

“Population Research Centres”

(Website: <https://prc.mohfw.gov.in/>)

Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) has established the network of 18 Population Research Centres (PRCs) spread over 16 major States of India, with the mandate to provide, inter alia, critical research based inputs related to the Health and Family Welfare Programs and Policies at the national and state levels. The scheme started with establishment of 2 PRCs at Delhi and Kerala in the year 1958 and has now expanded to 18 PRCs with latest inclusion of PRC, Sagar in 1999. Of these, 12 are attached to various Universities and 6 are in research institutions of national repute.

PRCs are 100% funded by MoHFW in form of grants in aid to meet the expenditure towards salary, allowances, approved research studies, infrastructure development, non-recurring expenditure etc. The Centres are administratively under the control of their host University/Institutions. The list of PRCs and their Host University/Institute is at **Annexure-A**

PRCs have an interdisciplinary group of scholars, a blend of demographers, statisticians, economists, mathematicians, sociologists and other specialists and they are actively engaged in research work which is published in Indian and International journals. There is no other pan-India network with similar skills and capabilities in population studies and in carrying out research on contemporary issues pertaining to social sciences, Health and Nutrition.

The PRCs undertake research relating to family planning, demographic research and biological studies & qualitative aspect of population control, with a view to gainfully utilize the feedback from these research studies for plan formulation, strategies and policy interventions of ongoing schemes. The expertise of PRC staff is also used for looking at the priority areas of flagship programmes such as operationalisation of the HWCs and the services, review of quality of the training of the MLHPs, implementation of Laqshya, HBNC/HBYC, RBSK, STEMI, ANMOL/RCH portal, NQAS etc. In addition to the regular regional/state specific research, the PRCs are also involved in a number of Pan India study/research by the Ministry and sample surveys like DLHS, NFHS, LASI etc. PRCs are also involved in the monitoring of important components of NHM Programme Implementation Plans (PIP) of the districts allotted by Ministry every year. The yearwise research studies and monitoring of PIP districts conducted by PRCs is at **Annexure-B**. PRCs submit these reports regularly to the Ministry. The PRCs have completed more than 4000 research studies; since inception. They have more than 110 research papers published in prestigious International journals. The reports received from PRCs are regularly shared with the stakeholders every year so that the feedback from these research studies are used for formulation, strategies and modifications of ongoing schemes.

List of PRCs and their Host University/Institute

| Sl. No. | PRC | Host University/Institute | Year of Establishment |
|---------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) |
| 1 | PRC, Delhi | Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi | 1958 |
| 2 | PRC, Kerala | University of Kerala, Trivandrum | 1958 |
| 3 | PRC, Dharwad | JSS Institute of Economic Research, Dharwad | 1961 |
| 4 | PRC, Gandhigram | Rural H&FW Trust, Gandhigram (TN) | 1961 |
| 5 | PRC, Pune | Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Pune | 1963 |
| 6 | PRC, Patna | Patna University, Patna | 1966 |
| 7 | PRC, Lucknow | Lucknow University, Lucknow | 1966 |
| 8 | PRC, Baroda | MS University, Baroda | 1967 |
| 9 | PRC, Bangalore | Institute of Social and Economic Change, Bangalore | 1972 |
| 10 | PRC, Udaipur | Udaipur University, Udaipur | 1977 |
| 11 | PRC, Vishakhapatnam | Andhra University, Vishakhapatnam | 1977 |
| 12 | PRC, Guwahati | Guwahati University, Guwahati | 1977 |
| 13 | PRC, Bhubaneswar | Utkal University, Bhubaneswar | 1977 |
| 14 | PRC, Punjab University, Chandigarh | Punjab University, Chandigarh | 1978 |
| 15 | PRC, Srinagar | University of Srinagar (J&K) | 1985 |
| 16 | PRC, CRRID Chandigarh | Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development (CRRID) CRRID, Chandigarh | 1986 |
| 17 | PRC, Shimla | Himachal University, Shimla | 1988 |
| 18 | PRC, Sagar | Dr. Harisingh Gour University, Sagar | 1999 |

Yearwise research studies and monitoring of PIP districts conducted by PRCs

| Year | No. of AWP Studies | No. districts covered in PIP Monitoring of NHM |
|------------------|---------------------------|---|
| 2021-22 | 119 | 416 |
| 2020-21 * | 95 | - |
| 2019-20 | 39 | 459 |
| 2018-19 | 82 | 177 |
| 2017-18 | 80 | 184 |
| 2016-17 | 98 | 186 |
| 2015-16 | 92 | 198 |
| 2014-15 | 104 | 212 |

* Only secondary studies assigned during the year due to the pandemic.