

## **Objective of the Centre**

**T**he main objectives of the centre is to promote and disseminate knowledge in the field of population studies by engaging interdisciplinary research on contemporary issues in demography and health policies of the country in general and UT of Jammu Kashmir in particular. Capacity building, through the development of scholars with sound research skills grounded in population theories and knowledge, as well as providing training to the various stakeholders including ASHA workers, Community people, Angawadi workers, medical and paramedical medical staff which forms the second objective of the Centre. In addition to conducting fundamental research and building upon the existing body of scientific knowledge, the PRC aims to contribute to the policy making process by participating in government sponsored research programs and schemes run by the Centre Govt., under the National Health Mission.. The Centre also acts as a data bank on population, demographic features, health and other socio-economic characteristics for the faculty members, research scholars, students of the University and community at large. Further, the senior faculties of the Centre also help scholars from different disciplines/faculties in the preparation of questionnaires, data analysis and interpretation of results.

The Department of Community Medicine, SKIMS Soura has chosen this PRC as an internship facility Centre for the candidates pursuing M.D in the Department of Community Medicine. Each year around 5 – 7 students are posted with the PRC for a period of four weeks to get themselves acquainted with the development of questionnaires, data collection, analysis, and presentation of results. The PRC also maintains a close link with the health department at both the National as well as State level, and contributes to policy-making through participating in government sponsored research programs, as well as through its workshops and seminars. The findings of research conducted at the PRC are disseminated through Reports.

The members of the PRC regularly attend and present their research at national and international conferences including annual meetings of the Indian Association for the Study of Population (IASP), the Population Association of America (PAA) and the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population (IUSSP), among others. In addition individual faculty members, also uses different methods to disseminate research findings to the policy makers and other researchers primarily through workshops and seminars publications in local dailies.

**Syed Khursheed Ahmad  
Coordinator**