

Anthropo-Demographic Features and Health Care Practices Among the Jaunsaris of Jaunsar-Bawar, Dehradun, Uttar Pradesh

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ABSTRACT India is a vast country with a population of more than 930 million. The tribal populations of India constitute a significant proportion of India's total population. There are more than 400 tribal population group constituting around eight percent of India's total populations. Most of these tribal populations across the country are faced with similar health conditions accentuated by widespread poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition, poor environmental and personal hygiene and poor material and child health care practices. Present study investigates anthropo-demographic features, and health care practices among the Jaunsaris of Chakrata tehsil of Dehradun district of Uttar Pradesh of (U.P). Demographic analysis on 904 Janusari families belonging to Kalsi and Chakrata blocks of Dehradun district has been conducted. The results of the study indicate that total fertility rate (TFR) of the Jaunsaris (3.84) is marginally higher than Indian nation population of 3.8. Crude Birth Rate (CBR) if found to be 32 per thousand as against 30.4 per thousand for India (SRS, 1993). Crude Death Rate (CDR) for the Jaunsaris is computed as 11.85 per thousand as against National average of 10.6 per thousand (SRS, 1993). The current population growth rate of twenty percent for the Jaunsaris is marginally higher than Indian national population of 19.8. As Jaunsaris are polyandrous population, sex ratio is found to be 889 as against 972 for scheduled tribes of India (Census of India, 1991). Infant mortality rate (IMR) for Jaunaris (81 per 1000 live births) is comparable to that of Indian national population of 82 per thousand live births. The present findings are discussed in the light of prevailing health care practices among the Jaunsaris.