

Report

IGU Thematic Conference 2022

24th & 25th November 2022

@ Central University of Haryana, Mahendragarh, India

The Rome IGU Executive Committee (EC) meeting held in December 2021, zeroed Mahendragarh, Haryana as the venue for IGU Thematic Conference, 2022 and preparations were done accordingly. The congregation of geographers arrived at Central University of Haryana, Mahendragarh, Haryana, India to attend IGU Thematic Conference scheduled on 24th and 25th November, 2022. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Central University of Haryana Professor Tankeshwar Kumar became Patron and Dr. Pankaj Kumar, Associate Professor, Department of Geography, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi took responsibility of Organising Secretary while Dr. Manish Kumar, Assistant Professor, Department of Geography, Central University of Haryana took charge of Convener of IGU Thematic Conference 2022. A total 16 IGU Commissions and Task Forces participated in the Thematic Conference.



Photo: Inaugural Session, IGU CUH 2022, release of souvenir book

The IGU Thematic Conference on the theme “Sustainability, Future Earth and Humanities: Opportunities and Challenges” started on 24th November at around 10.30 am IST. Inaugural session was presided over by the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor of Central University of Haryana Professor Tankeshwar Kumar. Prof. Raghavendra P. Tiwari, Hon’ble Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Punjab was Chief Guest. Prof. J.P. Singhal, Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Rajasthan and Professor Sushma Yadav, Hon’ble Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Haryana were Special Guests. Prof. Barbaros Gönençgil, Secretary - General and Prof. Nathalie Lemarchand, 1st Vice President of International Geographical Union (IGU) were Guest of Honour of the opening ceremony. Opening ceremony started remembering Late Prof. R.B Singh for his contribution to IGU and to the discipline. A congratulatory video message of IGU President Prof. Michael Meadows was broadcasted in the opening. IGU Thematic Conference brochure and a book on Geospatial Technology were released during the opening ceremony. First Vice President Nathalie Lemarchand presented a special book ‘A Geographical Century, Essays for the Centenary of the International Geographical Union to the Vice Chancellor of Central University of Haryana and to the Convener, IGU CUH 2022. Senior Prof. Rana P.B Singh and Prof. J.S Rawat was facilitated for their outstanding contribution to the respective sub field of geography discipline.



IGU President Address



IGU Centenary Springer Book handover to Vice Chancellor



IGU Centenary Springer Book handover to convener



Glimpse of cultural evening

A plenary session titled “Science, Policy and Human Response to attain Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)” took over inaugural. The plenary panelists included academicians and scientists such as Prof. Rana P.B. Singh, Former Head, Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, Prof. Nathalie Lemarchand, Full Professor, Université Paris 8 UFR eriTES Département de Géographie, France, Prof. Brij Maharaj, Senior Professor of geographer at the University of Kwazulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa, Prof. S.C Rai, Head, Department of Geography, University of Delhi and Dr.R.N Sahoo, Principal Scientist, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), Government of India, New Delhi. Plenary session was moderated by Prof. Milap Punia, Head, Centre for the Study of Regional Development, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. Dr. Netrananda Sahu and Dr.Pankaj Kumar were session in charge. Plenary session focused on the importance of establishing linkages between science, policy and people participation in achieving Sustainable Development Goals, looking at it in a multidisciplinary way.

Total numbers of pre-registered participants of the thematic conference were 617. Total research presentation was 369 under pre registered abstracts category while 58 participants presented their research under on-spot registration category (369+58=427 presentation). Technical sessions were clubbed into four slots (two slots each day). Each slot has 14 parallel sessions (total 44 technical sessions) accommodating 427 presentations covering each sub theme of the conference. Altogether 140 geographers contribute as Keynote speaker, Chairs, Co-Chairs and Rapporteur in order to handle the session smoothly. All technical sessions were conducted on time. The IGU Thematic Conference witnessed a footfall of over more than 1000 attendees. High Tea, Lunch and Dinner was complimentary for all the participants.



Plenary Session panelist



Work behind curtain



IGU-IECG Best Paper award



Valedictory address



International participants from 5 countries such as the USA, Poland, France, Turkey and South Africa attended IGU CUH 2022. National participants represented roughly around 80 per cent of states in India.

A well conceptualized cultural evening was organized on 24th November's eve to showcase the beautiful and varied culture of India covering folk to western dance forms. The vibrant dance and song performances were given by local students of Central University of Haryana. It was well received and appreciated by the participants.

IGU Thematic Conference 2022 also organized IGU Task Force Young and Early Career Geographers (IGU-YECG) best paper award in the memory of Late Dr. Manju Singh. In the session Prof. Barbaros Gonencgil, Prof. Nathalie Lemarchand, Prof. Brij Maharaj and Prof. Haseena Hashia was a jury member adjudging the best paper.

Prof. Barbaros Gönençgil, Secretary General was the Chief Guest of Valedictory function. Prof. Sunil Kumar, Registrar, Central University of Haryana was the Special Guest while Prof. Nathalie Lemarchand, Université Paris 8, France and Prof. Rana P.B. Singh, Former Head, Department of Geography, Banaras Hindu University were Guest of Honor. In his address Prof. Barbaros remembered Late Prof. R.B. Singh for his dedication and commitment to IGU and for promoting IGU events in India and abroad. The local organizing team conveyed their heartfelt thanks to IGU for showing faith in them and giving the opportunity to host IGU Thematic Conference, 2022. The Valedictory concluded with thanking all the attendees and the local organizing team. The IGU Thematic Conference 2022 was successful in many ways.

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