

Press Release

A two-day workshop entitled *4<sup>th</sup> Knowledge Dissemination Workshop* organized by

*the Population Research Centre, Patna University*

*held at the Wheeler Senate House on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2020*

A two-day workshop entitled *4<sup>th</sup> Knowledge Dissemination Workshop* organized by the Population Research Centre, Patna University, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi was inaugurated on 16.01.2020 at the historic Wheeler Senate House of the University. **Shri Ashwini Kumar Chaubey, Hon'ble Minister of State, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of India, New Delhi**, was the Chief Guest in this function. The Hon'ble Minister appreciated Patna University for hosting the present edition of the Knowledge Dissemination Workshop. He also recalled the past glory and valuable contribution of this great University to the nation building. He had assured the University administration for any assistance that it needed to lead the academic fraternity of Bihar to the right direction. He had expressed his happiness over how the State is currently moving towards excellence in the Higher Education. The function was presided over by Prof (Dr) Rash Bihari Pd Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Patna University. Two former Vice Chancellors of the Patna University, Prof L N Ram and Prof Arun Kumar Sinha honoured the event by their august presence. Prof Dolly Sinha, Pro Vice Chancellor, Patna University and Prof Kriteshwar Prasad, Pro Vice Chancellor, Nalanda Open University were also present on the occasion. Prof S R Padamdeo, Dean, Faculty of Science, Prof Usha Verma, Dean, Faculty of Social Science, Prof P K Khan, Development Officer, PU and Prof Rabindra Kumar, Professor In-Charge, Patna University Library were among the distinguished dignitaries. Prof Atul Aditya Pandey, Head, Department of Geology, Patna Science College proposed the Vote of Thanks. In the Inaugural Session, the Welcome Address was delivered by Prof B K Pandey, Honorary Director, Population Research Centre, Patna University. He informed the gathering that a building of the G+3 structure would come up soon for the PRC, Patna University.

Shri D K Ojha, the Deputy Director (General), Statistics Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Govt of India, welcomed the representatives of the PRCs

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coming from different parts of the country and also thanked the State officials and the media persons for their valuable contribution. He informed that all the PRCs together had produced a total of almost 3600 research papers till now in reputed National and International Journals. In the present workshop, 46 papers from PRCs across the country were sent, out of which 26 were selected for presentation in this workshop. The Screening Committee selected top five papers amongst them for awards.

In his Presidential Address, the Vice Chancellor, PU, welcomed the delegation present and informed the house that PRC, PU is the Sixth oldest PRC of the country. He thanked the Ministry and other PRCs for initiating awards for best papers in this edition of the Knowledge Dissemination Workshop. He underlined the huge potential of India's current demographic dividend, which the PRCs should explore at length. He also announced that Diploma and Certificate Courses are going to be introduced by the PRC, PU very soon.

The first technical session on '**Maternal Health**' of the first day was Chaired by Prof L N Ram, in which three papers were presented by Dilip Kumar Kalita from Guwahati, D K Ojha from New Delhi and C M Lakshmana for Bengaluru. The second technical session on '**Reproductive and Child Health**' was Chaired by Prof Usha Verma, in which another three papers were presented by Savita Thakur Joshi from Shimla, Baldev Singh Kulaste from Pune and Suresh and Vandana Sharma from Delhi. The third technical session on '**Evaluation of Health Services**' that was Chaired by Dr D N Nagdeve and in this session, the papers were presented by Shaik Ifitikar Ahmed from Punjab, H Shriprasad and S R Vatavari from Dharwad, William Joe from Delhi, Sukhbir Singh from Patiala, A Mohan and Ajay Pandey from Lucknow and Dilip Kumar and Ajit Kumar from Patna. The day was concluded by a colourful Cultural Programme by the students of the Patna University under the able guidance of Prof Neera Chaudhuri of the Department of Music.