

International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) Prof. Asha A. Bhende Memorial Lecture

You are cordially invited to the 14th Prof. Asha A Bhende Memorial lecture by Dr. Kalpana Apte Director General, Family PlanningAssociation of India (FPA India), Mumbai on the topic Adolescent Sexual and Reproductive Health & Rights in a Resurgent India: Opportunities and Challenges Date: 1st April 2025 | Time: 04:00 PM Venue: 3rd Floor, Library Building, IIPS Campus

Dr. Kalpana Apte has been working for the last 30 years as a development professional in Public Health, particularly Sexual & Reproductive Health and Rights and Family Planning in India. Areas of experience include training of trainers in Comprehensive Sexually Education, Gender and Sexuality; Strategic Planning of SRHR interventions, which include planning and implementing clinical and community-based interventions that deliver health, particularly sexual & reproductive health services, address stigma and discrimination around abortions, HIV/AIDS, Sexual orientation and also intervention aimed at Gender equity and equality including strategies to mitigate Gender-Based Violence.

Her particular interests and skills are training, advocacy, and conceptualisation of models that deliver SRHR solutions from grassroots to scale.

As a Programme Team leader, she has led FPA India teams to develop three strategic Plans (2005-2009), (2011-2015) and (2016 - 2022); she has been responsible for ensuring the development of aligned annual activity & budget plans and their implementation; led the donor-funded project development and implementation.

A passionate advocate of family planning from a rights-based perspective, her work enables her to learn from communities and take their voices and needs to donors and the governments, helping the programmes and policies to become relevant to people's needs. **Prof. Asha A. Bhende** (1928-2010) was an accomplished academician and a prolific writer. Her book "Principles of Population Studies" co-authored with the late Prof Tara Kanitkar of IIPS, has had



20 editions over the years. She served as an advisor to several organisations such as UGC, NACO, TISS, and Family Planning Training and Research Center and was a Visiting Fellow at the Population Institute, Australian National University, Canberra and the East-West Center, Hawaii. Prof. Bhende worked as a consultant to many international and national organisations, including ILO, UNFPA, Rockefeller Foundation, World Vision, National Association for the Blind, and Organization for Educational Resources and Technical Training. She was a Board member of the Foundation for Research in Health Systems and the National Association for the Blind and a Chairperson of the Ashish Gram Rachana Trust, Indian Institute of Health Management, Pachod, Maharashtra. Her book on her life, titled "Majhya Jagaat Mi" (In my own world, am I), was published. Prof. Asha A. Bhende was also a highly accomplished actress who trained in music and dance. Prof. Bhende was a unique combination of artistic talent and academic brilliance, who is remembered with respect and affection.

Prof. D.A. Nagdeve Director & Senior Professor (Additional Charge)