



GEOGRAPHERS' NEWS LETTER

Association of Punjab Geographers

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Co-Editor : Dr. Jaspal Singh

**Wishing you a fabulous 2015
full of great achievements and experiences.
A meaningful chapter waiting
to be written HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

15th APG Annual Meet -2014

15th APG Annual Meet was organized by the Institute for Spatial Planning and Environment Research, Panchkula, Haryana as 2nd APG and 5th ISPER International Seminar from 28-30 November, 2014 on "Rediscovering Traditions of Folk, Place and work in Sustainable Settlement Planning". Sh. Digvijay Singh Hon'ble M.P. Rajya Sabha and former C.M. of Madhya Pradesh was the Chief Guest. A total of 118 delegates from 12 States and UTs namely Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Rajasthan, Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, U.P., Rajasthan, Maharashtra and West Bengal got registered at the conference. Thus, almost all regions of India participated in this conference. A book "Immortal Cities-Concepts, Changing Morphology and Sustainability"



Inaugural session in progress

published by ISPER as tribute to Sh. R.C. Aggarwal formerly President of the Institute was released by the chief guest during the Inaugural Session. In the first technical session, three special lectures were delivered by eminent academicians namely Dr. Kulwant Singh, Regional Advisor United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) on "Setting Agenda for United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Development", Dr. Javid Iqbal, Principal, T.K. Paramedical Sciences Institute, Srinagar and Secretary, CARE Kashmir on "Srinagar Deluge: Lessons for Sustainable City Development" and Dr. Gopal Krishan, Professor Emeritus, Panjab University Chandigarh on "Prioritizing Sustainable Development of Human Settlements". A total of 56 research papers were presented in eight technical sessions spanning over three days.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE ISSUE

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16th APG Annual Meet and National Conference:
16th APG Annual Meet and National Conference is being hosted by the Department of Geography, University of Jammu, Jammu (J&K) on September 28-29, 2015. Abstracts of the Research Papers are invited by the Department on the following themes:

Main Theme

Changing Mountain Environment, Resource Utilization and Sustainable Livelihood

Sub-themes

- i. Biodiversity, issues and challenges
- ii. Tourism and Sustainability
- iii. Water Resource Management
- iv. Agriculture and Rural Development
- v. Population and Urbanization
- vi. Climate change and Environment
- vii. Natural Hazards and Disasters
- viii. Geo-spatial Technology in Resource Management and Planning

Contact: Dr. Anuradha Sharma, Chairperson, Department of Geography, University of Jammu, Jammu, J&K. Ph: **09419156872**, Tel/Fax 01912439275,

Email: apgu2015@gmail.com

Invitation for Young Geographer Award 2015

All those young geographers who have not attained the age of 33 years are invited to compete for Young Geographer Award-2015. Three copies of their original research paper along with bio-data in English should be submitted to Dr. B.R. Thakur, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, H.P. University, Shimla, E-Mail brthakur53@gmail.com Ph.- 09418065518 for further details. The last date for submission of paper is **August 10, 2015**.

CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION

Association of Punjab Geographers deeply mourns the sad demise of Dr. V. K. Asthana formerly Professor, Department of Geography, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra who left us for his heavenly abode on December 18, 2014. By his departure the fraternity of geographers has lost a dedicated teacher and scholar in geography. Association of Punjab Geographers has also lost its well-wisher working for the cause of Geography even after his retirement. The APG sends its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and prays to the God for peace of departed Soul and to provide strength to the family to bear the irreparable loss.

President

Executive Committee for 2015-16 and 2016-17

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 9. Mr. Khayal Chand, Shimla

State Level (UG) Geographical Quiz contest

PG Department of Geography, S.C.D. Govt. College, Ludhiana will organize Annual State Level Geographical Quiz contest for the undergraduate classes in the second week of February, 2015. Interested departments can contact Prof. Harbans Singh, Head, Department of Geography, Ph. 9417789090.

Inter-university/Inter-department PG Level Geographical Quiz Contest

During the Executive Committee meeting held recently at Panchkula, a point was raised that instead of UG Level Inter-state Geographical Quiz contest, the APG should get organized Inter-university/ Inter department PG Level Quiz Contest focusing on UPSC, NET and UGC examinations. Apart from general geographical awakening it will help the students to prepare for these examinations. EC authorized the President and Patron of APG to explore the possibilities and take necessary steps to make the competition a reality.

News from Departments

Department of Geography H.P. University, Shimla

The Department of Geography HPU has signed an MoU with the Bath Spa University UK for academic collaboration. Prof D.D. Sharma and Dr B.R. Thakur visited Bath Spa University UK under Global Scholarship during Oct-Nov 2014 and worked with the faculty of Geography of BSU for undertaking joint research activities and explored possibility of joint degree programme.

Three students of this department qualified UGC JRF and 11 other qualified NET examination in Geography conducted by UGC in June 2014.

Department of Geography, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

Under the guidance of Prof. S.P. Kaushik and Dr. Anju Gupta 51 students (31 girls and 20 boys) of M. Sc third Semester conducted a socio-economic field survey of six village *Panchyats* of Solan district in Himachal Pradesh from September 24-30, 2014.

Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh

UGC has granted the second phase of CAS (Centre for Advanced Studies) 2014-2019 to the Department of Geography, Panjab University Chandigarh. Prof. Krishna Mohan is the Coordinator and Prof. Ravinder Kaur is the Deputy Coordinator for this Phase.

News about Members

Dr. Ravinder Kaur has joined as Professor and Head, Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh.

Dr. Dharam Singh, Principal has got a new posting from Govt. College Tanda to S.C.D. Govt. College, Ludhiana.

Dr. Anuradha Sharma, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, University of Jammu, Jammu, has joined as Head of the Department.

Dr. N.N. Sawant has been promoted as Principal, Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science, Margao, Goa.

Professor Surya Kant (Retd.) of the Department of Geography, Panjab University has been awarded Senior Fellowship by the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi. He has joined as Senior Fellow of the ICSSR at the Department of Geography,

Panjab University Chandigarh. He will be working on the research theme of "Demonolithing Scheduled Caste Population in India".

At the same time, he has also been recommended as Emeritus Fellow to the University Grants Commission, New Delhi. The tenure in both cases is for two years.

Principal Shub Prem Brar has retired from his excellent journey of more than three decades of teaching the generations of students and worked as model administrator for the teaching community. APG salutes his valuable services, social- concern, professional skill, enlightened attitude, relation-sensitivity and wish an enjoyable future for such charming personality.

Dr. Vinod K. Bhardwaj (Rajasthan) presented a paper on "Micro-climatic changes in the Thar Desert: Development & Challenges" in an international conference at Madison city, Wisconsin (USA) on October 16, 2014; organized by the Nepal Study Centre of New Mexico University, USA. He was also invited to deliver Keynote address in an International Conference on 'Human Migration in South Asia: Dynamics and Implications' on October 09, 2014; organized by Synod College, Shillong, Meghalaya. He also got 2 edited books released during Nov. -Dec. 2014.

Conferences/Seminars Organised

Parishkar College of Global Excellence, Jaipur and **Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts and Science, Margao, Goa** jointly organized an International Conference on "International Borders in South Asia: Interlinkages, Conflicts and Challenges of Management" on December 12-13, 2014, at Jaipur. The conference was graced by Sh. Gulab Chand Kataria, Hon'ble Home Minister, Rajasthan as Chief Guest. Apart from Prof. S. D. Muni (Former Prof, JNU; Former Ambassador to Lao; Visiting Prof. Singapore National University; & Emeritus Prof, JNU) and Prof. B. L. Sukhwil (Wisconsin, USA), 35 delegates from Delhi, Chandigarh, Rajasthan, Goa, Sikkim, Nagaland, West Bengal and Bihar deliberated in 2 plenary and 4 technical sessions of the conference.

Govt. College, Rhenock, Sikkim organized a two days national seminar on 'Rural Empowerment in India: Efforts, Achievements and Constraints' on Nov. 14-15, 2014 at Rhenock. A total of 42 papers were presented in 2 plenary and 6 technical sessions by

participants from 9 states in India. Sh. S.B. Subedi, Hon'ble Minister, Rural Management & development, Govt. of Sikkim was the Chief Guest and Sh. Bikram Pradhan, Chief Whip, Govt. of Sikkim was the guest of honour during the inaugural session.

New Arrivals

1. Immortal Cities-Concepts, Changing Morphology and Sustainability

(Ed.) by R.C.Chandna, K.D. Sharma and K.Surjit Singh, published by Institute for Spatial Planning and Environment Research, Panchkula, Haryana, Price: Rs. 1200/-

2. Human Migration in South Asia: Prospects & Constraints (Ed.) by Vinod K. Bhardwaj and N. N. Sawant; published by G.B. Books, New Delhi, Price: Rs. 1650/-

3. Borders in South Asia: Interlinkages and Challenges (Ed.) by Vinod K. Bhardwaj, N. N. Sawant and Manoj K. Saini published by G.B. Books, New Delhi, Price: Rs. 1650/-

Forthcoming Seminars/workshop

Parishkar College of Global Excellence, Jaipur is organizing a two days National Seminar on "Human Response to Environmental Changes in India" on January 23-24, 2015. The details may be obtained through <http://parishkar.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/11/Brousher.pdf> or mailing to nationalseminarjaipur2015@gmail.com.

Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts & Science, Margao, Goa is organizing ICSSR sponsored 10 Days workshop on Research Methodology during Jan. 27-Feb. 05, 2015. Details may be obtained through <http://59.165.134.98/chowgule/jsp/News/newsDisplay.jsp?no=4058>. Queries may also be addressed to Dr. N. N. Sawant (Principal & Course Director) Ph. 09850456575 (M) or Dr. Vinod K. Bhardwaj (Co Course Coordinator) Ph. 09414304650 (M).

Mata Sundri Khalsa Girls College Nissing, Karnal is going to organize one day seminar on February 24, 2015.

Main Theme: The Discipline of Geography - A Competitive Edge

Sub-themes:

- i The changing course of Geography as a discipline
- ii Geography as an integrating science
- iii Geography for competitive examinations
- iv The dilemma of the geography social science v/s natural science
- v An academic analysis of the syllabi of geography

The last date for the submission of abstract and full paper is 12-Feb, 2015 Contact: Dr. Asha Sharma, Coordinator, Ph. Mob: 9812542438, E-mail: drasha6@gmail.com

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To,

Stamp

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