



PROGRAM SCHEDULE



**Health, Nutrition, and Wellbeing: Evidence, Evaluation,
and Way Forward**

13th Annual Conference

Indian Health Economics and Policy Association

**Organized by
School of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology, Mandi**

12-13 December 2025

Program Schedule

Day 1: December 12, 2025, Friday	
07:45 am – 09:00 am Breakfast Oak Mess	
08:30 am onwards Registration Foyer, Auditorium, North Campus	
09:30 am – 10:30 am Inaugural Session Auditorium, North Campus	
Welcome Address	Prof Laxmidhar Behera <i>Director, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Chairperson Address	Dr Surya Prakash Upadhyay <i>Chairperson, School of Humanities and Social Science, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Opening Remarks	Prof Manisha Karne <i>President, Indian Health Economics and Policy Association</i>
Vote of Thanks	Dr Ramna Thakur <i>Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
10:30 am – 11:30 am Conference President Address Auditorium	
Chair	Prof Manisha Karne <i>President, IHEPA</i> <i>Director and Professor, Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy, University of Mumbai</i>
Presidential Address	Prof U S Mishra <i>Conference President</i>
Rapporteur	Suphal Sharma and Shivani Kumaria <i>PhD Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
11:30 am – 12:00 pm Coffee/Tea Break and Networking	
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm Keynote Address 1 Auditorium	
Title: Intervention Research for Population and Planetary Health	
Chair	Dr Ramna Thakur <i>Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Speaker	Prof Dr Till Bärnighausen <i>Director, Heidelberg Institute of Global Health, Germany</i>
Rapporteur	Shivani Kumaria <i>PhD Scholar, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
12:45 pm – 01:30 pm Keynote Address 2 Auditorium	
Title: Need for Innovative Financing Mechanisms to ensure Future-Proof UHC in India	
Chair	Dr Shyamasree Dasgupta <i>Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Speaker	Prof Umakant Dash <i>Vice Chancellor, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics</i>
Rapporteur	Chalantika Chakraborty <i>PhD Scholar, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
01:30 pm – 02:30 pm Lunch Break	
02:30 pm – 03:15 pm Plenary Session Auditorium	
Health Systems in Himachal Pradesh	
Moderator	Dr Subrata Mukherjee <i>Professor, Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy, University of Mumbai</i>
Speakers	Dr Sonam Negi

Rapporteur	<p><i>Joint Director, Health Services, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Himachal Pradesh</i> Dr Nachiket Mor <i>Visiting Scientist, Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health, Bengaluru, Karnataka</i> Prof N. S. Bist <i>Former Director, Population Research Centre, H. P. University, Shimla</i> Shivani Kumaria <i>PhD Scholar, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i></p>
03:15 pm – 04:15 pm Memorial Lecture Auditorium	
1st Memorial Lecture: Dr Mayanka Ambade	
Moderator	Dr Saumya Malviya <i>Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Speakers	Dr Sunil Rajpal <i>Assistant Professor, FLAME University</i> Dr Nachiket Mor <i>Visiting Scientist, Banyan Academy of Leadership in Mental Health, Bengaluru, Karnataka</i>
Rapporteur	Nisha Rani <i>PhD Scholar, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
04:15 pm – 04:45 pm Coffee/Tea Break and Networking	
04:45 pm – 05:00 pm Movement from Auditorium to A-14, 2nd floor	
05:00 pm – 06:15 pm Technical session 1A SHSS Classroom, A-14	
Ageing, Geriatric Health and Public Policy	
Chair	Dr Rinshu Dwivedi <i>Assistant Professor, National Institute of Technology Hamirpur</i>
Discussant	Dr Godwin S.K. <i>Professor, Government College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram</i>
Rapporteur	Akshima and Nary <i>Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
<p>Md Mohsin, Aligarh Muslim University <i>Health and Hunger: The Role of Physical, Mental, and Functional Health in Shaping Severe Food Insecurity Among Older Adults in India—Evidence from LASI Wave 1</i></p> <p>Kshirabdhi Tanaya Patra, National Institute of Technology Rourkela <i>Does Social Capital Matter? Insights into Healthy Ageing in India</i></p> <p>Aditi, Population Council Consulting P Ltd <i>Frailty among Older Adults in India: Economic Burden and Insights from LASI</i></p> <p>Kripa Nandan, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee <i>A Cross-Sectional Study of Healthcare Responsiveness for Migrant and Non-Migrant Middle-Aged and Older Adults in India: Analysis using Longitudinal Ageing Study</i></p> <p>Amrendra Kumar Kushwaha, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi <i>Cooking Fuel, Gendered Exposure, and Lung Function Among Older Adults in India</i></p>	
05:00 pm – 06:15 pm Technical session 1B SHSS Language Lab, A-14	
Child Health and Nutrition: Achievements and Emerging Priorities - I	
Chair	Dr William Joe

Discussant	<i>Assistant Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi</i> Dr Rudra Narayan Mishra
Rapporteur	<i>Assistant Professor, Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad</i> Suphal and Trupti Sakshi <i>Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Raza Mohammad , International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai <i>Age at Childbearing Initiation: A Double-Edged Sword for Child Anthropometric Deficits in South and Southeast Asia</i>	
Arpita Shah , Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy <i>A multi-scalar spatial analysis of child undernutrition in Gujarat: Districts, Parliamentary Constituencies (PCs) and Villages</i>	
Dr Ramesh Athe , Indian Institute of Information Technology Dharwad <i>Food Fortification to Combat Hidden Hunger in Children: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials</i>	
Ritika Kapoor , Foundation of Healthcare Technologies Society <i>Enhancing Nutritional Knowledge and Dietary Practices among Middle School Children: Evidence from Educational Interventions in Delhi and Chandigarh, India</i>	
Dr Anjali Dash , Panchayat College, Bargarh <i>Nutritional variation among children in India: Special reference to Gujarat and Odisha</i>	
05:00 pm – 06:15 pm Technical session 1C SHSS Conference Room, A-14	
Healthcare Financing and Nutrition Financing	
Chair	Dr Masudul Hasan Adil <i>Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Discussant	Dr. Gudakesh Yadav <i>Population Research Centre, Vadodara, Gujarat</i>
Rapporteur	Debalina and Vaishnavi <i>Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Abhishek Anand , International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai <i>Financial Toxicity Among Gastric and Pancreatic Cancer Survivors in India and Its Impact on Quality of Life</i>	
Pubali Das , Department of Economics, Tripura University <i>In-State vs. Out of State Hospitalization and Catastrophic Health Expenditure Burden for the Patients of Tripura: Evidences from NSS 75th Round Health Data</i>	
Dibyendu Biswas , Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, O.P. Jindal Global University, India <i>Provider Choices and Out-of-Pocket Health Expenditure (OOPE) for Outpatient Care: Evidence From a Multistage Sample Survey in West Bengal, 2024</i>	
Ashkar K , Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation <i>Does Population Ageing Drive Public Health Expenditure in Indian States? A Dynamic Panel Analysis</i>	
Dr Prerana Patil , Indian Council of Medical Research-NIRRH <i>Out-of-Pocket Expenditure Experienced by Couples Seeking In Vitro Fertilization (IVF) Services at Tertiary Care Facilities in India</i>	
06:30 pm – 07:15 pm IHEPA General Body Meeting SHSS Conference Room	
07:30 pm – 09:00 pm Conference Dinner, Himalayan Cafe	

Day-II: December 13, 2025, Saturday	
08:00 am Breakfast Oak Mess	
08:30 am Registration A-14, 2 nd floor	
09:00 am – 10:15 am Technical session 2A SHSS Classroom, A-14	
India's NCD Landscape: Burden, Behaviours, and Vulnerabilities	
Chair	Dr Pankaj Narula <i>Assistant Professor, Thapar Institute of Engineering and Technology, Patiala</i>
Discussant	Dr Salim Shah <i>Professor, Tripura University</i>
Rapporteur	Akshima and Nary <i>Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
<p>Gayathri B, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi <i>Assessing Cardiovascular Disease Vulnerability in India: A District-Level Index-Based Analysis</i></p> <p>Shubham Ranjan, JK Lakshmi Pat University <i>Beyond Female Breast Cancer: Gender-Specific Profiles and Outcomes in India</i></p> <p>Shruti Hiremath, KLE Academy of Higher Education & Research <i>Assessing the Temporal Burden of Diabetes Mellitus Attributable to Dietary Risk Factors in India: Insights from Global Burden of Diseases Study: 1990-2021</i></p> <p>Priyadarshini Rathore, Manipal University Jaipur <i>Epidemiology of Cardiovascular Diseases in India: Determinants and Developmental Implications</i></p> <p>Shreya Thakur, Quality Council India <i>Intergenerational Persistence of Smoking Behavior: Evidence From NFHS- 5, 2019-21</i></p>	
09:00 am – 10:15 am Technical session 2B SHSS Conference Room, A-14	
Child Health and Nutrition: Achievements and Emerging Priorities - II	
Chair	Dr Masudul Hasan Adil <i>Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
Discussant	Prof N S Bist <i>Former Director, Population Research Centre, H. P. University, Shimla</i>
Rapporteur	Debalina and Vaishnavi <i>Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
<p>Diksha Rani, Indian Institute of Population Sciences, Mumbai <i>An Analysis of the Age Distribution of Stunting in Countries with Accelerated Reduction Rates, Using Demographic and Health Survey Data</i></p> <p>Pramit Chhetri, Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning <i>Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) and Malnutrition Among Under-Five Children in India</i></p> <p>Dr Archana Singh, RML Awadh University, Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh <i>Child Stunting, Caste Discrimination, and Program Effectiveness: Evaluating Heterogeneous Treatment Effects of Integrated Child Development Services in India.</i></p> <p>Dr Rudra Narayan Mishra, Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad <i>Integrated Community-Facility and Policy Frameworks to Combat Malnutrition and Accelerate Development in Aspirational Districts of India</i></p>	

<p>Meenu Bhaskar, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay <i>The Impact of PMUY on Household Nutrition: Evidence from India</i></p>	
<p>09:00 am – 10:15 am Technical session 2C SHSS Language Lab, A-14</p>	
<p>Universal Health Coverage: Bridging Gaps for all Age Groups</p>	
Chair	<p>Dr Subrata Mukherjee <i>Professor, Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy, University of Mumbai</i></p>
Discussant	<p>Dr Md. Zakaria Siddiqui <i>Associate Professor, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi</i></p>
Rapporteur	<p>Suphal and Trupti Sakshi <i>Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i></p>
<p>Vishnu Priya V V, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Space Science and Technology <i>Gendered Access to Information and Public Health Insurance Enrollment Among Poor Households in India</i></p>	
<p>Dr Godwin S K, Government College for Women, Thiruvananthapuram <i>Moving from Health Insurance to Health Assurance: Kerala's Experience of Contingent Health Security</i></p>	
<p>Prateek Khanna, Amity University <i>The Road to Universal Health Coverage in India</i></p>	
<p>Sayantani Manna, O P Jindal Global University <i>Awareness and Utilisation of Health Financing Models: A Study of Insurance Schemes in West Bengal</i></p>	
<p>Shambhavi Mani, Vivekananda College, University of Delhi <i>Beyond the Frontlines: ASHA workers, Maternal Health and the Social Determinants of Reproductive Wellbeing in Madhya Pradesh.</i></p>	
<p>10:15 am – 10:45 am Coffee/Tea Break and Networking</p>	
<p>10:45 am – 12:00 pm Technical session 3A SHSS Conference Room, A-14</p>	
<p>Public Health Systems, Policy Evaluation, and Environmental Health</p>	
Chair	<p>Dr Sunil Rajpal <i>Assistant Professor, FLAME University</i></p>
Discussant	<p>Dr Shyamasree Dasgupta <i>Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i></p>
Rapporteur	<p>Debalina and Vaishnavi <i>Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i></p>
<p>Ambarish Majumder, ICFAI University, Tripura <i>Voice-Based Health Technologies for Low-Literacy Populations: A Systematic Review of Accessibility and Effectiveness</i></p>	
<p>Mandeep Bhardwaj, Lovely Professional University <i>Climate Change, Agricultural Vulnerability, and Public Health Risks in Indian Agricultural Districts: A Spatial Analysis</i></p>	
<p>Pinaki Das, Vidyasagar University <i>Impact of the ICDS on the Health Status of Pregnant and Lactating Mothers in India: Evidence from NFHS-5</i></p>	

Basant Kumar Panda, Population Council Consulting Pvt. Ltd.

Unlocking the Potential of young women through skilling: Evidence from an evaluation Study in Rajasthan, India

Veeresh Tadahal, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Trichy

Solarization of Primary Health Centers and Health Outcomes: Community Perspectives Using Three Delay Model in Yadgir Aspirational District, Karnataka, India

Nirmal Singh, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai

Sustainable Development Goals and Local Realities: Evidence from Coal Mining-Affected Villages in Jharkhand, India

10:45 am – 12:00 pm | Technical session 3B | SHSS Language Lab, A-14

Gender, Work, and Mental Well-being

Chair

Dr Md. Zakaria Siddiqui

Associate Professor, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Discussant

Prof U S Mishra

Professor, International Institute for Population Sciences

Rapporteur

Suphal and Trupti Sakshi

Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Shalem Balla, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Voltage drops (transitions) in economic empowerment to intrinsic empowerment of women in India

Prateek Singh, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Family Transition in Three Decades and Its Effect on Young Married Women's Health in India

Kareena Kaushik, Banasthali Vidyapith

Women's experiences with infertility and the role of assisted reproductive technologies: A qualitative study from Haryana

Juliet F Lalzarzoliani, The ICAI University, Mizoram

Work-life balance, mental well-being, and family support among working mothers in Aizawl city: A cross-sectional study

Dr Paramasivam P., Takshashila University

Determinants of mental health and wellbeing: evidence from women IT employees in Chennai, Tamil Nadu

10:45 am – 12:00 pm | Technical session 3C | SHSS Classroom, A-14

Ageing, Multimorbidity, and Socio-Economic Transitions

Chair

Dr. Gudakesh Yadav

Population Research Centre, Vadodara, Gujarat

Discussant

Dr William Joe

Assistant Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, New Delhi

Rapporteur

Akshima and Nary

Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Abishek Paul, Institute of Development Studies Kolkata

Does 'Where They Live' Matter? Exploring the Link Between Living Arrangements and Quality of Life Among the Elderly in India

Sasmita Behera, MIT World Peace University, Pune

Does Energy Poverty Influence Healthcare Expenditure? Evidence from Longitudinal Ageing Study in India

Isha Tanwar, Manipal University Jaipur

Impact of Multimorbidity on Labor Force Participation in India: Evidence from LASI

Ali Abbas Rizvi, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai

Family and Elderly Care: Addressing Unmet Needs in Activities of Daily Living Among Older Populations in India

Sabhya Yadav, Birla Institute of Technology and Sciences, Pilani, K K Birla Goa Campus

Cyclical Public Health Expenditure Among Indian States: Fiscal and Political Determinants

12:00 pm – 01:15 pm | Technical session 4A | SHSS Conference Room, A-14

Maternal and Reproductive Health: Progress, Policies, and Future Challenges

Chair

Dr Salim Shah

Professor, Tripura University

Discussant

Prof Manisha Karne

Professor and Director, Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy, University of Mumbai

Rapporteur

Debalina and Vaishnavi

Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Tejal Rajaram Varekar, ICMR-National Institute for Research in Reproductive and Child Health

A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis of Preconception Care Interventions and their Effects on Maternal and Child Health in South-East Asia: Economic and Feasibility Implications for India

Illias K Sheikh, Development Management Institute

Spousal Violence and Risky Birth Spacing Among Indian Women: Insights from NFHS-5

Sachin Saini, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Autonomy Under Scrutiny: Women, Abortion Laws and Reproductive Decision Making

Anisha Ojha, IISER, Pune

Pre-Marital Sexual Behaviour Among Women in India: Evidence from NFHS Series

Siddika Banu, Duliajan College

Status of Maternal Health Across the States of India: A Multidimensional Approach

12:00 pm – 01:15 pm | Technical session 4B | SHSS Classroom, A-14

Digital Health and Technological Innovations: Opportunities for Inclusive Care

Chair

Dr Rudra Narayan Mishra

Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad

Discussant

Dr Rinshu Dwivedi

Assistant Professor, National Institute of Technology Hamirpur

Rapporteur

Akshima and Nary

Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Amal Tomy, Sikkim Manipal Institute of Technology

Digital and Gamified Assessments as Innovations in Adolescent Health and Wellbeing: A Meta-Analytical Review

Debashree Paul, Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur

Demystifying Adolescent Malnutrition in West Bengal with Ground Realities: Issues and Implications for Policies and Institutions

Kajal Kumari, Central University of Gujarat, Vadodara, Gujarat, India

Navigating Menstrual Equity: A Critical Enquiry into Social Innovation Practices in Kerala, India

Vysagh R K, University of Calicut

Descriptive Profile of eHealth Initiatives in Kerala: Objectives, Implementation and Challenges

Jatinder Singh, Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee

Does Internet Use Shape Lifestyle: Benefits for Healthy Vs Unhealthy Consumption

12:00 pm – 01:15 pm | Technical session 4C | SHSS Language Lab, A-14

Evaluation of Health Policies and Programmes

Chair

Dr Godwin S.K.

*Professor, Government College for Women,
Thiruvananthapuram*

Discussant

Dr Subrata Mukherjee

*Professor, Mumbai School of Economics and Public Policy, University
of Mumbai*

Rapporteur

Suphal and Trupti Sakshi

Scholars, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi

Dr Sunil Khosla, VIT-AP University

Impact of Financial Inclusion on Multidimensional Health Poverty Among Rural Households in Eastern India

Welisou Mero, Nagaland University

Assessing Public Healthcare Service Quality in Nagaland: Insights from a Case Study in Phek District

Aakriti Aggarwal, Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur

Can Neighbourhood Clinics Deliver? Causal Evidence from Delhi's Mohalla Clinics

Dr Shailendra Kumar, Department of Community Medicine & School of Public Health, PGIMER, Chandigarh

Assessing State-Level Efficiency Using District Hospital Performance Indicators: A Data Envelopment Analysis Approach

Blessy Sarah Mathew, Lovely Professional University, Punjab

Beyond Coverage: Why Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana Struggles to Deliver Healthcare in Jammu and Kashmir

01:30 pm – 02:30 pm | Lunch Break

02:45 pm – 04:00 pm | Panel Discussion | A18-1A, North Campus

Diet and Nutrition in Later Life: Emerging Issues and Intervention Pathways

Chair

Prof U S Mishra

Professor, International Institute for Population Sciences

Panellists

Dr Sunil Rajpal

Assistant Professor, FLAME University

Dr. Gudakesh Yadav

Population Research Centre, Vadodara, Gujarat

Dr. Rudra Narayan Mishra

Gujarat Institute of Development Research, Ahmedabad

Rapporteur	Shivani Kumaria <i>PhD Scholar, SHSS, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
04:00 pm - 04:30 pm	Coffee/Tea Break and Networking
04:30 pm - 06:00 pm	Valedictory Session A18-1A, North Campus
Conference Report	Dr William Joe <i>Secretary, IHEPA</i>
Valedictory Address	Dr Md. Zakaria Siddiqui <i>Vice President IHEPA</i>
Award Distribution Ceremony	Prof U S Mishra, Prof Manisha Karne, Prof Subrata Mukherjee, Prof Salim Shah, Nandkishor Maroti Ambade, Sandhya Nandkishore Ambade
Vote of Thanks	Dr Ramna Thakur <i>Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Technology Mandi</i>
07:00 pm - 09:00 pm	Dinner - Oak Mess