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Perspectives and Issues



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**HEALTH AND POPULATION: PERSPECTIVES AND ISSUES
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TRENDS IN CANCER INCIDENCE AND ASSOCIATED DEMOGRAPHIC FACTORS IN A NORTH EASTERN STATE OF INDIA: A STUDY ON POPULATION BASED CANCER REGISTRY

Gautam Majumdar* Rituparna Das Dhritiman Datta***
Santi Ranjan Pal******

ABSTRACT

The Population-Based Cancer Registry (PBCR) provides data on cancer burden and is a tool for epidemiological enquiries. The study aims to assess the trend in cancer incidence from 2010 to 2015 in Tripura and to study the demographic profile and the demographic factors associated with cancer occurrence in male and female patients registered during the period. The study included all the 11892 patients who were registered under the PBCR between 2010 and 2015 and revealed an increasing trend in cancer incidence in the state. Majority of the patients were male (57.41%), Hindu (90.97%), married (85.76%), and belonged to rural area (68.45%). Again, age ($p < 0.000$), community ($p < 0.000$), marital status ($p < 0.000$) and place of residence ($p < 0.007$) were found to be significantly associated with gender of the patients. This scientific information can be utilized in the existing programmes and policies to reduce the burden of cancer in the state.

Key words: Population Based Cancer Registry, Cancer trends, Demography.

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GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION AND SUSCEPTIBILITY TO HUMAN HEALTH: A CASE STUDY OF GANGA-SONE DIVIDE REGION OF BIHAR

*** Priti Kumari**

ABSTRACT

In today's world, all life forms are exposed to increasing environmental hazards. Chemicals, metals, pathogenic micro-organisms present in the environment adversely affect our health. Both national and local governments have failed in the essential environmental actions to ensure proper water supply, solid and liquid waste treatment systems and to ensure adequate provision of health care not only to treat environment related illness but also to implement measures to limit their incidents and severity. In this paper, an attempt has been made to investigate the health implications of groundwater contamination in Rohtas and Kaimur district of Bihar. The paper is based on information collected from 400 sick people belonging to different age groups. The major source of contamination of underground water is the industrial waste, domestic discharge along with agricultural runoff and underground seepage. These environmental changes are, in turn, reflected in changes of health. The interactions are complex and multidimensional, sometimes favourable and sometimes disastrous. The problems arose in the form of epidemics of cholera and typhoid.

Key words: Groundwater, Contamination, Human Health, Water-Borne, Ganga-Sone Divide, Bihar.

PATTERN OF REMITTANCES AND INCOME DISTRIBUTION AMONG MIGRANT AND NON-MIGRANT HOUSEHOLDS INEASTERN UTTAR PRADESH

S.K. Singh* and Raj Narayan**

ABSTRACT

The objective of the study was to examine the pattern of remittances and income distribution among migrant and non-migrant households in Eastern Uttar Pradesh by using sample of six villages (three from remote and three from semi-urban villages). The sample included 1,300 households. To fulfil the objective of the study; mean, median, uni-variate, bi-variate, t-test and Gini coefficient have been applied. For capturing the income distribution, monthly household consumption expenditure; monthly per capita consumption expenditure has been used. Findings reveal that out migration rate is twice in remote villages as compared to semi-urban villages. Pattern of remittances portray that the proportion of remittances receiving households is higher among households those who migrated single. A significantly larger proportion of migrants from the study area, irrespective of their migration status, sent monthly remittances than those remitting quarterly or more. It is also revealed that the remittance is the second major source of income in remote villages after the wages. Monthly household consumption expenditure and monthly per capita consumption expenditure among migrant and non-migrant households increase as wealth deciles increase. Gini coefficient shows the effect of remittances on consumption expenditure of the household. It is clear that remittances receiving households in remote villages are spend more remittances on improving housing condition, education, health, etc. than remittances not receiving households.

Key words: Migrants, Non-migrants, Villages, Remittances, Households

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SOCIO-CULTURAL DETERMINANTS OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH IN AN URBAN SLUM IN DELHI

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ABSTRACT

Maternal and child health care has been one of the priority areas in the development of health services in urban slums. This emerging issue is being highlighted by the Governments from time to time because of high prevalence of maternal mortality, neonatal death, infant mortality, underweight and malnourished children. They are vulnerable and suffering from different diseases in the given socio-cultural milieu of urban slum areas. The main objective of this paper is to understand the socio-cultural determinants that are being perceived and practiced on account of maternal and child health in an urban slum of South Delhi district. In order to accomplish the objective, the data have been collected from 400 pregnant and lactating women. Collected data have been analyzed using SPSS version 20. The findings of the study have shown that the educated respondents have done a higher degree of ANC registration (98.1%) and three ANC check-ups (82.4%) as compared to those who are less educated. The highly educated respondents were less likely to believe the cultural beliefs associated with ANC services utilization but in the context of socio-cultural factors, a significant number of respondents had beliefs and practices in Godbharai. Institutional delivery was relatively higher among the mothers who were from higher educational background than illiterate mothers. Most of the mothers were not influenced by cultural beliefs associated with child immunization. In view of the slum environment it is concluded that the existing IEC and BCC strategies of MCH should be strengthened by reducing barriers of socio-cultural beliefs and faiths perpetuating for the maternal and child health care in the slum areas.

Key words: Maternal and Child Health Services, Slum, Socio-Cultural Determinants

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SUGGESTED COPING MECHANISMS FOR BETTER QUALITY OF WORK LIFE OF ALCOHOLICS

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ABSTRACT

Addiction is the term defined on the basis of its intensity, frequency, and longevity of consumption of any substance. The consequences of addiction of any substance is more panic physically, psychologically, and financially. The present article is intended to explore the effects of alcohol consumption in quality of work life and to introduce some of the coping mechanisms for management of alcohol addiction. The frequent usage of alcohol interferes in the productivity of the work assigned to the employees in work sectors. Alcohol affects to the working memory, attention span, perception, problem solving skills and especially the consciousness what directly and indirectly affects the quality of work life of the individual. In many cases, it is also found that, due to effective coping mechanism, quality of work life of the alcoholics can be improved.

Kew words: Alcoholism, Quality of Work life, Addiction, Consumption, Emotional Dysfunctions.

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HEALTH STATUS AND ITS LINKAGE WITH MIGRATION AND LIFE-STYLE AMONG SOME DELHI SLUM MIGRANTS

Jeetendra Yadav*

ABSTRACT

This study examines the Health status and its linkage with migration and life-style among slum migrants. Worldwide, level of urbanization is growing and same is the situation in India. Though, rural population is contributing to 68.8 percent of India's population, a drastic decline in rural population has been observed in the last few decades. Delhi, the capital of India, has now become the world's second most populous city, doubling its population since 1990. The population of Delhi increased by 46 percent during the last, more than double the national population growth rate of 21.3 percent. Health facilities are not proper in the slums. An effort was made to collect information about illness occurring among the respondents. The research studies from different parts of the world reveal that migration is a complex process which affects the people differently. Most often, it is associated with stressful events, barriers and challenges because of which the psycho-social issues and other health issues are more prevalent among the migrants when compared with the native population. Primary data were collected from 1060 male migrants aged 15-35 years residing in five different slums in Delhi to address the objective. A cross-sectional survey design with multi-stage systematic sampling method was used to select the respondents for this study. Bivariate and multivariate analyses including chi-square tests were applied. Prevalence of self-reported morbidity in the last 12 months among male migrants was about 27 percent. The most common disease the slum migrants suffered from was viral fever (67.1 %). Only 4.15 percent of the migrants reported that they were suffering from STI during one year preceding the survey, among them more than half (52.3%) was suffering from genital discharge (white discharge). Amongst the migrants who used to consume alcohol almost daily, majority (82.6%) of them reported to be suffering from any type of mental health problem, whereas almost equal number of them (80.0%) reported to be suffering from depression. There is a wide scope for research studies to investigate further to have in-depth understanding of the pattern of health and specially mental health problems and formulating more effective intervention strategies to prevent the distress and promote the psycho-social well-being of the migrants.

Key words: Delhi Slum, Migration, Migrants, Health Status, Sexual Health, Mental Health, Life-Style, Substance Use, Alcohol, Tobacco, Sexual Behaviour.

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