

papers in peer-reviewed journals, attended international and national conferences, and secured positions in research organizations, universities, NGOs, and donor organizations, demonstrating the effectiveness of their training at IIPS.

**Challenges and Resources Required:** IIPS faces challenges such as insufficient faculty strength relative to the student body and inadequate physical infrastructure. Addressing these needs is crucial.

**Notes:** IIPS provides an excellent research environment, enabling students to publish in peer-reviewed journals and excel in their careers. These practices can be replicated in other institutions.

### 7.3 - Institutional Distinctiveness

**7.3.1 - Highlight the performance of the institution in an area distinct to its priority and thrust (within a maximum of 200 words)**

Sample survey research at IIPS is grounded in empirical data collected from the target population using appropriate sampling techniques. Over the past three decades, IIPS has developed unique expertise in conducting large-scale, nationally representative sample surveys, including both cross-sectional and longitudinal types.

In the last 30 years, the institute has conducted 16 nationally representative large-scale sample surveys and over a hundred medium and small-scale surveys at regional, state, and district levels. Few universities or research institutions in India possess such specialized skills in conducting large-scale surveys using scientific methods.

The sample size of these surveys ranges from a few thousand households to over half a million. IIPS is responsible for developing and testing survey tools, training personnel, and monitoring and supervising fieldwork. The collected data generates key benchmark indicators on various aspects of population, health, and development at district, state, and national levels. These indicators assist planners, policymakers, and program managers in effectively implementing and evaluating government programs, tracking progress towards Sustainable Development Goals, and improving the living conditions of the population.

**7.3.2 - Plan of action for the next academic year**