIS quality assessment study carried out and specific case studies where use of HMIS data can add value. This session was well received and appreciated by the delegates.

Technical Oral Presentations

The conference had eighteen themes namely Non Communicable Diseases, Morbidity Patterns, Population and Environment, Employment and Sustainable Development, Programmes and Policies, Population and Sustainable Development, Gender Issues, Evidence from Large Scale Surveys, Fertility and Family Planning, Analytical Approaches, Health, Nutrition and Development, Issues of Adolescents and Youth, Ageing and

Issues, Maternal and Child Health, Health Financing, Migration and Urbanisation, Other Emerging Issues and Monitoring the Progress. The participants ranged from faculty, researchers, Ph.D. scholars, M.Phil. and Post-graduate students. In all, there were 86 participants who presented their papers in 22 sessions. It should be highlighted that ageing had the maximum number of papers in this conference with three sessions on aging and related issues. The presentations highlighted the progress and the issues that need attention.

Poster Presentations

Two poster sessions were conducted on the first and second day of the conference with 95 poster presentations. The evaluation committee for the first poster session had Prof. R. S. Goyal, Prof. V. K Tiwari and Dr Hemant Tiwari for first poster session. The committee for the second poster session had Prof. P. K. Bhargava, Dr. Sanjay kumar and Prof. N Audinarayana. The poster titled " Investigating major determinants of out of pocket expenditure among rural elderly in India", by Rinshnu Dwivedi, Jalandhar Pradhan and Pallavi Banorjee was selected as the best poster in the first poster session. The poster entitled "Influence of Mothers nutritional knowledge and Well-being on nutritional status of children" by Mis Garima Dutta was selected as the best poster in the second session. The winners were given Prof SN Singh award for the best poster.

The presentation of the papers for the Prof C. Chandrasekharan award was on the second day of the conference. There were five papers for the competition and the evaluation committee comprising Prof. P.C.Saxena, Prof. Sudesh Nangia and Prof. P S Nair declared Ms Manisha Bothra, (paper "India and Roadmap towards Sustainable development Goals) and Mis. Varsha Nagargoje (paper "Measuring Perception of Women towards

Participation in Employment in Slum Dwellings of Mumbai City) as joint winners of Prof. C. Chandrasekharan Award.

Valedictory session

The valedictory session of the conference was held on 9th December, 2016 with the valedictory address delivered by Mr Mathew Cherian, CEO HelpAge India. He spoke about implications of lower fertility in terms of increase in aging population and care to be provided to the elderly. He felt that IASP should take up research on elderly and their issues to help policy and programme formulation. Dr. U.V. Somayajulu, President IASP chaired the session and sought suggestions from the participants for improving the quality of papers presented at the conference. He also mentioned about the plans to have regional and state level events of IASP and urged the members to actively participate and support IASP in the coming days. Vote of thanks was proposed by Dr. P. Mohanachandran Nair, General Secretary IASP and he thanked IEG, UNFPA, USAID, HFG, MOHFW, ICSSR, ICMR, and HelpAge India for all the support. He also thanked all the chair and co chair persons, plenary speakers, panelists, invited speakers, paper/poster presenters, rapporteurs, Dr. Manoj Alagarajan for his rapporteur general report, EC and BOT members, volunteers, paper selection committee members, Prof Pathak award selection committee members, Prof K Srinivasan award selection committee members, and members of IASP for their support in conducting the conference. Finally Dr. Suresh Sharma the local secretary proposed vote of thanks in general and particularly to the main sponsors and the local organizing committee members.

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