

Sixteenth Annual Conference

**INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HEALTH
(IASSH)**

In collaboration with

**Centre for the Study of Regional Development
Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi**

THEME:

**Health, Well-Being and Regional Development: Emerging
Issues and Challenges**

10-12, December 2018

&

**Pre-conference Workshop on "Advanced Methods in Large-
scale Data Analysis"**

07-09, December 2018

Conference Report



Sixteenth Annual Conference of the
INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HEALTH
(IASSH)

Inaugural Session

The 16th Annual Conference of IASSH began with its formal inauguration at the convention centre of Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi on 10th December, 2018 at 10:00 AM. Prof. Sachidananda Sinha, Chairperson, CSRD, JNU welcomed the gathering. Prof. Rana. P. Singh, Rector-III, JNU was the chairperson at the inaugural session. Prof. T.V. Sekher, President, IASSH, in his presidential address described the growth and expansion of the Association for the last 15 years. The Association has nearly 1300 life members now cutting across the disciplines in the field of Social Sciences and Health Studies. IASSH specifically encourages young scholars by providing platform to disseminate their research findings. IASSH, through its life members and collaborating institutions, has developed networks in our outreach on a continuous basis for the exchange of ideas every year through annual conferences and workshops. He also welcomed the Chief Guests, dignitaries on the dais, the delegates participating in the conference, media persons and others. IASSH is an independent professional association to meet the felt need of having an exclusive forum for social scientists from various disciplines who are working on health and related issues- to meet periodically and share the research findings. By highlighting the implications of the study findings among different stakeholders, it is hoped to bring about concerted action to address the emerging issues in health and development sectors. Thus, the activities of IASSH in line with its vision, aims and objectives to conduct annual Conferences on themes relevant to social sciences and health, and publication of the conference proceedings for its wider dissemination among scholars, practitioners and various stakeholders.

Prof. P.M.Sandhya Rani, General Secretary, IASSH, spoke about the preparations for the conference and the conference programme including two memorial lectures. Shri. Pravin Srivastava, Secretary and Chief Statistician of India, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Govt. of India was the chief guest on this occasion. In his address, he outlined the need for developing credible data systems and using evidence based research findings for policy making in India. Dr. Shobini Rajan, Assistant Director General, NACO, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India in her inaugural address outlined the measures taken by the government in creating awareness on health issues. This was followed by the felicitation of Prof. C. P. Prakasam, a well known Demographer and former President of IASSH, for his contributions to teaching and research in Demography in general, and his dedicated work for the IASSH in particular. Dr. Anil Chandran, Treasurer of IASSH, read out the citation. Shri. Pravin Srivastava, Secretary, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation,

Govt. of India felicitated Prof. C. P. Prakasam. Prof. Bhaswati Das, Associate Professor, JNU and member of local organizing committee proposed the vote of thanks. Dr. Srinivas Goli, Convenor of the local organizing committee (JNU), explained about the various arrangements and programme schedules for the conference. Prof. Anuradha Banerjee of JNU coordinated the inaugural function.



Inaugural Session



Lighting of the Lamp by the Chief Guest



View of the Audience at Inaugural Function



Inaugural Address by Shri. Pravin Srivastava, Secretary and Chief Statistician of India, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, Govt. of India



Prof. Rana. P. Singh, Rector-III, JNU



Presidential Address: Prof. T. V. Sekher



Dr. Shobini Rajan, Assistant Director General, NACO



Prof. Sachidananda Sinha, Chairperson, CSRD, JNU



Felicitation of Prof. C.P. Prakasam



Plenary Session

The conference had a plenary session on, " Burden of Diseases in India: Policies and Analytical Methods". This session was chaired by Prof. H.P. Sachdeva, Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science and Research, New Delhi and Co-chaired by Prof. Arvind Pandey, Former Director, National Institute of Medical Statistics (NIMS), ICMR, New Delhi. This panel had five eminent speakers. Prof. Lalit Dandona, Director, Wellcome Trust Capacity Building Programme, Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) spoke about "Findings from the India State Level Disease Burden Initiative: Implications for Health Policy and Development". Second speaker was Dr. Prema Ramachandran, Director, Nutrition Foundation of India, New Delhi. In her talk, she dealt with the dual burden of nutrition and its health implications for India. Dr. M. Vishnu Vardhana Rao, Director, National Institute of Medical Statistics,

ICMR, New Delhi in his presentation highlighted the importance of big data analytics for healthcare policy. Dr. Shobini Rajan and Dr. Pradeep Kumar, NACO, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare talked about "HIV Surveillance and estimations in India: Methods and Findings". The presentations were followed by question-answer session and discussion.



Dr. M. Vishnu Vardhana Rao, Dr. Shobini Rajan , Dr. Prema Ramachandran , Prof. Arvind Pandey , Prof. H.P. Sachdeva , Prof. Lalit Dandona and Dr. Pradeep Kumar

Presentations by the Delegates

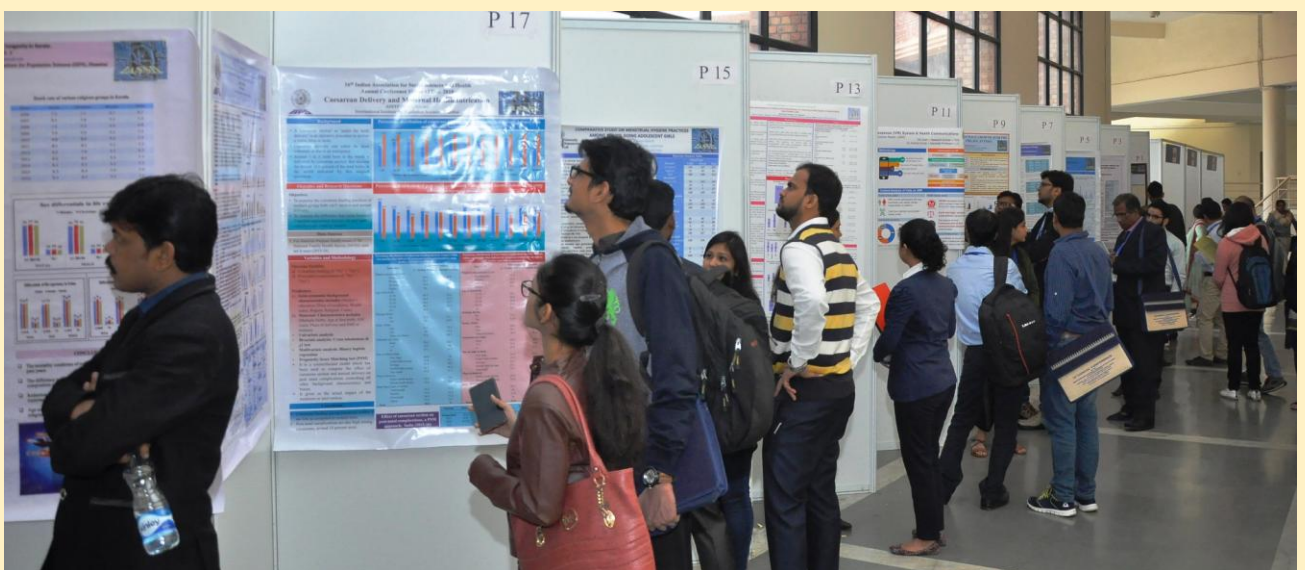
Specific to 16th IASSH Annual Conference, we are happy to note that the response to ‘call for abstracts’ was overwhelming for all the 3 categories of oral, poster and youth best paper award competition and across the 28 sub themes provided under the main theme: "Health, Well-Being and Regional Development: Emerging Issues and Challenges". We received more than 500 abstracts out of which a screening committee reviewed and selected 250 abstracts for conference presentations. Overall, 300 delegates have participated in the conference across the three days. In all, 120 oral presentations were made as part of the 15 technical sessions held on Day 1 & 2. About 110 posters were displayed and presented by the respective authors. Around 22 Youth Best Paper Presentations were done on the third day of the conference which was evaluated by expert committees.



Technical Sessions in Progress



Poster Sessions in Progress



Third Prof. John Caldwell Memorial Lecture

The Doyen of Demography Professor John Charles (Jack) Caldwell died on 12th March 2016 at the age of 87 in Canberra. He was associated with the Department of Demography of Australian National University (ANU) for many decades. Caldwell's seminal work included documentation of the role of mother's education in fertility limitation and child mortality decline and the role of circumcision in inhibiting the spread of HIV/AIDS in Africa. He is known for his "wealth flows" theory, which relates demographic transition theory to changes in intergenerational transfers within the family. He has encouraged and mentored many young scholars from India and good number of them received their Ph.Ds from ANU under his able guidance. His anthropological demographic work on south India, particularly on marriage, fertility and contraception, received lot of research attention.



Prof. K.N.M. Raju, Prof. S.Siva Raju, Prof. Christophe Guilmoto, Dr. Rinku Sengupta, Prof. T.V.Sekher and Dr. Srinivas Goli

His students, colleagues and friends at the initiative of Prof. K.N.M. Raju have approached the Indian Association for Social Sciences and Health (IASSH) to institute a memorial lecture in honour of Dr. Caldwell. Considering this request, the IASSH instituted the lecture series in memory of the 'most famous demographer of our times'. The First Prof. John Caldwell Memorial Lecture was held during the 14th Annual Conference of IASSH in 2016 at Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune, and the second Memorial Lecture was held at National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad in 2017.

Distinguished Demographer Prof. Christophe Guilmoto (IRD, Paris) delivered the third Prof. John Caldwell Memorial Lecture on 10th Dec. 2018 on the theme -"Cesarean Deliveries in India: too many yet too few". Dr. Rinku Sengupta of Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science and Research, New Delhi, chaired the session and co-chaired by Prof. S. Siva Raju, Deputy Director, Tata Institute of Social

Sciences, Hyderabad. Dr. Srinivas Goli welcomed the gathering and Prof. Siva Raju spoke about the contributions of Prof. Caldwell to Demography as a discipline and also his research work on India. Prof. T.V. Sekher introduced the guest speaker Prof. Christophe Guilmoto to the audience. Prof. Guilmoto in his address discussed about the trends in cesarean delivery across the world and also highlighted its implications for India with considerable regional variations. Prof. Guilmoto's lecture generated lot of discussions among the participants.

Fifth Prof. K. E. Vaidyanathan Memorial Lecture

IASSSH has instituted a memorial lecture in honour of Prof. K.E. Vaidyanathan since 2014. He was the President of the Indian Association for Social Sciences and Health (IASSSH) from 2007 to 2011 and was mainly responsible for the growth and expansion of the Association to its present form. In his demise, we lost an outstanding scholar, an excellent teacher, an expert health and census professional, and above all, a fine human being. The Fifth Prof. K. E. Vaidyanathan Memorial Lecture was delivered by well known social scientist Prof. Sonalde Desai (University of Maryland, USA and NCAER, New Delhi) on the theme- "Food Security and Nutrition Security? Challenges for National Food Security Act" on 11th December 2018. Her lecture highlighted the paramount importance of nutrition security for India, mainly drawing conclusions from the India Human Development Survey (IHDS). This session was chaired by Prof. C.P. Prakasam (Former President, IASSSH). Prof. S. Siva Raju (Former President, IASSSH) welcomed the audience and talked about the contributions of Prof. K.E. Vaidyanathan. Prof T.V. Sekher introduced the guest Speaker, Prof. Sonalde Desai. Dr. Srinivas Goli proposed the vote of thanks.



Prof. Sonalde Desai delivering the lecture

Valedictory Session

The valedictory session began with Prof. Sandhya Rani, General Secretary, IASSH welcoming the audience and the guests. President of IASSH, Prof. T.V. Sekher, chaired the valedictory session. Prof. Sudesh Nangia (Former President, IASP) delivered the valedictory address. Prof. K.S. James, Director, International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), Mumbai, gave the special address on this occasion. Prof. Arvind Pandey (Former Director, NIMS- ICMR) was the Chief Guest at the valedictory session. Prof. T.V. Sekher (President, IASSH) expressed his happiness in the successful completion of the conference and thanked the local organizers, CSRD, JNU, for their active involvement and commitment in successfully organizing the conference and workshop. Dr. Srinivas Goli, the Local Organizing Convener, proposed the vote of thanks. The certificates to the paper presenters were distributed. Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science and Research organized a health check-up at the conference venue.



Valedictory Session



Prof. Arvind Pandey, Chief Guest



Prof. T.V. Sekher, President, IASSH



Prof. K.S. James, Director, IIPS



Prof. Sudesh Nangia, Valedictory Address



Announcement of the Awards:

President of IASSH Prof. T.V. Sekher announced the awards for best youth papers and best posters, selected by expert committees. The prestigious **Youth Best Paper Awards - 2018** were awarded to five young research scholars (**Mr. Samarul Islam, Mr. Shubhankar Sharma, Ms. Manisha Jain, Mr. Pijush Kanti Khan and Ms. Madhushree Jana**) and they were each honoured with a certificate and cash prize. **The Best Poster Awards - 2018** were awarded to four young scholars (**Ms. Shreya Banerjee, Ms. Ritam Dubey, Ms. Sana Ashraf and Mr. Angad Singh**) and they received the certificates and cash prizes.



Ms. Shreya Banerjee receiving the best poster award from Prof. Sudesh Nangia

Best Youth Paper Award Winners - 2018



Mr.Shubhankar Sharma, Ms.Madhushree Jana, Mr.Samarul Islam, Ms.Manisha Jain, Mr.Pijush Kanti Khan

EC and General Body Meetings of IASSH

The Executive Committee (EC) of IASSH met on 9th December 2018 and deliberated on various activities of the Association. The meeting also discussed issues regarding regional chapters, research workshops and starting an online journal. The General Body (GB) meeting took place on 11th December 2018. During the last one year, 35 new members enrolled as life members of the Association. The discussions in the GB meeting were on the membership drive, new collaborations, newsletters, updating the website, and planning for the next conference. The Audited Statement of Accounts of the Association was presented by the Treasurer Dr. Anil Chandran and was approved by the EC and General Body. The audited statement of accounts is placed on the IASSH website for the reference of members. 16th annual conference received financial support from United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR), Population Council, NACO and JNU. IASSH is thankful to these organizations for their collaboration and support in successfully organizing the conference and workshop at New Delhi.



Health Check-up Camp by Sitaram Bhartia Institute of Science & Research

Ninth Pre-Conference Workshop on ‘Advanced Methods in Large-scale Data Analysis’

The pre-conference workshop was held during 7th to 9th December, 2018 at CSRD, Jawaharlal Nehru University. In order to train young research scholars, IASSH has initiated the Pre-Conference Workshop from the year 2010 onwards. Important aspects of advanced methods were discussed in this year's workshop and the experts provided guidance to the M.Phil/ Ph.D scholars in analyzing the datasets and executing their study. This year, 59 research scholars from various universities and institutes across India have participated in the workshop. The participants felt that this is a useful training in fine-tuning the data analytical skills for their dissertations. The participants were given certificates and a newly published book on sampling methods.



Topics Covered in the Pre-Conference Workshop: Data Management and Data Quality Evaluation, Programming (Using Stata, SPSS, Gretl, R, Change -point Analyzer), Bivariate and Multivariate analyses, Longitudinal and Panel Data Analyses, Multi-level Analyses, Graphics, Mapping and Geo-Spatial Analyses (Using Arc GIS). The resource persons included Prof. Amaresh Dubey, Prof. Arvind Pandey, Dr. Indrani Roy Chowdhury, Dr. U.V. Somayajulu, Dr. Elumalai Kannan, Dr. Srinivas Goli, Dr. Bidhubhushan Mahapatra, Dr. Amit Thorat, Dr. Lucky Singh, Dr. Uttamacharya, Dr. A Bheemeshwar Reddy, Dr. Rakesh Arya, Mr. Varghese Kunjappy and Mr. Rakesh Mishra. Dr. U.V. Somayajulu, Vice President of IASSH, inaugurated the workshop which was chaired by Prof. Sachidananda Sinha, Chairperson, CSRD, JNU. Dr. Srinivas Goli coordinated the workshop.

We are Thankful to:

