



# GEOGRAPHERS' NEWS LETTER

## Association of Punjab Geographers

(Registered under Societies Registration Act xxi of 1860 No. 1902 of 1998-99)

Vol. 13 No. 2

July 2012

Editor: Prof. I.N. Chawla  
Co-Editor : Dr. Rampal Singh

### UGC Grant for APG Conference

Govt. PG College, Karnal, the host of 13th APG National Conference has received Rs 50,000 from the University Grants Commission to organize 13th APG National Conference. The conference is due to be held on 6-7 October, 2012.

### State Level Geographical Quiz Contest

The P.G. Department of Geography, SCD Govt. College, Ludhiana organised State Level Geographical Quiz Contest (2012) under the aegis of the Association of Punjab Geographers on 24th Feb. 2012. Twelve teams from various colleges of Punjab participated in the Contest. Govt. Mahindra College, Patiala; S. R. Govt. College for women, Amritsar and Doaba College, Jalandhar were placed in first, second and third positions respectively.

Principal of the college Smt. Jasbir Kaur Makkar congratulated the winners and gave away the prizes while Dr. Dharam Singh, Head Department of Geography presented a vote of thanks.

### IN THIS ISSUE

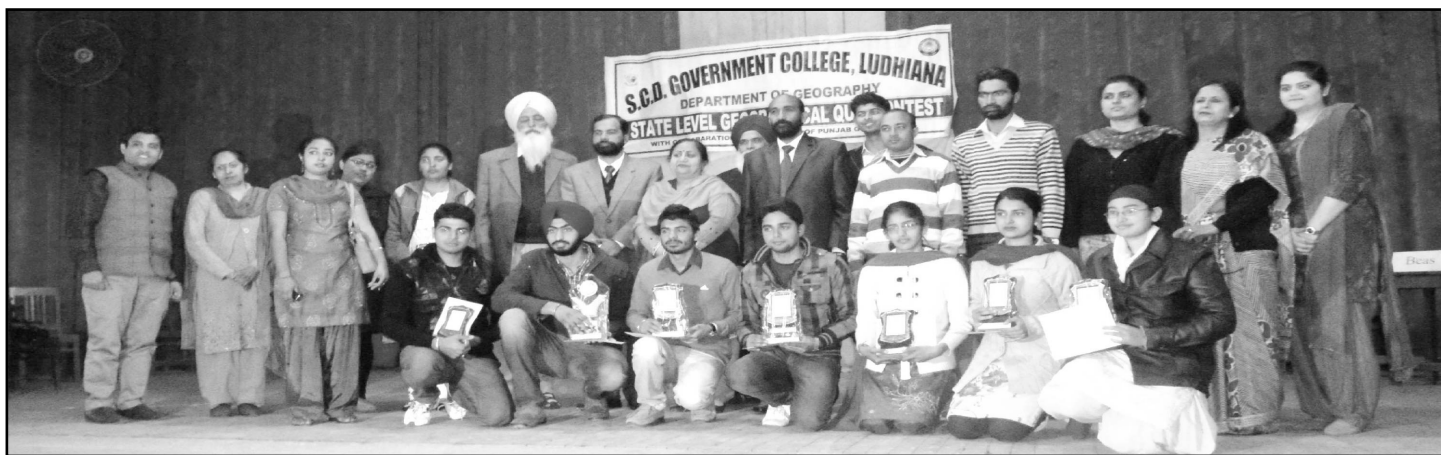
1. 13th APG Conference
2. Young Geographer Award
3. 14th APG Conference
4. News about seminars/conferences
5. News from Departments/colleges
6. Result of Geographical Quiz Contest
7. Geographical News

### 13th APG National Conference

Department of Geography Govt. P.G. College, Sector 14, Karnal is hosting 13th APG National Conference on October 6- 7, 2012.

### Focal Theme:

Challenges and Concerns of Geography



Mrs. Jasbir Kaur Makkar, Principal SCD Govt. College along with Dr. Dharam Singh Sandhu, Dr. Jaspal Singh and Prof. Jatinder Singh and winning teams.

**Sub themes:**

1. Regional Planning and Development: Methods, Techniques and Approaches
2. Natural Resources: Consumption, Depletion and Conservation
3. Promoting and Nurturing a Green Economy-Sustainable Agricultural Pursuits
4. Integrated Rural Development: A persistent Dilemma
5. Urban and Peri-urban Continuum.
6. Governing and Managing the Extractive Industries

The participants can contact Dr. I.J. Nagpal coordinator of the conference (E-mail ID- [13apgkarnal@gmail.com](mailto:13apgkarnal@gmail.com) Mobile- 9416285027) for any query. The brochure of the conference is being released shortly by the college.

**14th APG National Conference**

Universities Departments / Colleges Departments of Geography interested to host 14th APG National Conference in 2013 may contact Dr. H.S. Mangat Ph. 0175-2286606

**E-Mail [hsmangat@rackyes.com](mailto:hsmangat@rackyes.com)**

**Young Geographer Award (2012)**

Three copies of original research paper along with bio-data of the author who has not attained the age of 33 years are invited for the Young Geographer Award. The paper should be submitted in English to Dr. B.R. Thakur, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, H.P. University, Shimla, **E-Mail- [brthakur53@gmail.com](mailto:brthakur53@gmail.com), Mob-09418065518** not later than September 10, 2012. The name of the author and department should be mentioned in the covering letter and not on the paper to keep secrecy.

An expert committee of three geographers will be constituted to evaluate and short list three to five best papers. These papers will be presented in a special session of the conference and one amongst them would be finally selected for **Dr. Saminderjeet Singh Young Geographer Award**. The awardee will be honoured with a cash award of Rs. 1000/-, a memento and a certificate of merit. The paper will be published in "Punjab Geographer" if considered fit for publication by the editorial board.

**Punjab Geographer**

Original research papers are invited from Geographers and Scholars of other allied subjects for publication in the next issue of the "Punjab Geographer". Papers should be submitted to Dr. H.S. Mangat, Editor Punjab Geographer, # 3037, Urban Estate, Phase-2, Patiala-147002, **E mail [hsmangat@rackyes.com](mailto:hsmangat@rackyes.com)**, Ph 0175-2286606. To begin with they are requested to send single hard copy; followed by two hard copies for the referees after

incorporating suggestions if asked for; followed by single hard copy after incorporating the suggestions of the referees if asked for along with a soft copy. The authors must submit original copy/print of maps/figs, indicating the quality of impression. The paper can be withdrawn even from the press if the reproduction of the maps/figs is not satisfactory. Authors must read the guidelines provided in the journal.

**Note:**

The authors should note that until they receive the press copy of their papers from the Editor and return it with OK report, the paper may not be considered accepted for publication. Taking into account the interest of the members and encourage inter-disciplinary cooperation in research, APG has decided to consider the papers authored by more than two persons for publication.

**News about the Seminars/Conferences****ISPER**

Institute for Spatial Planning and Environment Research, India (ISPER) in collaboration with Association of Punjab Geographers is organizing 3rd International Seminar at its Headquarter C-1, Amravati Enclave, Kalka Road Panchkula on November 16-18, 2012.

**Main Theme:**

Man is part of Nature: Heuristics and Political Ecology

**Sub- themes**

1. Human Intervention and its Impact on Natural settings (Ecosystem)
2. River ecology and quarrying
3. Urbanization and the receivables in the natural drainage system,
4. Understanding the laws of nature and development Policies
5. Political ecology and Political Economy
6. Policies and Practices for Eco-friendly development
7. Conservation of Resources and natural habitat
8. Built Environment.

For details visit the web site of the Institute [www.isperonline](http://www.isperonline). or contact Secretary General, E-mail [isperonline@gmail.com](mailto:isperonline@gmail.com)

**APPEAL**

Heads of the departments of geography of various universities/colleges are requested to send their activity report ie. seminars/ conferences organised or to be organised or any other activity of the department to Dr. H.S. Mangat E-mail-[hsmangat@rackyes.com](mailto:hsmangat@rackyes.com) phone 0175-2286606 for publication in the Geographers News letter a bi-annual (January/July) publication. Members of APG are also requested to send their suggestions, personal achievements and change of address if any.

## **NEWS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS/COLLEGES/SCHOOLS**

### **HNB University, Uttarakhand**

Prof. H.B. Bhatt has joined as the Convener, Head, Department of Geography, HNB Garhwal (Central) University, Srinagar (Uttarakhand).

### **Centre of Advanced Study in Geography, Punjab University, Chandigarh**

Center of Advanced Study in Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh organized a National Seminar on "Northwest India: Issues in Sustainability" from February 23-24, 2012. Over 100 eminent scholars deliberated upon this vital issue. A total of 118 papers were presented.

The seminar was inaugurated by Padamshree Professor R.C. Sobti, Vice Chancellor, Panjab University, Chandigarh where Professor Emeritus G.S. Gosal delivered the presidential address. Professor Harjit Singh of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi delivered the keynote address. The seminar was jointly convened by Karanjot Kaur Brar, Professor & Chairperson and Dr. Navneet Kaur.

### **Govt. P.G. College, Sector-14, Karnal**

A two day National Seminar on "Sustainable Management of Land Resources in India" was organized by the Department of Geography, Govt. P. G. College, Sector-14, Karnal on February 24-25, 2012. Dr. R. C. Chandna, Professor (Retd.) Department of Geography P.U. Chandigarh delivered the Keynote Address. He highlighted the trends, potentials and strategies of sustainable management of land resources in Indian Context. Dr. Rajendra Sahai former director of NBAGR delivered the presidential address. Other prominent resource persons were Kanwar Surjit Singh, former CTP, Haryana, Dr. H. S. Mangat, Chief Patron of APG; Dr. M. I. Hasan (M.D.U Rohtak); Dr.D.D. Sharma (H.P.U, Shimla); Dr.M.S.Jaglan (K.U.K) who enriched the delegates with their expertise in the various



**Dr. R. C. Chandna delivering keynote address at National Seminar, Govt. P.G. College, Karnal**

specialized fields. On the whole 45 presentations were made on the seminar. Dr. Gurbachan Singh Chairman, ASRB, Govt. of India presided the valedictory session. The seminar was jointly convened by Prof. Hans Raj H.O.D. Geography and Dr. I. J. Nagpal.

### **Shri Guru Angad Dev Public School, Langrian**

Shri Guru Angad Dev Public School, Langrian, Malerkotla of Punjab has got C.B.S.E. affiliation (No.1630733) under the dynamic leadership of APG Member and School Chairman Shri Jagtar Singh Dhindsa. To promote the subject of Geography, the school has decided to hold State Level Geographical Quiz Contest for school Children every year under the aegis of Association of Punjab Geographers.

### **Geographical News**

#### **Aquifer Mapping for Water Management**

For the first time, India will undertake mapping of deep aquifers, the underground layers of water bearing rocks to identify the quantum of water available.

– Dr. V.C. Goyal,

99th Indian Science Congress

#### **World's Largest Solar Telescope for Ladakh**

The National Large Solar Telescope (NLST) will be set up at Pangong Tso Lake in Ladakh. This site at Merak, offers longer sunshine hours. This solar telescope will help to study the long term changes in the earth's climate and provide useful data to minimise or remove disruptions to communication network of satellites due to periodic solar winds.

–The Tribune News

#### **Mystery of Human Migration**

One of the first surprises of Geographic Project (based on DNA) for instance, is the discovery about the initial journey (of man) out of Africa may not have been through the "Northern Route" of the Sinai Peninsula and Middle East, as initially proposed. Instead, they seem to have moved out of Africa by a "Southern Route" at the Bab-el-Mandib strait at the mouth of the Red Sea separating East Africa from southern Arabia.

This migration may have required boats to traverse the shallow waters that may have existed there 60,000 years ago.

–The Independent

#### **How the World Sees the Nuke Power**

Reversal of policy after Fukushima Disaster, March, 2011.

**Germany:** Europe's Economic Power House announced shutting down all nuclear plants by 2022.

**Italy:** On June 13, 2011 Italy put a lid on nuclear power after holding a national referendum

**Switzerland:** Switzerland has announced whittling down nuclear plants in phases. Its decision made it the first European country to change policy as result of Japan's crisis.

**China:** China has suspended plans to build 28 reactors by 2020 until safety standards are revised but says it will not abandon the nuclear power programme.

**Japan:** Japan's new PM says that he plans to re-start the country's idle reactors, but anti-nuclear protests stand in the way amid popular support. Japan's last of the active nuclear reactors closed down w.e.f. 6th May, 2012 leaving the world's third biggest user of atomic energy with no nuclear derived electricity for the first time since 1970. This shut down means all of Japan's 50 reactors have been taken offline, making the country's first nuclear power free day.

–Hindustan Times

### **Strongest Solar Storms in 7 Years**

The Sun is bombarding Earth with radiation from the biggest solar storms since 2005, which are heading towards our planet at 93 million miles per hour. The solar flare took place at around 11p.m. Eastern Time on Sunday (22 January, 2012) and will hit earth with three different effects.....

The main issue is radiation which is mostly a concern for satellite disruption and astronauts.

Radiation from Sunday's flare arrived at earth an hour later and will most likely continue through until Wednesday (25 January, 2012) experts said.

–A.N.I.

### **United Kingdom Lists Solar Storms as Security Threat**

Explosions on the sun that blart solar winds towards the earth have been identified for the first time as one of the biggest threat to UK's ability to carry on normal life---

-- The newly published risk register lists severe space, weather, alongside terrorist attacks, coastal flooding and

pandemic influenza, as likely source of "serious damage to human welfare"

– Hindustan Times

### **Emission of green house Gases**

----- China with 1.34 billion people, is the world's biggest emitter of green house gases which amount to around a quarter of the earth's CO<sub>2</sub>. This is more than the US, historically the world's top emitter. A recent study by US researchers states that China could peak in the emission by 2030 or earlier.

–Reuters

### **Next Ice Age not Likely before 1500 Years**

**London:** High level of carbon dioxide emissions in the atmosphere mean the next ice age is unlikely to begin for 1500 years, an article in the journal Nature Geoscience said.

–Reuters

### **Exploring Mariana Trench**

The lowest point in Mariana Trench, known as 'Challenger Deep' has been reached by humans, just once before in 1960. US Navy Lieutenant Don Walsh and the late Swiss Oceanographer Jacques Piccord had spent 20 minutes there in the submersible Craft, Trieste.

Titanic film director James Cameron, the first person to make a solo dive to the spot spent about three hours at the bottom collecting research samples for marine biology, geology and geophysics and still photographs and video footage of the trench -35756 feet (10898 metres) deep, 2200 GMT on Sunday, 25 March, 2012.

–Reuters

## **Printed Matter Book - Post**

Stamp

To,

---

---

---

**Prof. I.N. Chawla**  
124-C, Civil Lines,  
Patiala - 147003

