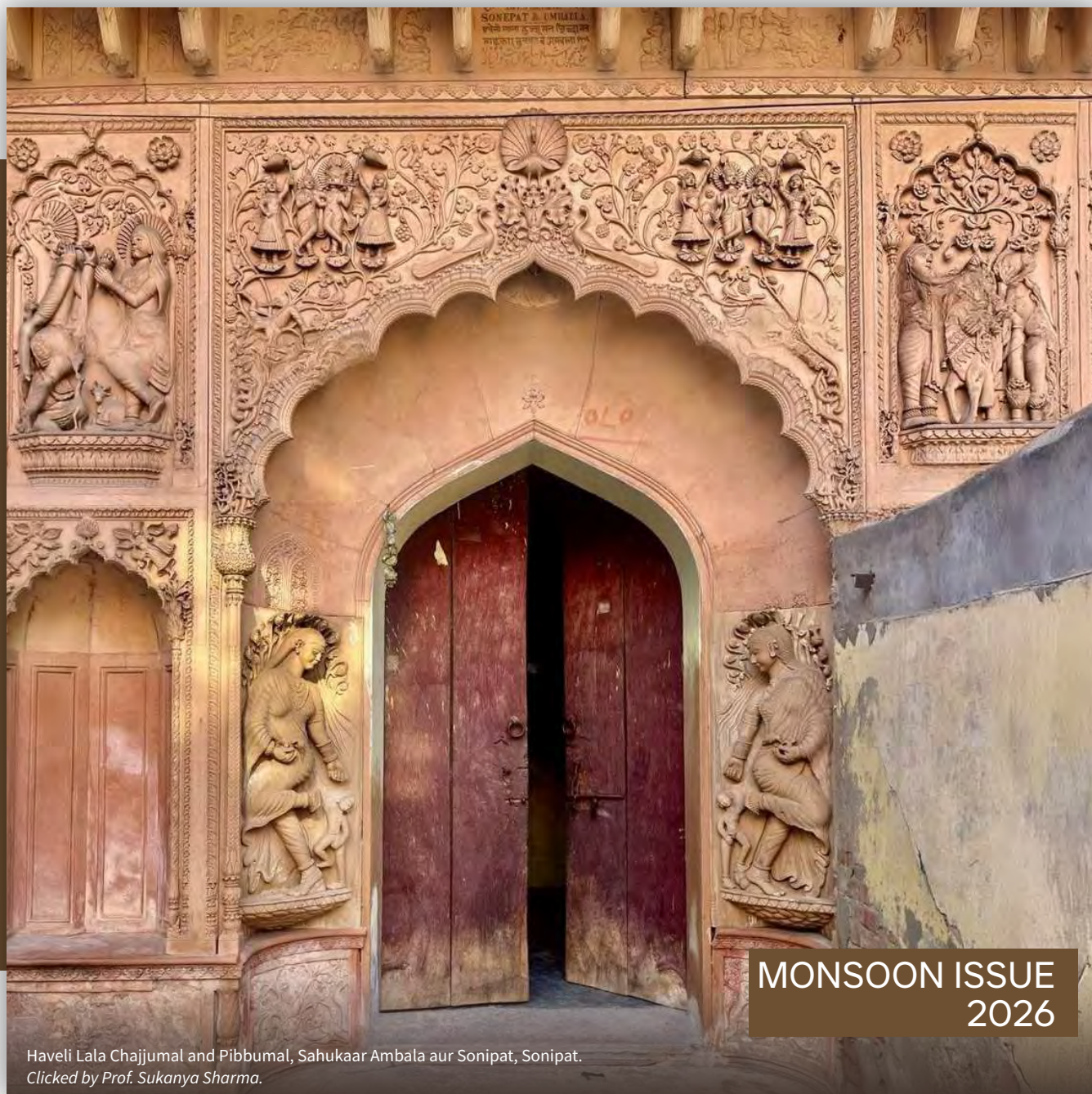


JINDAL INSTITUTE OF HARYANA STUDIES



MONSOON ISSUE
2026

Haveli Lala Chajjimal and Pibbumal, Sahukar Ambala aur Sonipat, Sonipat.
Clicked by Prof. Sukanya Sharma.



O.P. JINDAL GLOBAL
INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE
UNIVERSITY
A Private University Promoting Public Service



NEWSLETTER
VOLUME 2 ISSUE 3

IN THIS ISSUE

Welcome to the Monsoon Issue of the JIHS Newsletter - a prestigious international grant; a progress update from our flagship HEALING project in Rai Industrial Area; a field-based collaboration on maternal healthcare, two policy conversations, a new working paper series, and voices from the field in Kurukshetra and Badmalik.

01 A NEW MILESTONE FOR JIHS

USD 100,000 GenderStat grant to advance women's leadership in research

02 HEALING IN BADMALIK

A progress update from Rai Industrial Area, Sonipat

03 STRONGER PATHWAYS TO MATERNAL HEALTHCARE

A field-based collaboration in Kurukshetra

04 BEYOND GROWTH

Reimagining regional development in India

05 THE SOLAR PUZZLE

Why is Haryana behind on solar, despite doing everything right?

06 NOTES FROM THE FIELD: KURUKSHETRA

A field diary from Kurukshetra by Dibyendu Biswas

07 NOTES FROM THE FIELD: BADMALIK

A field diary from Kurukshetra by Arjun

08 PUBLICATIONS

Introducing the JIHS Working Paper Series

09 FUTURE DIRECTIONS

What lies ahead for JIHS

A NEW MILESTONE FOR JIHS

USD 100,000 GENDERSTAT GRANT TO ADVANCE WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN RESEARCH

The **Jindal Institute of Haryana Studies (JIHS)** has been awarded a **USD 100,000 Institutional Planning Grant under GenderStat - Women's Leadership in Social and Economic Statistics**. The GenderStat initiative is a collaborative program developed by the **University of Maryland** and the **National Data Innovation Center at the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)**. Only three institutions were selected nationally, and JGU is the youngest and the only private university among them.

USD 100,000

Institutional Planning
Grant

1 of 3

Institutions selected
nationwide

5

JGU faculty across
three schools

GenderStat strengthens gender-responsive data systems and builds pathways for women researchers into academic leadership priorities that align closely with JIHS's own agenda. The JGU team spans the **Jindal School of Government and Public Policy, Jindal School of Banking & Finance, and Jindal Global Law School: Prof. (Dr.) Mrinalini Jha, Prof. (Dr.) Geeta Singh, Prof. (Dr.) Tirtha Chatterjee, Prof. (Dr.) Jannet John and Prof. (Dr.) Upasana Mahanta.**

For JIHS, the grant offers an opportunity to conceptualize and design a self-sustaining institutional framework that simultaneously enhances the rigorous collection and analysis of gender statistics and prepares female faculty and students to become future leaders.



**Prof. (Dr.)
Mrinalini Jha**

Professor and
Director,
Jindal Institute
of Haryana Studies



**Prof. (Dr.)
Geeta Sinha**

Associate Professor
Research Fellow
Jindal Institute
of Haryana Studies



**Prof. (Dr.)
Tirtha Chatterjee**

Associate Professor
Research Fellow
Jindal Institute
of Haryana Studies



**Prof. (Dr.) Upasana
Mahanta**

Professor and Dean,
Admissions and
Outreach,
Research Fellow
Jindal Institute
of Haryana Studies



**Prof. (Dr.) Jannet
John**

Assistant Professor and
Associate Director,
Jindal Institute
of Haryana Studies

HEALING IN BADMALIK

A PROGRESS UPDATE FROM RAI INDUSTRIAL AREA, SONIPAT

It has been just over a year since **HEALING** - Health and Education Access, Legal-aid and entitlements, Institutions, eNvironment and Governance began working in **Badmalik village, Rai Industrial Area, Sonipat**. Led by **Prof. Indranil Mukhopadhyay, Prof. Nandita Bhan, Prof. Manini Ojha, Prof. Bhuvaneswari Raman, Prof. Abdul Kalam Azad, Prof. Krupali Patel, and Arjun**, with mentorship from **Prof. Stephen Marks** and **Prof. R. Sudarshan**, the project set out to understand everyday life in a settlement caught between rapid industrial growth and slow-moving basic infrastructure.

Two rounds of a household survey covered **550 households** across a village of roughly **3,500 voters**. About half of them come from migrant communities, and dozens of conversations with residents, shopkeepers, village elders, and officials surfaced **five recurring concerns**, each compounding the other.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Poor drainage and an inadequate sewage system.

ENVIRONMENT

Wastewater, pond pollution and waste-management gaps.

GOVERNANCE

Overlapping authorities, with no one fully in charge.

EDUCATION

Irregular attendance among migrant children.

HEALTH

Distance from facilities and low preventive care.

Waterlogging on the main road, for instance, sits at the intersection of two authorities who rarely coordinate. And migrant children are

more likely to miss school not because their parents do not value education, but because both parents leave for work before the school day begins.

A LEARNING CENTRE FOR BADMALIK

In response, the team is setting up a **Community Learning Centre** for out-of-school and at-risk children, anchored in local institutions, run with community ownership, staffed largely by youth volunteers, and built around a joy-based curriculum rather than rote instruction. Parents have responded warmly, but on one condition: **it must be within walking distance of the migrant settlements.**



Badmalik village, Rai Industrial Area, Sonipat.

WHAT THE COMMUNITY TOLD US

Migrant workers responded positively to the idea of a learning centre, and parents said they would send their children on one simple condition.

"The centre should be located close to the migrant settlements."

Done right, residents felt, a nearby centre could directly address irregular attendance, learning gaps, the lack of parental supervision during working hours, and unmet educational support needs.

Next up: the team plans to finalise a location, mobilise resources and set up a local committee, followed by a **community launch** which is planned around **Haryana Day**.

PATHWAYS TO MATERNAL HEALTHCARE

A FIELD-BASED COLLABORATION IN KURUKSHETRA & SONIPAT

For maternal healthcare schemes to translate into real support, access has to extend beyond policy design into awareness, implementation, and everyday reality. **Welfare Rights and the Law Clinic – II** under **Justice V.R. Krishna Iyer Clinic for Legal Aid**, in collaboration with JIHS, has begun a field-based collaboration in Kurukshetra & Sonipat, examining how women and families actually access maternal healthcare entitlements and to know where the gaps persist.

In July, the team met the **Primary Health Officer, Civil Hospital, Kurukshetra**, and the **Nodal Officer for Maternal Health Schemes** to understand how these schemes are delivered on the ground, which served as a valuable insight into a system that looks straightforward on paper but is harder to navigate in practice.

“The efficacy of maternal healthcare policy is ultimately contingent upon its last-mile implementation; Anganwadi workers and ASHAs constitute this critical interface, translating institutional frameworks into accessible, community-embedded practice, and thereby determining whether maternal health outcomes reflect policy intent or remain confined to it.”

— [Sneha Mukherjee, Project Team]



Welfare Rights and the Law Clinic – II at the Civil Hospital, Kurukshetra.



Over the last few months, the Team has completed field-based study in the villages of Dhaturi and Bhaira Bakipur in Sonipat District, where they met with the PMVY Supervisor, Anganwadi workers, ASHAs and beneficiaries to understand the welfare aid delivery and impediments such as delays in 'Direct benefit Transfers', Aadhar-related verification glitches, complex documentation and inaccessible digitized processes.

The project team at Dhaturi Village speaking to an Anganwadi Worker.

WHAT WE AIM TO DO

- Build a clearer evidence base on maternal healthcare access in Kurukshetra & Sonipat.
- Strengthen dialogue between communities and public institutions.
- Identify practical pathways to improve awareness and access to existing entitlements.

Over the last few months, the Team has completed field-based study in the villages of Dhaturi and Bhaira Bakipur in Sonipat District, where they met with the PMVY Supervisor, Anganwadi workers, ASHAs and beneficiaries to understand theA recurring theme: the gap between policy and lived experience is shaped less by scheme design than by **awareness, institutional process and the ability to**

navigate what's on offer. With support from the **South Asia Gender Foundation**, which has facilitated community connections in Kurukshetra, the project is helping build a grounded, interdisciplinary understanding drawing on law, public policy, healthcare and community engagement of how maternal healthcare access can be strengthened where it matters most. welfare aid delivery and impediments such as delays in 'Direct benefit Transfers', Aadhar-related verification glitches, complex documentation and inaccessible digitized processes.

BEYOND GROWTH

3 September 2026 |
O.P. Jindal Global University

REIMAGINING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

What does development mean once we look past the growth numbers?

That question motivated a panel discussion hosted by JIHS at JGU Campus, bringing together three eminent scholars – **Dr. Pulapre Balakrishnan, Dr. Surajit Mazumdar, and Dr. Richa Kumar**. The discussion was moderated by **Dr. Mrinalini Jha**. The conversation kept circling one tension: growth is necessary, but India's own experience shows it is not

sufficient, especially considering the regional development in the country.

Drawing on Amartya Sen's capability approach, panellists argued that development means expanding people's real freedoms, and that India's wide regional gaps in health and education show how formal rights of citizens are falling short of that. Structurally, India has experienced rising GDP without industrialisation and expansion of productive urban employment – factors which typically accompany such growth elsewhere. As a result, a large share of the workforce remains in rural areas, while opportunities continue to vary significantly across regions. There was also a case for questioning growth as the yardstick altogether: a shift from **Vikas** to **Khush-hali** (well-being), where a good life beyond a certain threshold income is less about higher earnings and more about dignity, security, and meeting basic needs.

AREMINDER FROM THE FIELD

That last idea found an unplanned echo in JIHS's own research with rural households in Sonipat. When asked what rural development meant to him, one young respondent answered simply:

“gaon mein saaf paani aur bahot saare ped” - clean water in the village, and lots of trees.



Speakers at the podium (L-R): Dr. Pulapre Balakrishnan, Dr. Surajit Mazumdar and Dr. Richa Kumar.



The panel discussion on “Beyond Growth: Reimagining Regional Development in India”, 3 September 2026



The panellists with Vice Chancellor Prof. (Dr.) C. Raj Kumar and JIHS colleagues before the discussion.

Read more [here](#).

THE SOLAR PUZZLE

WHY IS HARYANA BEHIND ON SOLAR, DESPITE DOING EVERYTHING RIGHT?

16 September 2026 |
O.P. Jindal Global University

On paper, Haryana is a strong performer on solar energy: a state policy targeting **6 GW by 2030**, past the **2 GW** mark in 2025, and three national awards in June 2026 for its “Month of Solar” campaign. Yet delivery on the ground tells a different story as rooftop installations under **PM Surya Ghar** stand at roughly **86,000 against a 2.22 lakh target**, and under **PM-KUSUM**, Haryana has solarised most of its sanctioned solar pumps but has **not begun feeder-level solarisation at all**.

This was the puzzle which the policy roundtable convened by **JIHS** with the **Hertie India Office** under the **Jindal Policy Conclave 2026** set out to interrogate: if the gap is not in ambition, funding, or sunlight, **what is it?** Practitioners including **Sourish Dasgupta (PwC India)** and economist **Navneeraj Sharma** joined the working session moderated by **Dr. Alok Aditya (Post-doc, JIHS)**, structured around four themes:

- **Finance** - why concessional credit is not reaching rooftop applicants
- **Supply** - new domestic-content rules narrowing and raising the cost of compliant panels

- **Agricultural solarisation** - why whole-feeder solarisation (which would ease the state's roughly ₹10,000-crore agricultural power subsidy) has not moved, even as individual solar pumps have
- **Water-energy interaction** - how solar policy and groundwater use pull against each other

institution's control that could improve outcomes before the scheme deadlines in **March 2027**, recommendations that will feed a published policy brief.

For JIHS, the exercise reflects a broader commitment: identifying the specific, fixable frictions that stand between policy ambition and delivery on the ground.

The closing segment asked each participant to name **one change within their own**

Read more [here](#).



ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERSHIP IN PRACTICE

AN INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH
MR. AMIT KHATRI, IAS

15 September 2026 |
O.P. Jindal Global University

What does leadership look like when policy has to translate into action on the ground? This question shaped an engaging interactive session on “**Administrative Leadership and Governance in Practice: Insights from a Civil Servant**”, hosted by the Jindal Institute of Health Sciences (JIHS) at O.P. Jindal Global University.

The session featured **Mr. Amit Khatri, IAS**, Director, Agriculture, Haryana; Managing Director, Haryana Seeds Development Corporation; Director, Archaeology & Museums, Haryana; and Special Secretary to the Government of Haryana, among other responsibilities. A 2011-batch Haryana-cadre officer, Mr. Khatri has held several leadership roles across district administration and areas including urban development, agriculture, employment and rural development.

Mr. Khatri brought a personal dimension to the conversation by reflecting on his **civil services preparation days**, sharing experiences that highlighted the importance of discipline, persistence and a clear sense of purpose in public service.

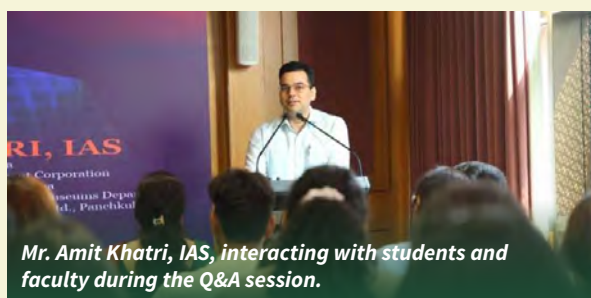
A particularly engaging part of the session was the discussion of his work with the **Archaeology & Museums Department of Haryana**. He spoke about the role of leadership in making an institution more visible, relevant and connected to the public. His work has included greater emphasis on heritage outreach, public engagement and bringing Haryana's archaeological and cultural legacy closer to citizens and younger audiences.

THE TAKEAWAY

What stood out was his candid sharing of insights from years across public administration and governance, and how confidently and thoroughly he engaged with every question from the floor. Perhaps the most fascinating part was hearing how a civil servant navigates the intersection of **public good, political narratives and administrative procedure**, translating policy into action on the ground.



Mr. Amit Khatri, IAS, reflecting on his experiences and insights on leadership across various administrative roles.



Mr. Amit Khatri, IAS, interacting with students and faculty during the Q&A session.



Prof. (Dr.) Nitesh Bansal, Registrar Prof. Dabiru Sridhar Patnaik, Mr. Amit Khatri, Prof. (Dr.) Nandita Bhan, and Prof. (Dr.) Hemant Verma at the discussion

NOTES FROM THE FIELD: KURUKSHETRA

**A FIELD DIARY BY DIBYENDU BISWAS for
the upcoming Kurukshetra Human
Development Report**

I did not expect Kurukshetra to surprise me - I have read about it the way most of us have, as the land of the Mahabharata, fixed in scripture more than in the present tense. But a few days in Thanesar and Shahbad, and the villages that ring them, undid that fixedness. The district stopped being a holy land on a map and became something much more conventional: a place quietly renegotiating what land, work and home mean.

Urbanisation here does not look like the other NCR districts I have frequented for my research work. There is a familiar corridor logic along NH-44, but layered on top of it is something distinctly Kurukshetra, temples and educational institutions acting almost like their own gravitational centres, pulling residential demand and small commerce around them in ways that have little to do with industry.

“How do farmers perceive their land now?” I found myself asking versions of this more than once, and revisited the same question in Kurukshetra. Agricultural land is giving way to real estate as demand climbs, and land prices have increased multiple times over the last

two decades. Farmers increasingly describe their fields not as something to sow, but as something to hold as a future investment, to watch, and, for some, to eventually sell well.

Thanesar is filling up with people from outside, drawn-in by a quieter and safer town, even as long-time residents struggle to find decent jobs there. The young have largely made up their minds about farming: it is not for them. Those who can afford it migrate abroad; landless labourers have moved into the services economy of neighbouring towns as masons, painters, security guards, e-rickshaw drivers. On Shahbad's western edge, in contrast, recurring floods from the Markanda River keeps change visibly slower, which comes as a reminder of how unevenly “development” moves across a single district.

“Lived experiences often get camouflaged behind numbers and charts!”

— a thought I kept returning to

What I enjoyed the most was the warmth of people who let a stranger with a notebook sit in their courtyards, homes, and in markets, and talk about how their lives have changed - stories that structured surveys might find hard to fully capture. I left with more questions than I came with, and a far more textured sense of **land, work, and everyday life** in Kurukshetra.



Field visit in Kurukshetra by Dr. Dibyendu Biswas.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD: BADMALIK

EXPERIENCES OF JIHS
FIELD COORDINATOR, ARJUN

मैं JIHS में HEALING project के अंतर्गत फील्ड कोऑर्डिनेटर के रूप में कार्य कर रहा हूँ HEALING एक समुदाय-आधारित पहल है। वर्तमान में मेरे कार्य का मुख्य उद्देश्य स्कूल से बाहर रहने वाले बच्चों के लिए एक लर्निंग सेंटर विकसित करना तथा स्वास्थ्य शिक्षा और पर्यावरण से संबंधित संभावित हस्तक्षेपों की व्यावहारिकता को समझना है।

इसके साथ ही स्वास्थ्य और पर्यावरण के मुद्दों पर भी समुदाय के साथ मिलकर काम करना है ताकि लोगों को बेहतर स्वास्थ्य, स्वच्छ पर्यावरण और बच्चों को गुणवत्तापूर्ण शिक्षा मिल सके। यह कार्य JSGP के प्रोफेसर इंद्रनील और प्रोफेसर मानिनी ओझा द्वारा समुदाय में किए गए और संचालित बेसलाइन संरक्षण से भी मुझे सहयोग मिला।

इस में बड़ी संख्या में प्रवासी परिवार रहते हैं, जो मुख्य रूप से Durga Colony और Ram Nagar Colony में बसे हुए हैं। इन परिवारों का यहाँ आना आसपास के उद्योगों से मिलने वाले रोजगार के अवसरों से जुड़ा हुआ है। अपने फील्ड विजिट के दौरान मैंने बुनियादी सुविधाओं, स्वच्छता और सेवाओं की उपलब्धता से जुड़ी कई चुनौतियों को देखा है। कई क्षेत्रों में उचित सीवेज और ड्रेनेज व्यवस्था नहीं है। मुख्य सड़क पर जलभराव की समस्या बारिश के

मौसम के साथ-साथ अन्य समय में भी लोगों के लिए परेशानी पैदा करती है। ठोस कचरा प्रबंधन, गंदे पानी का निपटान, स्वच्छता और पर्यावरण प्रदूषण भी समुदाय की प्रमुख चिंताएँ हैं।

समुदाय में काम करने के दौरान मुझे यह समझने का भी अवसर मिला कि पर्यावरण और बुनियादी ढाँचे से जुड़ी समस्याएँ बच्चों की शिक्षा को भी प्रभावित कर सकती हैं। हाल ही में Badmalik में स्थित एक निजी स्कूल को पर्यावरणीय परिस्थितियों के कारण किसी अन्य स्थान पर स्थानांतरित किया गया। स्थानीय क्षेत्र में वायु प्रदूषण, ठोस कचरे और जलभराव जैसी समस्याओं ने स्कूल के आसपास के वातावरण को प्रभावित किया था।

फील्ड में लोगों से बातचीत और वहाँ की स्थिति को देखकर मुझे समझ आया कि किसी क्षेत्र की असली स्थिति जानने के लिए वहाँ के लोगों की बातें सुनना और उनके अनुभवों को समझना बहुत जरूरी है। इस दौरान यह भी महसूस हुआ कि किसी भी समस्या के स्थायी समाधान के लिए समुदाय की भागीदारी महत्वपूर्ण है। जब स्थानीय लोग अपनी जरूरतों और समस्याओं को सामने रखते हैं तो उनके अनुभवों के आधार पर बेहतर और उपयोगी समाधान तैयार किए जा सकते हैं।

मेरे लिए यह एक नई जिम्मेदारी है। इस काम के माध्यम से मुझे बच्चों की शिक्षा और उनके बेहतर भविष्य के लिए साथ ही समुदाय के लोगों के साथ मिलकर काम करने और उनसे सीखने का भी मौका मिल रहा।



Field visit in Badmalik by JIHS Field Coordinator, Arjun.

PUBLICATIONS

INTRODUCING THE JIHS WORKING PAPER SERIES

JIHS has launched a **Working Paper Series** - a space to share ongoing and emerging research on Haryana's economy, governance, environment and society. All papers under the series are peer-reviewed before appearing as a working paper on the website.

JIHS WORKING PAPER SERIES

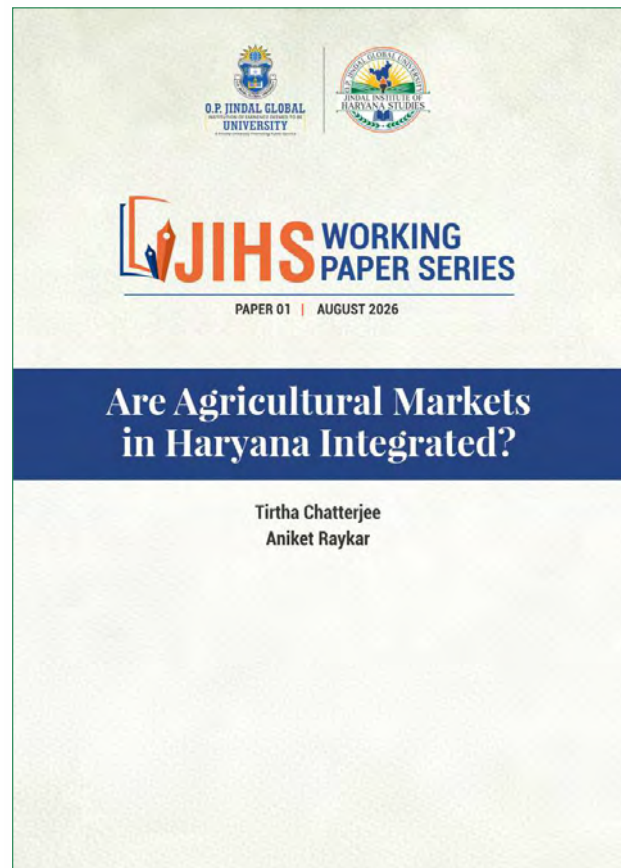
PAPER 01 | AUGUST 2026

Are Agricultural Markets in Haryana Integrated?

Are Agricultural Markets in Haryana Integrated?

Tirtha Chatterjee & Aniket Raykar

Using five years of mandi-level data (2021–25), the paper asks a simple but important question: do prices for the same crop move together across Haryana's markets, or do farmers in different districts face very different realities? **Paddy** comes out well integrated – prices stay close to MSP with low variation. **Maize and bajra** tell a more worrying story, trading persistently below MSP; **cotton and potato** are more volatile, with large gaps between districts.



Explore the full series at jgu.edu.in/jihs/working-paper-series.

~ FUTURE DIRECTIONS ~

Celebrating

60 YEARS OF HARYANA

Haryana marks its **60th year of formation in 2026** - six decades that have carried the state from the gains of the Green Revolution to rapid urbanisation along the Delhi-NCR corridor. To mark the occasion, JIHS is bringing together scholars, researchers and practitioners for a closer look at what this journey has meant, and what it demands next.

SEMINAR | 2 NOVEMBER 2026

Haryana at 60: Development Trajectory, Transformation, and Emerging Challenges

A one-day seminar to take stock of Haryana's development journey and identify priorities for the road ahead - structured around thematic paper sessions, each paired with a discussant for focused feedback.

Venue:

O.P. Jindal Global University campus

Abstract submission:

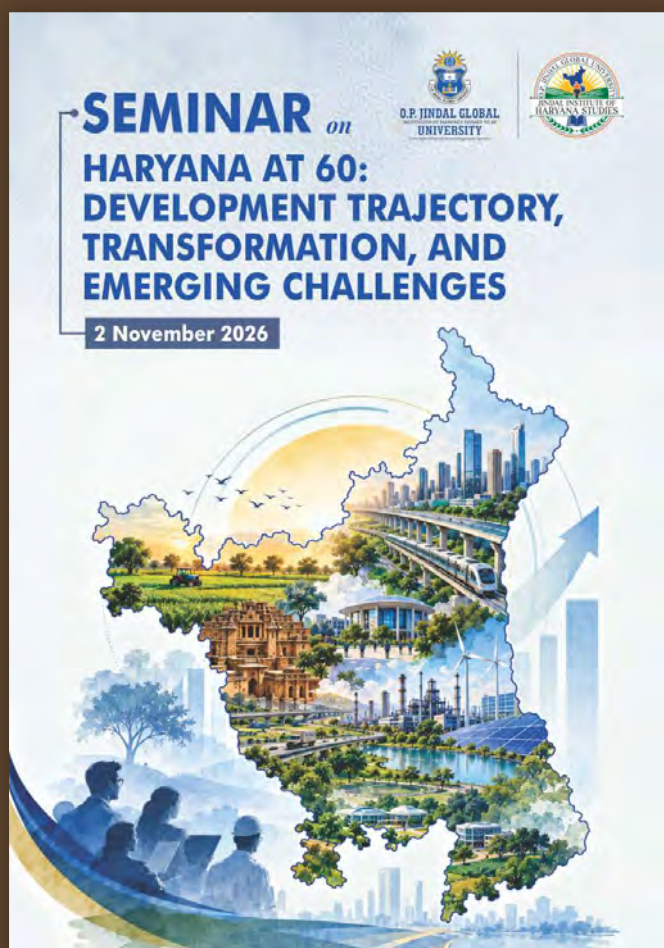
30 September 2026

Full paper submission:

15 October 2026 (~5,000 words)

We invite academics, researchers, doctoral scholars and practitioners to submit original, evidence-based papers on themes including **agriculture and rural development, urbanisation, education, health, gender, employment, migration, governance, inequality, and environment.**

To submit a paper or know more about participation, write to jihs@jgu.edu.in with the subject line "JIHS Seminar_Haryana at 60."



Designed by Anil Kumar.

JGU *at a* GLANCE



16000+
Students



1100+
Faculty



4000+
Faculty &
Administrative Staff
from **54** countries



22400+
Alumni Network
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12 SCHOOLS



50+
Programmes

30+ Undergraduate Programmes
20+ Postgraduate Programmes
• Doctoral Programme



Jindal Global Law School
India's First Global Law School



JINDAL GLOBAL
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India's First Transnational Humanities School



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India's First Global Media School



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India's Global Design and Architecture School



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Jindal School of
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India's First Transdisciplinary Psychology School



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Publications



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research centres

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Leadership Development &
Executive Education

Jindal Institute of
Behavioural Sciences

International Institute for
Higher Education
Research & Capacity Building

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Jindal Institute of
Haryana Studies

Motwani Jadeja
Institute for
American Studies

Jindal Institute for
Continuing Education and
Professional Development

INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIONS



620+
Collaborations with
International Universities &
Higher Education Institutions



10
Forms
of Global
Partnerships



80+
Countries
& Regions



300+
Faculty & Student
Exchange Collaborations



160+
Countries
represented by
Students

RANKINGS & RECOGNITIONS

RANKED
35
for
LAW

RANKED
90
for
POLITICS &
INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES

TOP
200
for
BUSINESS &
MANAGEMENT
STUDIES

INDIA'S NO. 1 RANKED UNIVERSITY

PUBLIC & PRIVATE
LAW
POLITICS &
INTERNATIONAL
STUDIES

BUSINESS &
MANAGEMENT
STUDIES

PRIVATE
SOCIAL
SCIENCES &
MANAGEMENT

ARTS &
HUMANITIES

ECONOMICS &
ECONOMETRICS

RANKED
232
for
SOCIAL
SCIENCES &
MANAGEMENT

RANKED
323
for
ARTS &
HUMANITIES

TOP
500
for
ECONOMICS &
ECONOMETRICS

IN THE WORLD

QS
WORLD
UNIVERSITY
RANKINGS
BY SUBJECT 2026

RANKED
NO.1
IN INDIA
FOR
LAW
TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION
SUBJECT RANKINGS 2026

RANKED
NO.2
IN INDIA
FOR
PSYCHOLOGY
TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION
SUBJECT RANKINGS 2026

THE Times
Higher
Education

AMONG
6%
B-SCHOOLS
GLOBALLY
WITH
AACSB
ACCREDITATION

AACSB
ACCREDITED

CONFERRED
THE STATUS OF AN
**Institution of
Eminence**
BY THE
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA