

Brief Bio-data of Prof. R.S.Sandhu

Ranvinder Singh Sandhu is M.A.(Sociology), M.C.R.P. (Master in City and Regional Planning) and Ph.D. in Urban Sociology. He retired as Professor of Sociology from Guru Nanak Dev University Amritsar in 2009. He has been with CRRID as a consultant in 2011-12 and U.G.C. Emeritus Fellow(2013- 2015) at Punjabi University Patiala. He has been **Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (2004-2006), Coordinator of U.G.C. Special Assistance Programme(2005-2009), U.G.C. Visiting Fellow to the Netherlands (1998), Overseas Fellow of Human Science Research Council of South Africa (1995), Visiting Professor at Winona State University, Winona, Minnesota, U.S.A.(1991 – 1992), British Council Visiting Fellow (1990) and Head of the Department of Sociology (1989-1991)**. He has twelve books to his credit in the field of **Urbanization, Urban Development, Housing and Informal Settlements** and **Sociology of Drug Abuse** published by Zed Books, London, Sage (U.K., U.S.A. & India), Rawat, Guru Nanak Dev University, Book well and others. He has been **Editor of Guru Nanak Journal of Sociology (1989-1991) and Guest Editor (1998) of the Habitat International** published by Pergamon Press, London. He has organized and chaired many sessions in various International conferences/ World Congresses held in **Vancouver, (2007), Durban (2006), Singapore (2004), Milan (2003), Brisbane (2002), Montreal (1998), Bielefeld (1994), Montreal (1992), Madrid (1990),Amsterdam (1988) and New Delhi (1986)**. His main areas of interest are Urban Development, Housing for the poor, Urban Planning and Sociology of Development.

He has been involved in a number of prestigious consultancy/ research projects in the areas of Slum Improvement, Urban Basic Services, Resettlement of PAP's , urban development and City Studies. Some important projects include **Evaluation of Urban Basic Services Programme in Punjab, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu and Kashmir** (sponsored by Govt. of India), **Evaluation of Slum Improvement Programme in Ludhiana** (Human Settlement Programme—An Indo Dutch collaboration), **Environmental and Social Impact Assessment of NH-2** (National Highways Authority of India) and **A Study of Amritsar and Patiala Cities** (A Project of National Urban Observatory—Supported by United Nations Centre for Human Settlements and Town and Country Planning Organization-Ministry of Poverty Alleviation and Urban Development, Govt. of India). **State of Cities in Punjab- 2011** (sponsored by University Grants Commission, New Delhi),

State of Cities in North-Western India: A Case of Selected JNNURM Cities 2013 (Supported by Housing and Urban Development Corporation New Delhi under HUDCO Chair, CRRID, Chandigarh) and **Urban Development and Small Towns in Punjab- 2015** (sponsored by University Grants Commission, New Delhi). He has been a member of a **Task Force on Urban Development in Punjab** and its report has been published by IDC entitled, **Urban Development in Punjab**. Recently, he served as one of the members of the **Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal 11(Sustainable Cities and Communities)**-constituted by Govt. of Punjab to prepare a proposal for the **Punjab Vision 2030** for its presentation at **Niti Ayog, Govt. Of India** .

He is a member of the **International Sociological Association (ISA)** and has been on Executive Boards of two Research Committees of ISA i.e RC-43 and RC- 21, on ***Housing and Built Environment*** and ***Urban and Regional Development*** respectively from 1986 to 2006. He has been **Coordinator of the Southeast Asian Group of UN Forum of Researchers on Human Settlements** (Rome, Italy).

During the last 25 years, he has presided over numerous International professional meetings relating to human settlements, basic services and resettlement problems held in **Australia, China, France, Switzerland, Kenya, U.S.A., Germany, The Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Canada, United Kingdom, Singapore, Sweden, South Africa and Mexico.**

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