

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HEALTH (IASSH)

21st Annual Conference

in collaboration with

R.A. Podar Institute of Management, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

11th Dr. K.E. Vaidyanathan Memorial Lecture

on

Health and Well-being of Labour-Migrants in India

by

Dr. Pavitra Mohan

12th February 2026 at 10.00 a.m.

R.A. Podar Auditorium, Rajasthan University, Jaipur



Dr. Pavitra Mohan is a distinguished community health physician, paediatrician, and public health practitioner with over two decades of experience in strengthening health systems and advancing equitable healthcare in India. He is the Co-Founder and Director of Basic HealthCare Services (BHS), an organization committed to delivering accessible, high-quality primary healthcare in underserved communities. Dr. Mohan also serves as Director of Health Services at Aajeevika Bureau, where he leads initiatives addressing the health and social protection needs of migrant and informal workers. Previously, Dr. Mohan worked as a Senior Health Specialist at UNICEF's India Country Office, contributing to national policy dialogue and program design in maternal, newborn, and child health. His academic engagement includes teaching at RNT Medical College, Udaipur, where he helped train future medical professionals with a strong grounding in community-oriented care. He has also worked with Action Research and Training for Health (ARTH), a leading public health NGO known for innovative models of rural healthcare delivery. Dr. Mohan is a Fellow of the National Neonatology Forum of India and an Ashoka Fellow, recognizing his leadership and social innovation in public health. He holds a Master's degree in Public Health from the University of North Carolina, USA. Dr. Mohan's work bridges clinical practice, public health systems, and social determinants of health, making him a fitting speaker for the K.E. Vaidyanathan Lecture at the 21st Annual Conference of the Indian Association for the Social Sciences and Health (IASSH).

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Dr. K. E. Vaidyanathan, a distinguished demographer and former President of IASSH served the United Nations in various capacities. He was a faculty at the International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai, during 1968–1971. In 1971, he joined the Institute of Rural Health and Family Planning, Gandhigram, as Head of the Department of Population Studies and also served as its Acting Director for some time. Later he joined the UN system as a Demographer in Cairo Demographic Centre, which is the regional centre for Africa and the Middle-East. In 1976 he moved to Syria as an UN Adviser to help establish the Centre for Population Studies and Research and to advise the Planning Commission of Syria. This was followed by a posting in Kampala, Uganda to serve as a faculty in the Institute of Statistics and Applied Economics in Makarere University, Kampala. In 1979 he became the UNESCO Regional Adviser for Population Education in the Arab region, and in 1982 he moved to ILO as the Regional Expert for Household Surveys under the National Household Survey Capability Program (NHSCP) in the Arab region. He later served during 1992-96 as the Chief Technical Adviser for the Sudan Population Census of 1993, which was acclaimed as the most successful census ever held in that vast and complex country. In 2001 he helped plan and implement the Living Standards Measurement Survey (LSMS) in Bosnia- Herzegovina. Dr. Vaidyanathan passed away in 2014 at Bangalore.

