

# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

**JANUARY - MARCH 2025**



**CENTRE FOR RESEARCH IN WELLBEING  
AND HAPPINESS (CRWBH)**

# RESEARCH



## Women's Working Status and Intimate Partner Violence Victimization in India: The Role of Husbands' Attitudes Toward Violence

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### Abstract

**Purpose** Evidence on the relationship between women's working status and intimate partner violence (IPV) remains mixed, especially in low- and middle-income countries. Moreover, limited research has examined whether this association varies by husbands' attitudes toward violence. This study aimed to examine the association between women's working status and IPV victimization, focusing on the moderating role of husbands' attitudes toward wife-beating among married women in India.

**Methods** Using nationally representative data from the National Family Health Survey 2019–2021, we analyzed a sample of 42,407 married women aged 18–49. Multilevel linear probability models were used to estimate associations.

**Results** Overall, 26.5% of women reported IPV victimization in the past year. Women's working status was associated with a higher likelihood of IPV victimization, though the magnitude varied by occupation ( $b=0.024$ , 95% CI [0.009, 0.038] for white-collar jobs;  $b=0.053$ , 95% CI [0.043, 0.063] for blue-collar jobs). Importantly, husbands' attitudes toward violence moderated these associations: among women whose husbands justified wife-beating, the risk of IPV was higher for both working occupational groups ( $b=0.036$ , 95% CI [0.007, 0.065] for white-collar jobs;  $b=0.032$ , 95% CI [0.014, 0.051] for blue-collar jobs). When husbands perceived wife-beating as unjustifiable, the risk difference between non-working and white-collar women was negligible.

**Conclusions** Women's working status alone may not protect them against IPV victimization in patriarchal contexts. Efforts to enhance women's economic empowerment should be coupled with strategies to shift gender norms and reduce the social acceptance of IPV.

**Keywords** Intimate partner violence · Working status · Occupation type · Husbands' attitudes toward violence · Patriarchal norm · India

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## WOMEN'S WORKING STATUS AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE VICTIMIZATION IN INDIA: THE ROLE OF HUSBANDS' ATTITUDES TOWARD VIOLENCE

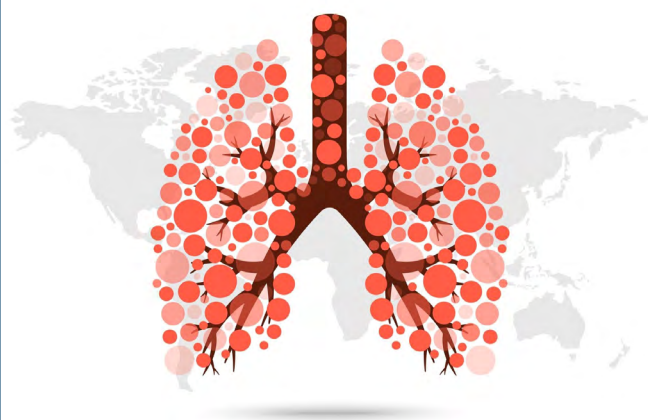
This paper examines how women's employment status relates to intimate partner violence (IPV) in India, and how this relationship is influenced by husbands' attitudes toward violence. Using data from the 2019–21 National Family Health Survey, the study finds that employment alone does not shield women from IPV. The results highlight the importance of addressing underlying sociocultural norms in policy efforts aimed at reducing IPV in India.

*Journal Publication - Journal of Family Violence*

## INTEGRATED SERVICE DELIVERY APPROACH TO TUBERCULOSIS ELIMINATION: REFLECTIONS AND FINDINGS FROM COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION IN KARNATAKA, INDIA

The Centre collaborated with FIND, New Delhi to present insights from a community-based, women-led model of integrated healthcare delivery in Belagavi and Kalaburagi districts in Karnataka. The initiative focused on Tuberculosis and related comorbidities among vulnerable populations. Findings suggest the ISD model improves service accessibility and supports more people-centred care.

*Funding Organization: FIND, New Delhi*  
*Ongoing Study*







## AGEING WELL IN INDIA

### Annual Report of CRWBH (2024-25)

As the first phase of the India Wellbeing Insights project, this report provides comprehensive insights on wellbeing among older adults and elderly in India, drawing upon data from Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (2017-19) (LASI). The key focus of the report is to gauge the available evidence on socioeconomic characteristics, health profile, and subjective wellbeing measures for elderly (oldest old, centenarians) across Indian states and other population sub-groups.

*Ongoing Study*

## HMPV CASES & CHALLENGES FOR INDIAN HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

 Jan 23, 2025

**BW**  
**Healthcare**  
WORLD.com

### HMPV CASES & CHALLENGES FOR INDIAN HEALTHCARE SYSTEMS

This article highlights the rise of Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) as an emerging respiratory threat in India. It underscores key challenges, including limited diagnostic capacity, lack of routine surveillance, and low public awareness. The piece emphasizes the urgent need to strengthen healthcare infrastructure, enhance early detection systems, and improve preparedness to manage future outbreaks of HMPV and other respiratory viruses.

*Published Op-Ed - BW Healthcare*

# ENGAGEMENT AND COLLABORATIONS

## PLENARY SESSION - 12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF INDIAN HEALTH ECONOMICS AND POLICY ASSOCIATION

### TITLE: A REVIEW OF WELLBEING MEASUREMENTS: REFLECTIONS, CHALLENGES, AND POSSIBILITIES FOR INDIA



**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2025

**Venue:** India International Centre, Delhi

**Chair:** Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Chairman, Pahle India Foundation, New Delhi

**Co-chair:** Dr. Raghunatha Rao Dharmapuri, Former Scientist F & HoD, ICMR-National Institute of Nutrition, Hyderabad

#### Discussants:

- Prof. T.V. Sekher, Professor, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai
- Prof. Udaya Shankar Mishra, Professor, International Institute for Population Sciences, Mumbai
- Prof. Achin Chakraborty, Professor and Director, Institute of Development Studies, Kolkata
- Dr. Sunil Rajpal, Director, CRWBH, FLAME University, Pune

#### Abstract:

The plenary session explored the evolving discourse on wellbeing measurement in India, emphasizing the need to move beyond GDP and incorporate subjective, psychological, and cultural dimensions. Drawing from diverse disciplines, speakers reflected on normative challenges, data interpretation, and the importance of contextualizing wellbeing within India's social fabric. The Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI) was highlighted as a key resource for measuring life satisfaction, social engagement, and perceived health. Discussions underscored the role of value judgments in constructing indices and the need to capture lived experiences. The session called for a nationally grounded, multidimensional framework that reflects the aspirations and realities of Indian citizens.





**Dr. Rajiv Kumar, Former Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog and Chairman of Pahle India Foundation**, emphasized the urgency of rethinking how wellbeing is measured in India. He questioned whether achieving OECD-level quality of life necessitates matching their income levels, particularly given ecological limits. Dr. Kumar called for a new, India-specific wellbeing index that balances material progress with sustainability and holistic human development.



**Dr. Raghunatha Rao Dharmapuri, Former Senior Scientist at the ICMR–National Institute of Nutrition**, underscored the psychological toll of economic instability, particularly during the COVID-19 crisis. He distinguished between mental health and psychology, and highlighted the importance of understanding operational definitions of wellbeing that reflect people's actual circumstances.



**Professor Udaya Shankar Mishra, Professor at the International Institute for Population Sciences**, introduced a fresh perspective on wellbeing by framing it as a continuum of 'Being, Belonging, and Becoming'. He emphasized that wellbeing is deeply personal and must be interpreted through the lens of individual aspirations and social embeddedness. Professor Mishra called for data frameworks that respect personal subjectivity rather than imposing externally defined metrics.



**Professor T.V. Sekher, Professor at the International Institute for Population Sciences**, spotlighted the Longitudinal Ageing Study in India (LASI) as a vital resource for understanding subjective wellbeing at scale. He outlined how LASI captures critical indicators such as perceived health, life satisfaction, and social engagement, and stressed the need to utilize this data for policy research, particularly in the context of India's ageing population.



**Professor Achin Chakraborty, Director at the Institute of Development Studies**, reflected on the normative foundations of wellbeing measurement. He argued that all multidimensional indices rely on implicit value judgments and drew on Amartya Sen's theory of positional objectivity to caution against simplistic interpretations of self-reported data. Professor Chakraborty urged researchers to be attentive to social context and philosophical nuance when working with national data.



**Dr. Sunil Rajpal, Assistant Professor at FLAME University and Director of CRWBH**, introduced early insights from the Centre's ongoing work on subjective wellbeing. Drawing on LASI data, he revealed regional differences in happiness, loneliness, and health perception across states. Dr. Rajpal emphasized the need to move beyond GDP and integrate psychological and health dimensions into a composite framework for evaluating societal progress.

## DISTINGUISHED LECTURE - DR. MRINMOYI KULKARNI, PROFESSOR, INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MUMBAI

### TITLE: SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH



**Date:** 6<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**Venue:** FLAME University, Pune

#### **Abstract:**

Dr. Mrinmoyi Kulkarni's talk focused on India's transition in terms of disease burden from communicable to non-communicable diseases. She highlighted how the increasing burden of heart disease and diabetes brings lifestyle factors and health behaviors into sharper focus, given their influence on the incidence and course of these chronic diseases.

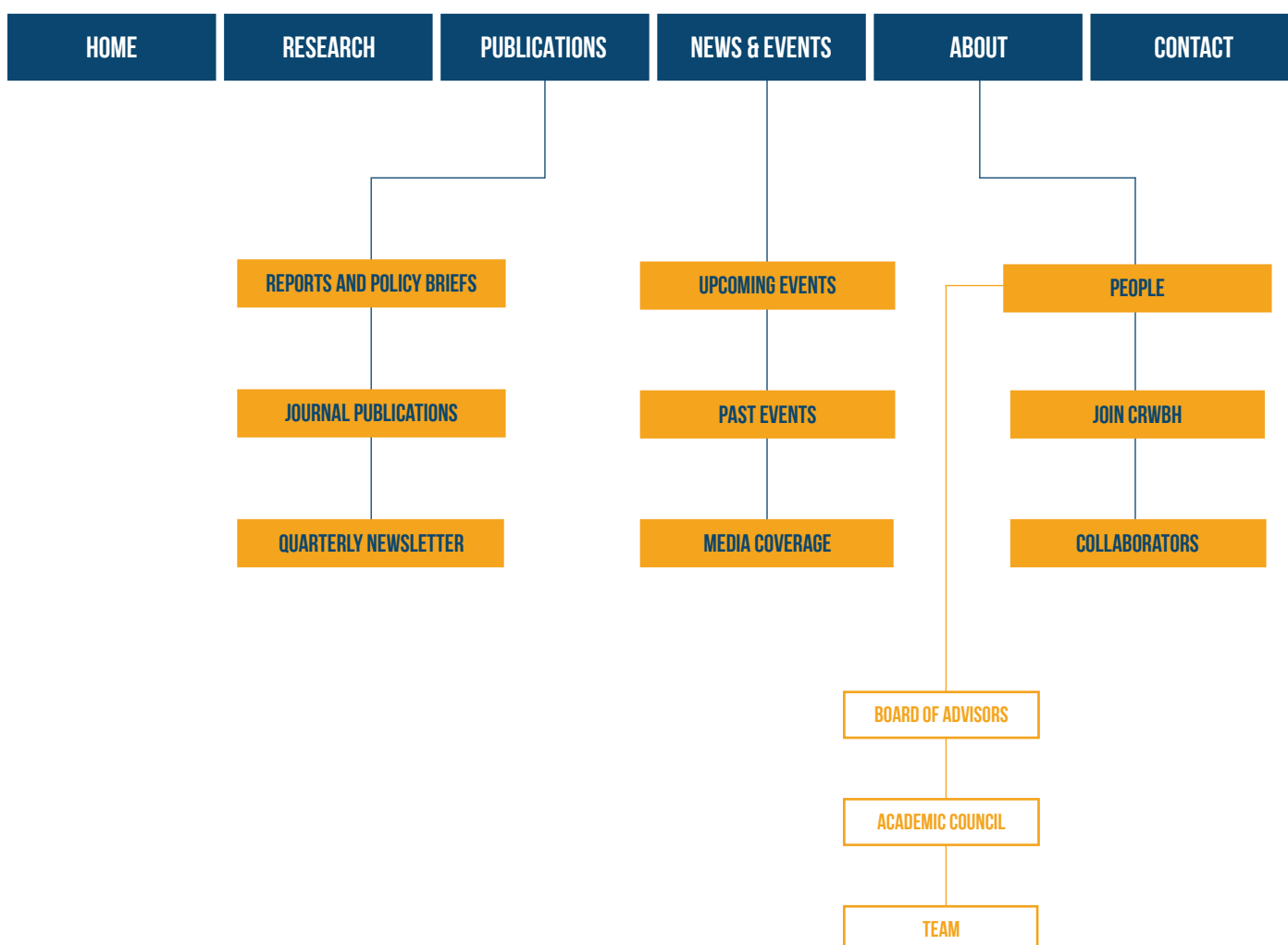
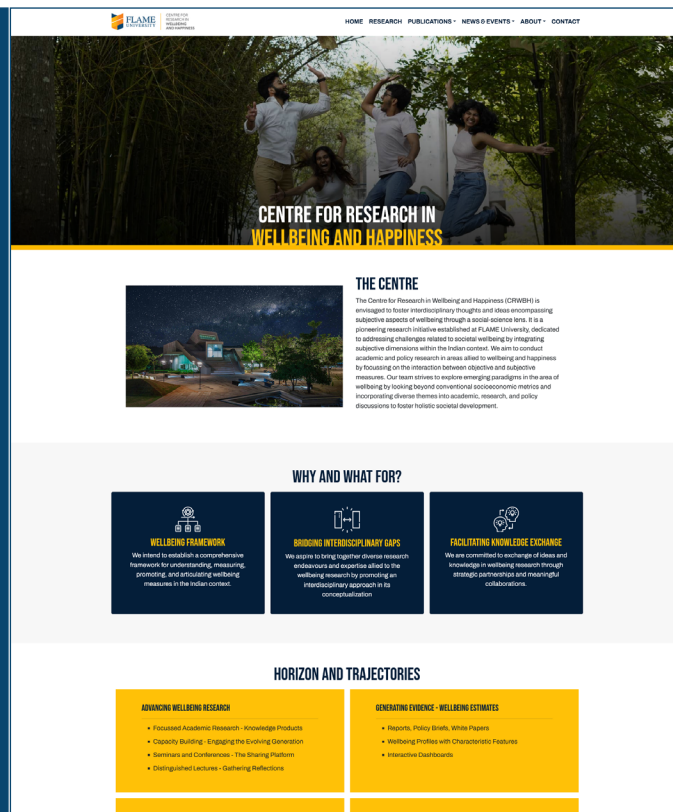
She emphasized that health behaviors are shaped by both social structural variables and individual psychological variables. The talk discussed health outcomes in terms of chronic conditions, perceived health, and ageing, with the goal of planning more effective interventions to prevent and manage health conditions.



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<https://crwbh.flame.edu.in>



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