



# GEOGRAPHERS' NEWS LETTER

## Association of Punjab Geographers

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"The New Year is a painting not yet painted; a path not yet stepped on; a wing not yet taken off! Things haven't happened yet! Before the clock strikes twelve, remember that you are blessed with the ability to reshape your life!" — Mehmet Murat Ildan

**APG wishes you**

**Happy New Year-2020**

### 20th APG Meet and International Conference, 2019

Focusing upon the theme of "Ecological Sustainability, Regional Development and Geospatial Technology", PG Department of Geography, Government College, Hisar organized the 20th Meet of the Association of Punjab Geographers (APG) and National Conference on 9th and 10th November 2019. Principal P.S. Rohilla, Patron of the event welcomed all the dignitaries and delegates. Dr. Manoj Kumar, Organizing Secretary, introduced the theme before the House. Professor Tankeshwar Kumar, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar graced the occasion as Chief Guest of this mega event. He encouraged the delegates and students to participate in such academic events and take part in healthy discussions. He also promised to open new Post Graduate Department of Geography at Guru Jambheshwar University, Hisar. Dr H.S. Mangat, Patron of the APG, shared his remarks about the successful journey of Association of Panjab Geographers. Dr. Dharam Singh Sandhu, President APG and Principal, SCD Govt. College, Ludhiana delivered the presidential address.

#### Keynote Address

As keynote speaker, Professor Sachidanand Sinha from CSRD JNU, New Delhi, highlighted that without involving local communities, both ecological sustainability and regional development are not possible. He also underlined that geospatial technology also needs to be carefully used without encroaching upon the individuals' rights and their private life.



**Dignitaries on the Dias 20th APG Meet**

#### Special Lecture Session

During the special lecture session, Professor M. S. Jaglan, Department of Geography, Kurukshetra University Kurukshetra delivered a special lecture on, 'the ecological problems of Amazon Forest fires and deforestation and its implications on global climatic pattern and systems'. Mr. Asad Ansari, Manager from ESRI India also delivered his talk on the 'Geospatial technologies and their role in 21st century'.

#### Eleven Technical Sessions

In this two-day national conference, 11 parallel technical sessions were conducted in which 66 research papers were presented on different topics under academic domain of geography. In all, 170

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delegates from the states like Punjab, Haryana, Chandigarh, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, New Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Maharashtra got registered for the conference.

#### **Valedictory Session**

As Chief Guest of Valedictory Session, Sh. Kanwar Surjit Singh, former Chief Town Planner, Haryana and Secretary General, ISPER, Panchkula, focused on the role of geography as an integrated science that can work for ecological sustainability and regional development. Sh. M.S. Aujla, former Chief Town Planner, Punjab, Presided over the valedictory session. Dr. Manoj Kumar, Organizing Secretary presented the conference report and detailed about the two days' event. President Elect, APG, Prof. Anuradha Sharma from Department of Geography, University of Jammu proposed the vote of thanks to all the dignitaries and participants.

#### **21st APG Meet and National Conference - 2020**

21st APG Meet and National/International Conference is being hosted by Department of Geography, Baba Farid College, Deon, Bathinda, Punjab in the month of Oct/Nov. 2020.

#### **Main theme: Development, Sustainability and Geography: Building Synergies**

The sub-themes of the conference would include but are not limited to the following:

- Amelioration of Poverty and Hunger
- Quality Education, Decent Work and Economic Growth
- Gender and Regional Equalities
- Health, Well-being and Water & Sanitation
- Clean and Affordable Energy
- Sustainable Cities and Communities
- Equality, Equity and Development
- Climate Action and Disaster Management
- Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
- Agricultural Sustainability and Rural Development
- Human Actions and Terrestrial and Marine life
- Geo-informatics and Sustainable Development

#### **Devinder Singh Raina, Meritorious Student Award-2019**

To promote the subject of Geography, the Association of Punjab Geographers has instituted Meritorious Student Award, in the memory of Prof. Devinder Singh Raina, Department of Geography, University of Jammu, Jammu. For the year of 2019, this award has been conferred to Mr. Lucky Sharma, for securing First Position in MA Geography, University of Jammu, Jammu.

#### **Prof. B. Hema Malini Promising Geographer Award- 2019**

This award is instituted by Professor Bandaru Hema Malini, Department of Geography, Andhra University,

Visakhapatnam for the promotion of Geography among young researchers and students. There were 7 candidates representing 4 universities of Himachal Pradesh, Haryana and Panjab states who participated in the competition. Under this award of Poster Presentation Competition, various themes of contemporary relevance such as safe drinking water issues, landscape changes, meteorological drought analysis, rainfall change detection, climate change and biodiversity, regional disparities in development etc. were focused. Finally, Mr. Vivek Negi, Research Scholar, Panjab University, Chandigarh was declared, the Winner of the competition.

#### **Dr. Saminderjit Singh Young Geographer Award-2019**

The Association of Punjab Geographers in its 20th APG Meet and National Conference held at Government College, Hisar organized the Oral paper presentation Competition to confer upon Dr.Saminderjit Singh Young Geographer Award-2019 for the best young geographers/ researchers. Young geographers belonging to Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh; Jamia Millia Islamia University, New Delhi and Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla participated in the competition. Ms. Deepika Vashishtha, Research Scholar, Department of Geography, Aligarh Muslim University was conferred upon the Dr.Saminderjit Singh Young Geographer Award-2019 for her research paper "A Geographical Analysis of Rural Livelihoods and their Sustainability in India". Whereas, Ms. Diksha Kumari, Research Scholar, Department of Geography, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla stood First Runner up for her presentation on "Educational Attainment in India during the Post- Liberalization Period (1991-2011)."

#### **Punjab Geographer**

It is a matter of great pride for us that our journal 'Punjab Geographer' has been indexed in SCOPUS - (200114-020025). Original research papers are invited for publication from the members. Members can contact Dr. H. S. Mangat, E-mail editor@apgorg.org. Please visit website of Punjab Geographer : [www.punjabgeographer.org](http://www.punjabgeographer.org) or APG website: [www.apgorg.org](http://www.apgorg.org) to see the guidelines for the authors and format of the paper.

#### **Bhoogol Rattan Award, 2019**

**Dr. Gopal Krishan**, Professor Emeritus, Department of Geography, Panjab University, Chandigarh, has been conferred upon Bhoogol Rattan Award by NAGI.

## News about the Members

**Dr. Anuradha Sharma** has taken over as Head, Department of Geography, University of Jammu, Jammu.

**Dr. Omvir Singh** has taken over as Head, Department of Geography, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra.

**Dr. Vinod K. Bhardwaj**, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Govt. College, Kotputli, Jaipur, Rajasthan submitted, ICSSR Sponsored Major Research Project, "Women and Child Trafficking from Nepal in India: Mechanism, Control Measures and Implications" after completion to the ICSSR.

**BR Thakur**, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography has been awarded with a major research project titled "*Impact of Pradhanmantri Gramin Sadak Yojna on Rural Development in Churah Tehsil of Chamba District, Himachal Pradesh*" funded by ICSSR, New Delhi under a prestigious **Impactful Policy Research in Social Science (IPMRESS) Scheme** recently launched by Government of India.

**Dr. Shaik Iftikhar Ahmed** of Population Research Centre (PRC), CRRID, Chandigarh has been awarded Third Prize for his research paper entitled "Evaluation of Bhagat Puran Singh Sehat Bima Yojana in Punjab" in the 4th Knowledge Dissemination Workshop of Population Research Centres of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, New Delhi held on 16-17 January, 2020 at PRC, Patna University, Patna.

## News about the Departments

### Department of Geography, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla

The department coordinated 2-week Refresher Course in Geography and Geology w.e.f. 20 -05 -2019 to 01 -06 -2019. The department also organized 21 days "Capacity Building Training Programme on Geo-spatial Technologies" w.e.f. - 18.06.2019 to 08.07.2019. This training programme was funded by NRDMS, Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

### Department of Geography Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra

Following students have been awarded Ph.D Degree during 2019

Name of the Scholar	Title of the Thesis	Name of Guide	Month & Year of award
Mr. Jagdeep	Causes and Impacts of Spatial Variability in Erosion and Sediment Yield of Suketi Catchment, Himachal Pradesh	Prof. Omvir Singh	April, 2019
Mr. Ramjuwari	Changing Characteristics of Livestock Economy in Haryana: A Spatio-temporal Analysis	Prof. M.S. Jaglan	April, 2019
Mr. Jitender Kumar	Development and Accessibility of Groundwater Resources in Haryana	Prof. M.S. Jaglan	April, 2019
Ms. Kiran Bala	Living Environment and Health Status of Slum Population in Hisar City	Prof. S.P. Kaushik	April, 2019
Mr. Ravinder	Assessment of Tourism Carrying Capacity in Selected Destinations of Cold Desert Area of Kinnaur District, Himachal Pradesh	Prof. S.P. Kaushik	April, 2019
Mr. Tejpal	Extraction of Construction Material in Aravalli Region of Haryana and Delhi: Its Spatial Pattern, Ecological Hazards and Economic Impacts	Prof. M.S. Jaglan	July, 2019
Mr. Sanjay	Cotton Cultivation in Haryana: A Spatio-temporal Exploration	Prof. M.S. Jaglan	Sept., 2019
Ms. Preeti	Violence Against Women in Public and Private Spaces in Haryana	Prof. Rajeshwari	Sept., 2019
Ms. Ankita	Dynamics and Pattern of Social and Economic Development in Ahirwal Region of Haryana	Prof. M.S. Jaglan	Sept., 2019

### Field Survey

Department of Geography, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra conducted a socio-economic field survey under the supervision of **Prof. M.S. Jaglan** and **Prof. Omvir Singh** from September 30, 2019 to October 5, 2019 at Kathgarh village in Yamuna Nagar district of Haryana. 51 students comprising of 25 boys and 26 girls of M.Sc. Geography final year participated in this survey. The surveyed village is located in the foot of Siwalik Hills along the ephemeral Somb river, a tributary of Yamuna river. During the survey period, both students and teachers stayed at village. The students surveyed 238 households. This village has been inhabited by the pastoral community, Gurjar that has sedentarized recently. It has adapted to fast transforming agricultural economy in the state of Haryana during post Green Revolution period. Till about five decades ago, the foothills of Himalayas around this village had abundant pastures and grazing lands which favored dairy farming. But with the introduction of irrigation, these grazing lands have been converted into lush green farms of wheat and rice leading to reduction in the significance of animal husbandry in the economy. The field survey has revealed that there continues a huge gender gap in level of education in the village. Lack of sanitation and unhygienic conditions prevail all over the village. Apart from this, situation is quite bad in living environment of socio-economically deprived sections of the society. The changing socio-economic conditions, however, are opening the opportunity for diversification of economic activities and occupational pattern of people in the village.

### Department of Geography, shaheed Major Harminder Pal Singh, Govt. College, S.A.S Nagar (Mohali)

The department celebrated **International Literacy Day** on 08.9.2019 and **World Ozone Day** on 16.9.2019. Dr. Jaspal Singh and Prof. Ranbir Singh made their presentations digitally on the topics. Ten students of the department also participated in paper reading and poster making competitions.

### Geographical Wall Magazine

To create geographical awakening among the students of the college, the Department of Geography, Govt. College Mohali has started a very good practice by encouraging the students to collect geographical news from various sources. After proper editing by the students these are displayed on a specially created notice board in front of the department on every second Saturday of the month. This Geographical Wall Magazine has emerged a good source of attraction for the students of the college.

### Geographical News

Meteoric impact craters are among the most interesting geological structures on our planet. Scientists have discovered three deep scars in the earth's crust in India that are believed to mark the remains of a meteorite crater. While the Lonar Lake is famous for being the world's largest basaltic impact crater, the other two, Ramgarh and Dhala, are relatively unknown.

## Printed Matter Book - Post

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