



# INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF POPULATION



## Newsletter, December 2021

Dear Members of IASP

Season's Greetings from the BOT and Executive Committee of IASP. This Newsletter gives an update on the activities, during the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 as well as future activities of IASP.

### 41<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF IASP

#### Conference Sessions

The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference of IASP was held during 26-28 November 2020 using the virtual platform for the first time due to the COVID19 Pandemic. The National Institute of Health and Family Welfare (NIHFW) was the co-host of the conference. The abstract submission followed by review process was carried out through easychair.org platform. The theme of the conference was 'Demographic and Health Aspects of COVID19' with nine subthemes with 8 of them related to COVID19. A total of 124 abstracts were received and 70 papers were accepted for oral presentation and 29 for poster presentations. In all, there were two plenary sessions, 14 technical sessions and one e-poster session during the three days of the conference. A professional agency named ICS Global, Pvt Ltd was hired to host the conference in the virtual platform. International participants from Population Council HQs USA, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Nepal also attended the Conference.

#### Inaugural Session

The conference was inaugurated on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 10:00 AM by Prof Harshad Thakurm Director, NIHFW. The Presidential address was delivered by Dr Somayajulu. Ms Argentine Matavel Piccin, Representative India and Country Director Bhutan, UNFPA was the Guest of Honour and delivered the Keynote address. She highlighted the efforts of UN agencies, including UNFPA in restoring these services in India and other countries. Prof. Thakur released the Conference Souvenir. Dr Abhishek Gautam and Dr Kamalesh Kumar Patel received Prof. Srinivasan Award, while Dr Priyanka Dixit received Prof. Pathak Award. Prof. Suresh Sharma, Treasurer IASP proposed the vote of thanks.

The George Simmons Memorial Lecture was delivered by Dr Vinod Mishra, Chief of Migration and Urbanization, UN Population Division

## **Plenary Sessions**

There was one plenary session, and three technical sessions on Day 1 and one plenary session and eight technical sessions on Day 2. There were 3 technical sessions on day3. The first plenary session was organized by the IIPS on Effect of Covid-19 on Population which was chaired by Prof Arvind Pandey and Prof James and coordinated by Prof Sayeed Unisa. Dr Laxmi Kant Dwivedi made presentation on "Assessing the Impact of Complete Lockdown on COVID-19 Infections in India". Prof.S.K.Mohanty presented on "Impact of COVID-19 Epidemic on Longevity and Premature mortality in India". Prof.R.B.Bhagat presented on "Temporary Labour Migration: the Context of COVID-19 Pandemic in India". Prof. S.K.Singh made presentation on "Multidimensional Vulnerability to COVID-19 Epidemic in India: Issues and Challenges across States". Dr. Aparajita Chattopadhyay made presentation on Air Pollution in India and its Association with Respiratory Ailments with Special Reference to COVID-19.

The second plenary session was on the status of Covid-19 in the neighbouring countries. This session was chaired by Dr Shireen Jejeebhoy and Co-Chaired by Dr K V R Subrahmanyam. The first presentation was by Dr Tapan Kumar Roy on 'the Covid-19 Pandemic Situation in Bangladesh: Demographic Events Observed From March to November 2020'. Dr Lal Ratnaweera and Dr Kanthi Kulatunga made the second presentation on Present Situation of Covid 19 in Sri Lanka. The third presentation was on Prevalence of COVID-19 and Its Management in Nepal by Dr Ram Prasad Aryal.

## **Poster Sessions**

The two poster sessions had 15 posters on display covering different topics related to fertility, health of women, sex ratio at birth, nutrition and mathematical models. Prof S N Singh best poster award was presented to Mr Dharma Raj and Rajnarayan R. Tiwari for the poster entitled "Perception and Practice of Community Regarding Covid-19 Prevention and Opportunities for making Social and Environmental Changes in India and Dr Jeetendra Yadav, ICMR-NIMS for the poster titled "Households Financial Burden due to Mental Illness in India"

## **Technical Sessions**

The conference had 14 technical oral presentation sessions with 79 presentations on Child health and nutrition, Covid and mortality and Family Planning and Reproductive Health Issues.

Prof K. Srinivasan gave a special talk on Utilising Covid Pandemic to revamp the health system and improve the registration of deaths and cause of death with Dr Somayajulu, President IASP chairing the session.

## **Valedictory Session**

Dr Anil Chandran, Rapporteur General, made a brief presentation of the three-day conference proceedings. The Chief Guest, Dr Omkar Rai, DG, STPI delivered the valedictory address. Prof V K Tiwari announced the Prof S N Sing award for best poster to Dharma Raj and Rajnarayan R. Tiwari and Jeetendra Yadav. Prof Suresh Sharma, Treasurer of IASP, proposed vote of thanks.

## **PUBLICATION OF PAPERS PRESENTED IN 41<sup>ST</sup> CONFERENCE**

Out of the 15 articles received from IASP Secretariat, six papers were published in the special of issue of Health Population Perspectives and Issues' journal of NIHFW.

## **WORLD POPULATION DAY EVENTS BY IASP**

The IASP observed World Population Day on 11 July 2021 at 10 AM jointly with the Population Research Centre, Institute of Economic Growth (PRC, IEG). The Keynote Address was delivered by Dr. Uday Saikia, Associate Professor with the Flinders University, Australia. He spoke on " Pathways for sustainable population development, and implications of population growth patterns on the global economy in the context of North-South debate?" Dr. DK. Ojha, Deputy Director General, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India (MoHFW, GoI) was Guest Speaker on this occasion. The programme was chaired by Dr. U.V. Somayajulu, President, IASP. Prof. Suresh Sharma, Treasurer, IASP coordinated the event. Prof. V.K. Tiwari, General Secretary, IASP proposed vote of thanks.

## **WEBINAR BY IASP**

The IASP organised webinar on "Estimating Covid Mortality in India" on October 3, 2021 by Prof. Chinmay Tumber, Asst. Professor, Economics Area Indian Institute of Management

## **GOLDEN JUBILEE CONFERENCE OF IASP**

The main theme of the conference was population and development in India during 1971-2021 with focus on progress and way forward. The 14 Sub-themes include : Population and Development Debate; Population and Environment; Nuptuality and Family Demography; Family Planning and Fertility; Reproductive and Sexual Health;

Morbidity, Mortality and Longevity; Population ageing; Public health, Nutrition and Health Policies; Migration and Urbanization; Demographic and Epidemiological Transition; Statistical Approaches and Models; Evolution of data in India; Quality of Data in India etc.

Inaugural session of the conference was held using Hybrid Mode with Director, NIMS hosting the same in the conference hall of ICMR. General Secretary, Treasurer, and EC member attended the inaugural session in person along with other invitees from the ICMR. Dr Vishnu Vardhan Rao gave the inaugural address and released the Conference e-Souvenir, IASP Golden Jubilee e-Souvenir.

The UNFPA Chief Dr Sri Ram Haridas delivered the key Note Address. Dr Somayajulu in his presidential address highlighted the achievements of the IASP in the five decades – 1971-2021 and congratulated all the members of IASP.

The General secretary Prof V K Tiwari announced the awards. Prof Pathak Award was conferred to Dr Jeetendra Yadav for his paper entitled "Rising health care expenditure on Tuberculosis: Can India achieve the End TB Goal". Ms Roli Mishra was conferred Prof K Srinivasan award for the best Technical paper entitled " Demographic Opportunity and Economic Development: A Comparative Study of India and China" . Ms Debolina Bhaumik was conferred Prof K Srinivasan award for best Technical paper entitled " Consumption over income of the elderly in India: An analysis based on National Transfer account Methodology". Prof K Srinivasan award for best substantive paper was given to Moatula Ao for her paper entitled "Cultural affinity and Preference for Traditional Medicine and its providers over modern health care services in Nagaland, India". All the three papers were published in Demography India, the journal of IASP.

A total 108 Abstracts were received for the 2021 Conference. The conference had two Plenary Sessions, three Golden Jubilee Special Sessions, 15 Technical Sessions and e-poster session.

E-publication was brought out on the occasion of Golden jubilee of IASP with brief history of IASP and messages from Past Presidents / office bearers, current office bearers, senior members and well wishers of IASP

Prof Sonalde Desai delivered Dr George Simmons memorial oration with Dr Somayajulu chairing the session.

One session was interaction with the past presidents and current president to discuss about the achievements and way forward for IASP. Prof K Srinivasan, Prof Sudesh Nangia, Prof F Ram and Dr U V Somayajulu shared their views. Dr KVR Subrahmayam coordinated the session.

The valedictory session held on Nov 28, 2021 was chaired by Dr Somayajulu, IASP President. Dr AG Khan, Joint secretary of IASP presented brief summary of the conference. Dr Shireen Jegebhoy, Vice President of IUSSP, Prof KS James, Director of IIPS and Dr S Niranjana chief of Population council were the guests.

All of them provided inputs and their views regarding the collaboration between IASP and IUSSP, IIPS, APA and Population Council.

Prof SN Singh best poster award was given to Suyash Mishra for the poster titled "Overcoming methodological limitations to estimate catastrophic health expenditure on Institutional delivery using NFHS data in India and Ms Unnimaya for her poster titled "Potential gain in life expectancy after complete and partial elimination of specified causes of deaths in Kerala.

Dr Somayajulu thanked the members, well wishers, and supporting agencies for all the support to IASP. Dr Somayajulu mentioned that it is matter of pride that Dr Shireen Jeejebhoy would become President of IUSSP in early 2022, Prof K S James, Director IIPS would be the Vice-President of Asian population Association. And Prof Sonade Desai would be the President of American Population Association. Dr Somayajulu congratulated the three esteemed members of IASP and wished them all the best.

Prof Suresh Sharma thanked all the abstract reviewers, chair persons, co chair persons, paper /poster presenters, poster evaluators, participants, guests of honour, UNFPA, IHAT et al.

## **GB MEETING OF IASP**

The virtual General Body meeting of the Indian Association for Study of Population (IASP) was organized under the Chairpersonship of Dr U V Somayajulu, President, IASP on November 28, 2020 at 11 AM at during the golden jubilee Conference of the IASP. Prof V K Tiwari, General Secretary presented the annual report Prof Suresh Sharma Treasurer of IASP presented the balance sheet for 2019-2020.

The Committee Report prepared by Prof K K Singh, Prof Audi Narayana and Dr Shalini Verma for various awards was approved by the GB after a brief presentation by Prof A Audinarayana .IASP President thanked Prof KK Singh, Prof N Audinarayana and Dr Shalini Vetma fr their support to IASP.

Report on the BOT of IASP by the Committee with Prof C M Pandey, Prof S Unisa and Dr Niranjana Saggurti was circulated to the members and Prof Unisa and Dr Niranjana made a brief presentation of the report. IASP President thanked Prof CM Pandey, Prof Sayeed Unsa and Dr S Niranjana for teir support to IASP..The GB decided that the report would be circulated among the members with a request to give their views before the IASP 2022 elections.

President briefed the members about the IASP elections 2022 and after discussion, the GB authorized the President to initiate the process for conduct of elections with Prof C M Pandey as the Chair person of the election committee.

Dr Somayajulu also highlighted some of the achievements of IASP during 2016-2021 including e voting for IASP elections, on line access to Demography India, e news letter, 4 in person and 2 virtual annual conferences, one regional conference, webinars, skill development workshops for capacity building of young Demographers, IPC 2021, integrated website of IASP and Demography India with several features etc. He thanked the members for the opportunity given to him to lead the IASP for 5+ years.

Dr Somayajulu briefed the members about the IPC 2021 and thanked Dr Tom, Dr Shireen, Dr Ncco , Dr Mary Ellen , IOC members, IUSSP office bearers, NOC members, UNFPA, IIPS, Pop Council, IHAT, USAID/L4I, PFI, ICRW, UCSD and others for their active support in organising the IPC 2021.

## **IPC 2021**

The International Population Conference( IPC) 2021 was held during Dec 5-10, 2021 using virtual platform. During the Inaugural Programme, welcome video with messages from Union Health Minister, Govt of India, IUSSP President, IUSSP Vice President and IASP President was made available on IPC 2021 website.

All the Indian paper/poster presenters were provided financial assistance by NOC/IASP towards the registration fee. There were 11 India Day Sessions with 6 sponsored research leader sessions sponsored by Population Council, UNFPA, USAID-L4I, IHAT/UoM, and IIPS and 5 Sessions were with papers submitted to India Day Sessions/General Sessions of IPC., The NOC/IASP met the registration fee of XX paper presenters. After negotiations with the HICC, they agreed to cancel the contract with the advance amount of Rs 5 Lakhs paid to book the venue. NOC has returned the Rs5 lakhs taken from IASP to IASP.

## **DEMOGRAPHY INDIA**

Demography India, online journal of IASP with ISSN for the print version. IApproval for e-ISSN for Demography India is pending.

- 1.Demography India, Vol. 49, Issue 2, July-December 2020
- 2.Demography India, Vol. 50, Issue 1, January-June 2021

One special issue of Demography India with selected papers from the PRCs will be published soon. Best reviewed papers presented in the Golden Jubilee Conference will be published in the special volume of the Journal. From January 2022, all articles will be submitted and processed through new online review system.

## **COMMITTEE TO REVIEW IASP AWARDS**

As per the decision of the GB meeting held on November 30, 2020, two committees were constituted. The first committee under Chairmanship of Prof K K Singh with Prof N Audinarayana and Dr Shalini Verma as members prepared and submitted its report with criteria and guidelines for various Awards of IASP (Prof Pathak award, Prof Srinivasan award, Prof Chandrasekharan award, and Prof SN Singh award). The Report was first discussed in the joint EC and BOT meeting held on Nov 21, 2021. This report was also circulated among the members of IASP. The report was placed in the General Body meeting held on Nov 28, 2021 which approved the recommendations of the Committee.

## **COMMITTEE TO REVIEW IASP BOT**

The Committee with Prof C M Pandey as the chair person and Prof Sayeed Unisa and Dr S Niranjana as members prepared report with recommendations regarding the BOT of IASP. This report was discussed in the joint meeting of EC and BOT held on Nov 21, 2021 and the GB meeting held on Nov 28, 2021. In accordance with the GB's decision, this report was sent to all the members on Dec 12, 2021 with a request to give their opinion in terms of a) accept as it is, b) accept with modifications, and c) don't accept by Dec 26, 2021.

In response to this, 13 members sent their opinion with 9 members indicating "accept as it is", and 4 members indicating "don't accept".

## **NEW WEBSITE OF IASP AND DEMOGRAPHY INDIA**

The IASP hired M/s Cyber Tips, Thiruvananthapuram Kerala to develop new dynamic website of IASP with all online features and payment gateway. It is an integrated site for IASP and Demography India. From January 2022 onwards online submission, review and publication facility will be available in the IASP website. This was launched in the inaugural function of the Golden Jubilee Conference of IASP on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2021. All the members are requested to visit IASP website and check /update their profile and create log in password.

## **IASP ELECTIONS 2022**

The current team of EC and BOT has completed its term of three years and elections are due. The EC and BOT meeting as well as the GB authorised the President to initiate the process and approach Prof C M Pandey to conduct election this time also.

As we will have e voting, correct e mail id is required for each of the life and annual members of IASP. Therefore, updating the data base of members of IASP is utmost important.

Prof C M Pandey, Prof Sanghmitra Acharya and Prof N Audinaryana are the members of IASP 2022 Election Committee. The election observers include Prof A Subbiah, Prof RS Goyal, Prof Sandeep Anand, and Prof M Sivakami.

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Dr U V Somayajulu, President       | Mr D K Ojha, Coopted EC Member             |
| Prof DP Singh, Vice President      | Prof Sanghmitra Acharya, Coopted EC Member |
| Prof PMC Nair, Vice President      | Dr S Anil Chandra, BOT Member              |
| Prof V K Tiwari, General Secretary | Prof Arvind Pandey, BOT Member             |
| Prof Suresh Sharma, Treasurer      | Shri AR Nanda, BOT Member                  |
| Dr KVR Subrahmanyam, Treasurer IPC | Prof K Srinivasan, Chair Person, BOT       |
| Dr A G Khan, Joint Secretary       |  |
| Prof LK Dwivedi , Joint Secretary  |  |
| Prof SK Mohanti, EC Member         |  |
| Dr Jitendra Yadav, EC Member       |  |
| Dr AK Ravi Shankar, EC Member      |  |

**The end**