

# POPULATION GEOGRAPHY

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Chandigarh-160014

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## **From the Editor's Desk**

The posthumously published article by Professor Gopal Krishan in the Population Geography journal Geo-Reflections Series presents a thought-provoking question: What does geography have to do with happiness? And offers a unique perspective on happiness. The article is being published as a tribute to him as the former President of APGI, who significantly contributed to the academic landscape with his creative and innovative ideas. Navigating the complexities of defining and measuring happiness, the article challenges the notion of universal happiness. It focuses on the Geography of Happiness to conclude that sustained happiness depends on an individual's adaptability to their geographic location and the aesthetic arrangement of their life's elements.

This issue will feature nine research papers that have undergone a thorough review process. We deeply appreciate the reviewers' support in this endeavour.

One of the studies examines the changing global population growth patterns and their impact on society, economics, and the environment in 2050. The paper calls for a sustainable plan to secure our planet's future.

The other articles explore government welfare schemes, including an empirical study investigating people's awareness, benefits, and perceptions of schemes and their relation to sustainable development. Another article focuses on Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY), a maternal care initiative incentivising institutional delivery. Both papers highlight the importance of examining usage patterns and perceptions of health programs for success.

The study found that women's migration to urban areas in India significantly reduces fertility rates, particularly in the southern districts. The influence of urbanisation on fertility rates has been increasing over the past two decades.

Women's economic contributions in domestic work are often undervalued and invisible, which limits their visibility in financial spaces. A paper on the north Indian state of Haryana aims to draw attention to this issue using household data from four rounds of NSSO surveys spanning over three decades.

Another article focuses on migration patterns by sex and residence in Uttar Pradesh and their correlation with Gross District Domestic Product (GDDP).

This study uses Census and National Family Health Survey data to analyse fertility and family planning practices in Odisha, India. Although the state has achieved a fertility rate below replacement level, there are still disparities in fertility and contraceptive use among rural-urban and inter-district areas.

Another study found that the number of women aged 60 and above in India is growing faster, and their workforce participation has increased. To improve their quality of life, elderly women need support, care, empathy, and appropriate resources from the government and families.

Migration from India to the Gulf has significant socioeconomic effects. Remittances from GCC nations benefit India, and most unskilled workers are from densely populated northern and eastern India, primarily Muslims. A micro-level study found that migration substantially impacted Muslim families and society. Migrant worker families in the Gulf were more prosperous than non-migrant worker households.

**Nina Singh**

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## CONTENTS

Global Trends of Population Dynamics Oncoming 2050 <b>Amrita Paul and Prithvish Nag</b>	1–26
Role of Awareness of Government Schemes in Sustainable Development: A Study of Aligarh District, Uttar Pradesh <b>Arti Sharma<sup>1</sup> and Tejbir Singh Rana</b>	27–44
Increasing Urban-Rural Ratios of Women in the Reproductive Age Group and the Impact on Fertility Transition: A District-Wise Analysis <b>Aparna Aparajita Dash<sup>1</sup> and Dewaram Abhiman Nagdeve</b>	45–56
Gender and Domestic Duties: Socio-Economic and Temporal Contexts of Work Invisibility in Haryana, India <b>Rajeshwari<sup>1</sup> and Himanshi</b>	57–72
Regional Pattern of In-migration in Uttar Pradesh: A Comparative Analysis <b>Anjali Ojha<sup>1</sup>, Sarfaraz Alam and Satya Prakash</b>	73–89
Janani Suraksha Yojana in Kashmir Valley: A Binary Logistic Regression Analysis <b>Tosib Alam, Irshad Ahmad Para and Mansha Manzoor</b>	91–106
Trends and Patterns of Fertility and Contraception in Odisha <b>Sumita Bera<sup>1</sup> and Sibabrata Das</b>	107–126
Trends, Composition and Status of Elderly Women Workers in India <b>Supriya Ghosh<sup>1</sup> and Sahina Khatun</b>	127–140
Impact of Gulf Emigration on the Economy of Muslims: A Micro-Level Study from Falta Community Development Block, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal <b>Faruk Mallick</b>	141–160
<i>Geo-Reflections</i> Geography of Happiness <b>Gopal Krishan<sup>2</sup></b>	161–167

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<sup>2</sup> Posthumously