



21st Annual Conference Call for Papers



INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR SOCIAL SCIENCES AND HEALTH (IASSH)

in collaboration with

***RA Podar Institute of Management,
University of Rajasthan, Jaipur***

THEME

Towards Viksit Bharat: Wellness for All
Integrating Social Science in Health Policy and Practice

11th - 13th February, 2026

at

University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

Submit Extended Abstract/Full-Paper at:
<http://www.iassh.org/onlineabstract.aspx>

For conference related enquiries, please write to us at:
iasshconference@gmail.com

Towards Viksit Bharat: Wellness for All

Integrating Social Science in Health Policy and Practice

Background

India's vision of Viksit Bharat (Developed India) by 2047 emphasises inclusive growth and human well-being as the foundation of national progress. It recognizes health and wellness as the cornerstone of sustainable development. The pursuit of wellness goes beyond curative healthcare; it encompasses preventive, promotive, and holistic well-being for all sections of society. Achieving this ambitious goal requires a multidimensional approach that integrates medical sciences with the insights of social sciences.

Health outcomes and well-being are not only shaped by medical care but also deeply influenced by social, economic, cultural, and environmental contexts. Issues such as poverty, gender inequality, education, migration, environmental changes, and social determinants of health significantly impact access to care and health equity. Especially, inequalities in education, income and gender coupled with urbanization, climate change, and migration significantly affect health outcomes. While India has made significant progress in public health infrastructure, programmes and policies, there remains a pressing need to embed social science perspectives into health policy and practice to ensure inclusivity, accessibility, and sustainability. Therefore, to achieve the goal of *Wellness for All*, it is vital to integrate social science perspectives into health policy and practice.

Medical interventions alone cannot address the complex health challenges of today. Social science research provides a nuanced understanding of community behaviors, health-seeking practices, and the social determinants of health. Integrating these perspectives into health policies ensures that interventions are culturally relevant, context-specific, and socially just. A comprehensive approach that synergises the advances in medical sciences with social science insights can enhance health system responsiveness, foster community participation, and promote wellness for all and also ensures inclusivity, equity and sustainability.

This conference intends to generate a dialogue that connects evidence-based research with policy priorities, thereby contributing to India's broader development goals. It seeks to provide an interdisciplinary platform for scholars, policymakers, practitioners, and civil society to deliberate on how social sciences can strengthen health systems and ensure equity in the journey towards a Viksit Bharat.

Conference Objectives

- To examine the role of social sciences in shaping inclusive health policies for developed India.
 - To deliberate on the integration of social determinants of health into health programmes and interventions.
 - To identify pathways for advancing *Wellness for All* through cross-sectoral collaboration.
 - To share best practices and evidence-based research that highlight the interface between social sciences and health.
 - To generate actionable recommendations for policy and practice in the context of *Viksit Bharat* with health equity and wellness
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Sub-Themes

- S1:** *Social Determinants of Health*
 - S2:** *Health Policy and Governance*
 - S3:** *Community Participation and Empowerment*
 - S4:** *Traditional Knowledge and Modern Health Systems*
 - S5:** *Behavioural and Cultural Dimensions of Health*
 - S6:** *Digital Health and Equity*
 - S7:** *Urbanization, Migration, and Health*
 - S8:** *Mental Health and Wellbeing.*
 - S9:** *Climate Change, Environment, and Health*
 - S10:** *Pathways to Viksit Bharat*
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Expected Outcomes of the Conference

- Enhanced understanding of the role of social sciences in health and wellness for a *Viksit Bharat*.
- Identification of actionable policy recommendations for achieving “*Wellness for All*”.
- Improved collaboration among researchers, policymakers and practitioners.
- Knowledge dissemination through conference proceedings and policy briefs.

As India moves toward the vision of *Viksit Bharat*, health and wellness emerge as critical pillars of development. Achieving this vision requires health policies that are socially informed, equitable, and inclusive. The integration of social science into health policy and practice ensures that interventions are equitable, inclusive, and sustainable. This national conference seeks to catalyse dialogue, research, and collaboration in bringing together diverse stakeholders to advance the nation’s collective commitment to *Wellness for All*.

Conference Organizers

IASSH

Indian Association for Social Sciences and Health (IASSH) is a vibrant professional association with more than 1300 life members. It has played an important role in bringing together social scientists working in the field of health and development. Through annual conferences, workshops and publications, IASSH reaches out to large number of scholars, researchers, NGOs and health practitioners in India and abroad. One of the goals of IASSH is to encourage youth participation in knowledge transfer in social sciences and health research.

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 research findings among different stakeholders, it is hoped to bring about concerted action to address the emerging issues in health and development sectors. Association tries to enable scholars in health social sciences to enlarge their career opportunities and fulfil their professional commitment.

Web: www.iassh.org

University of Rajasthan

The University of Rajasthan, established on 8th January 1947 as Rajputana University, is the oldest institution of higher learning in the state of Rajasthan. Situated in Jaipur, the Central Campus spreads across 338.14 acres in an urban setting, while the satellite campus, comprising Constituent Colleges, covers an additional 138.21 acres. Initially, the University had jurisdiction over the entire state of Rajasthan, but its territorial reach is now focused on Jaipur and Dausa districts, with a strong network of more than 630 affiliated colleges. The University boasts a rich academic structure with 9 Faculties, 35 Departments, 7 Constituent Colleges, and 19 Research Centres, offering a wide spectrum of disciplines. Over the years, the University has maintained an impressive record in quality evaluation, being accredited by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with an A+ grade and first state university to achieve three ISO certifications.

This institution has continuously expanded its curricular range in keeping with the emergent academic needs of the region. Along with this, the university also provides Doctoral and Post-doctoral degree courses in various subjects of Science, Arts and Humanities. The University has produced many outstanding scholars spread across the globe. The University has many prominent alumni and they have occupied key positions in India and abroad. The university campus exhibits a diverse cultural background to share, interact and learn from each other.

Web: <https://www.uniraj.ac.in/>

Conference Organizing Committee

Patron:

Prof. Alpana Kateja, Vice-Chancellor, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

Conference Director:

Prof. Anurag Sharma, Director, RA Podar Institute of Management, University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

IASSH

Prof. R. Nagarajan, President, IASSH

Prof. P.M. Sandhya Rani, Vice- President, IASSH

Dr. Manas Ranjan Pradhan, Treasurer, IASSH

Prof. T.V. Sekher, Former President, IASSH

Convenors:

Dr. Kshipra Jain

Assistant Professor of Economics,
University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

Dr. V. Selvaraju

General Secretary, IASSH

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Assistant Professor of Economics,
University of Rajasthan, Jaipur

Dr. Pragya Tiwari Gupta

Joint Secretary, IASSH

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Dr. Manish Yadav, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology

Dr. Rashmi Bundel, Assistant Professor, Department of Statistics

Dr. Mandakini Meena, Assistant Professor, Department of Hindi

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Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg

Rajasthan University Campus

Talvandi, Jaipur, 302004

Rajasthan

Call for Papers

The Indian Association for Social Sciences and Health (IASSH) invites original and unpublished research contributions for presentation at the National Conference. Authors are requested to carefully follow the guidelines below while preparing and submitting their work. Submissions should include an Extended Abstract or Full Paper on topics relevant to the conference themes. Each submission must also include a separate Abstract not exceeding 300 words. The Extended Abstract/Full Paper should clearly present the background, rationale, objectives, data and methods used, analysis, key findings, and discussion of results. Please include the name(s) of the author(s), their designation, institutional affiliation, and email address. An author may submit a maximum of two papers, either individually or jointly with co-authors. All submissions will undergo peer review by the Expert Committee. The decision on acceptance will be communicated to the authors through the IASSH website and email. The Abstract and Extended Abstract/Full Paper must be submitted online at <http://www.iassh.org/onlineabstract.aspx> on or before **6th December 2025**.

Youth Best Paper and Poster Awards

There will be a competition for **best paper awards** and **best poster awards** for younger scholars in the conference. Based on the paper and its presentation, an Expert Committee will select best research papers and best posters from young scholars (less than 30 years of age). The best youth paper should be single authored research paper. Interested young scholars are encouraged to submit their **Full-Paper** online for the competition by mentioning “**For Young Scholars Research Paper Award**”.

Memorial Lectures

IASSH has instituted a memorial lecture in honour of Prof. John Caldwell, doyen of Demography, who passed away in 2016. The Ninth Lecture in memory of **Prof. John Caldwell** will be held during the conference. In honour of late Prof. K.E. Vaidyanathan, a distinguished demographer and former President of the Association, the Eleventh Lecture in Memory of **Prof. K.E. Vaidyanathan** will also be held during the annual conference.

Important Dates

Last Date for Receiving Extended Abstract/Full-Paper online	06 Dec 2025
Intimation about Acceptance and Travel Grant	20 Dec 2025
Last Date to Pay Conference Registration Fee	16 Jan 2026
Submission of Full Paper	30 Jan 2026
21st Annual Conference	11-13 Feb 2026

Travel Grants

Travel Grant may be awarded to paper presenters of some selected papers which include to and from rail fare (excluding Vande Bharat Rajdhani, Shatabdi, Duranto trains). All participants are requested to explore the possibility of obtaining TA/DA from their organizations, which will facilitate participation of more young scholars. Decisions regarding the award of travel grants rest with the review committee and depends upon the availability of funds. Preference will be given to the life members of the Association. Local hospitality (accommodation and food) will be provided to all registered paper presenters of selected abstracts/papers

Registration Fees (Non-Refundable)

Type of Participant (Conference Registration Fee)	Early Registration by 16th Jan 2026	Late Registration by 31st Jan 2026	Spot Registration (including Registrations after 31st Jan 2026)
Member of IASSH	Rs. 2000	Rs. 2500	Rs. 3000
Non-Member	Rs. 3500	Rs. 4000	Rs. 4500
Non-Member (Students)	Rs. 3000	Rs. 3500	Rs. 4000
Overseas Participants	\$ 100	\$ 120	\$ 130

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For more details, please visit our website: www.iassh.org

Places to visit in Jaipur

Jaipur, the Pink City of India, is famous for its grand forts, palaces, temples, and vibrant culture. The majestic Amber Fort, City Palace, and the iconic Hawa Mahal showcase the city's royal heritage, while Jaigarh and Nahargarh Forts offer panoramic views. Spiritual sites like Birla Mandir and Govind Dev Ji Temple add to its charm, alongside serene spots such as Jal Mahal and Sisodia Rani Ka Bagh. For culture lovers, the Albert Hall Museum and Jantar Mantar are must-visits. The bustling markets of Johari Bazaar and Bapu Bazaar make Jaipur a paradise for shopping traditional jewelry, textiles, and handicrafts. Together, these attractions make Jaipur a perfect blend of history, spirituality, and Rajasthani tradition.

IASSH Membership

- If you wish to join IASSH as a Life Member, kindly visit IASSH website for more details.
- To join, simply fill out the membership form and make the one-time payment of **Rs. 5000/-** online.
- Once done, send the completed filled-in form and payment details to iassh2004@gmail.com
- You can find the IASSH membership form and payment details at <http://iassh.org/member.html>

