

Dr Jitendra as Chairman IIPA approves 111 new members



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh presiding over the National Executive Council meeting of Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) headquarters, New Delhi on Wednesday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh, who is also National Chairman of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), on Wednesday approved 111 new members of IIPA including nine newly recruited IAS officers serving as Assistant Secretaries at the Centre.

Among the new members, the youngest K Karthik serving as Asst Secretary in Defence Ministry is 26 years old, while the oldest Suresh Kumar retired IAS is 77-year-old.

While presiding over the

321st meeting of the Executive Council of IIPA, Dr Jitendra expressed satisfaction that over 500 members were enrolled since November, 2021, when he decided to throw open the IIPA membership to the serving officers, which was earlier reserved for only retired officers.

The Minister urged the regional branches of IIPA to speed up the membership drive to bring quality manpower to IIPA fraternity.

Dr Jitendra urged the members of the executive council to do a brainstorming to visualize a larger role of

IIPA in near future and also to explore the participation of private sector in capacity building.

The Minister said that the institute has to have a futuristic vision for the next 25 years to attain the goals set by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and, to achieve this, the institute needs to have an integrated approach to work in cohesion with similar departments/organizations/sets-ups and entities with similar scope and focus, related to training, administrative expertise.

Earlier, Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the new Conference Hall of IIPA "Sambhav" and held the 321st meeting of the Executive Council of IIPA in the same hall.

He also lauded the role of DG, IIPA and its management for adding two more Conference-Cum lecture hall during the COVID pandemic in 2020 and 2021.

Dr Jitendra Singh also approved the prestigious Paul H Appleby Award for distinguished services to IIPA and to the field of Public Administration to ex-IAS officers V. Balasubramanian, Dr

HC quashes termination order issued by Tourism Department

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu & Kashmir High Court has quashed Order No. 152/Adm/JKTDC of 2012, wherein services of petitioner were terminated w.e.f., May 31, 2010 on basis of allegation of unauthorized absence from duty. Justice Ali Mohammad while quashing the termination order Abdul Rashid Durani, observed that the records bear testimony to the fact that adequate opportunity of hearing has not been provided to the Petitioner and the rules of natural justice have been made a casualty. The rules relating to reasonableness, good faith, justice, equity and good conscience, which are a part of law and relate to administration of justice and fairness, have been followed in breach and, resultantly, it has caused miscarriage of justice.

The Court observed, "In the present case, petitioner; although an enquiry appears to have been conducted into the alleged callousness in duty on the part of the Petitioner; but it is clear beyond any shadow of doubt that the provisions of Rule 145 of the Rules had not been complied with while conducting the enquiry and, therefore, the impugned order imposing penalty of dismissal upon the Petitioner is unconstitutional, illegal and bad in law. The record placed by the Respondents before this Court does not provide even an inkling of how and in what manner the enquiry was conducted into the matter of the unauthorized absence of the Petitioner. There is no evidence on record to state and show that the statement summarizing the alleged misconduct on the part of the Petitioner was read over and explained to him. Not even a murmur has been made to state that any evidence was recorded in the case. The procedure laid down for conducting the enquiry as prescribed in the Rules cited above does not appear to have been followed at any stage, as a consequence of which, the impugned order of dismissal cannot survive and sustain in the eyes of law." With these observations, Justice Ali Mohammad Magrey held that penalty imposed upon the petitioner, being contrary to the law and reason, cannot be upheld, as a corollary to which, the impugned Order bearing No. 152/ADM/JKTDC of 2012 dated August 22, 2012, is quashed. The respondents are directed to release all the consequential service benefits in favour of petitioner to which he is found entitled in accordance with the law and the rules governing the field.



Music maestro Pt Abhay Rustum Sopori receiving 8th Parampara Award.

was also graced by the Chinese Consular General Zha Liyou and Dr Nisha Kohli from Singapore.

The function had a special prayer meeting in the memory of Late Pandit Bhajan Sopori, the great music legend of India hailed as the 'Saint of Santoor' and 'King of Strings'. A two-minute silence was observed in memory of the legendary Santoor Maestro & Music Composer, Kathak Exponent Shovna Narayan, Sharon Lowen, Odissi Exponent, Priyadarshi Mishra, former MLA, Amarendra Khatua, Retired IAS, Mukul Verma, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of India, Manish Chaudhury, founder of Respect India Foundation and Dr Rosalin Patasani Mishra, Founder Parichay Foundation. The function

Rustum Sopori was awarded 8th Parampara Award, which was presented by Dr P K Patasani, Zha Liyou and Dr Rosalin Patasani Mishra. Abhay Sopori thanked Parichay foundation for acknowledging his work and contribution. Other awardees included Krishan Kumar Gupta, A.N. Verma, Dr Pravas Chandra Acharya, Gargi Seth, Dr Urvi Agarwal, Dr Subhash Yashwant Dalvi, Girija Pattanaik, Debashish Mukherjee, Dr Nisha Kohli, Sunada Rao, Snehasis Das, Dr Bhushan Balasaheb Jadhav, Gaurav Gupta, Inder Kumar Goel and Anantinee Mishra.

On this occasion internationally acclaimed music maestro Pt Abhay

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He exhorted upon officials to undertake regular public outreach activities for ensuring 100% saturation of all the beneficiary-oriented schemes and prompt redressal of public grievances. Reviewing District Capex plan and other important infrastructure projects in the district, Principal Secretary passed instructions to Deputy Commissioner to monitor all Infrastructure Projects periodically and ensure their completion within stipulated timelines.

Kansal said that the UT government is putting in sustained efforts to remove difficulties besides making social security and welfare schemes easily accessible to all eligible citizens.

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Addressing officers, he said that Pulwama is on the trajectory of development and prosperity and can be a role model for other districts.

Enquiring about the status of critical projects of works

departments, he asked the con-

cerned to submit regular reports regarding stages of project completion.

Kansal issued explicit instructions to the Power Development Department functionaries to restore power supply during upcoming winters. "Adopt advance planning and optimum resource allocation to ensure minimum hassle to common citizens", he exhorted upon the officers.

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Among others the meeting was attended by Additional Deputy Commissioners Pulwama and Tral, ACD and ACP Pulwama besides district officers.

Meanwhile, Jitendra Kumar Executive Director and State Head, Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) also called on the Lieutenant Governor and

discussed issues related to the setting up of Srinagar Depot at new land, Tankage addition commensurate with increased demand, and setting up of LPG bottling assistance plant for IOCL at Anantnag with the capacity to dispatch 3240 LPG cylinders per day.

The Lt Governor assured the Executive director of all the assistance from the UT

administration for ensuring smooth operations of the supply chain of the Corporation to cater the demands of local

population.

Later, Rakesh Sehgal, Director NIT Srinagar also called on the Lt Governor and apprised him about the functioning of NIT Srinagar and the progress with regards to academics, achievements and research oriented activities.

The Lt Governor advised the Director to continue maintaining high standards of academics and research development with special focus on preparing the entrepreneurs and leaders of the future.

Kashmir witnessed bumper paddy crop, symbol of relief & happiness for farmers

■ SHAKEELA ANDRABI

SRINAGAR: Autumn marks period of traditional harvesting in Kashmir. The harvesting season of paddy crop is in full swing here in north and central Kashmir and farmers are joyous after harvesting a bumper crop this year, thanks to better weather conditions. The paddy farmers said that subsidy provided by the government on fertilisers helped them get good quality and high quantity of paddy production this year. Paddy is harvested on approximately 1.40 lakh hectares of land, which constitutes 28 percent of the total agricultural land in Kashmir. There is no doubt that Jammu and Kashmir is becoming poorer in terms of agriculture land as more than 80 percent of agricultural land in south Kashmir has been converted for horticulture purpose, while

our continuous efforts that our agriculture land is becoming more productive and fertile. As Director Agriculture department, I will admit that conversion of farm lands is happening across Kashmir which is a cause of concern not only for the government but for locals as well. We can make houses at any place, even in mountains, but agricultural land is limited."

Earlier in April, the Irrigation and Flood Control Department advised the farmers to avoid sowing paddy owing to a dry spell. An official said that the Irrigation and Flood Control Department had apprehensions of dry weather in certain areas of Sopore, Kupwara, and Anantnag. Usually, the harvesting is heavily dependent on non-local labourers who remained unavailable during the last two years due to COVID-19 pandemic.

NORTHERN RAILWAY E-AUCTION

The Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Northern Railway Firozpur for and on behalf of President of India invites E-Auction for various lots over Firozpur Division as per detail given below:

Auction Catalog No.	EA-FZR-MA22-6 Dated 11.10.2022
Auction Start date & time	11.10.22 12:00 hours
A)	Name of work
	Commercial Advertisement Rights through Installation, Operation and Maintenance of Plastic Bottle Crushing/Shredding/Baling Machine at Railway Station
	Name of Stations
1	Firozpur Cantt.
2	Pathankot Cantt.
3	Pathankot
4	Phagwara
5	Udhampur
6	Jalandhar Cantt.

Only registered Vendors can participate. For other details please visit Railway website www.irps.gov.in

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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE

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Auction Catalog No.	EA-FZR-MA22-6 Dated 11.10.2022
Auction Start date & time	27.10.22 12:00 hours
Name of Work	Allotment of Commercial Publicity rights through Vinyl Wrapping on exterior of coaches of Trains
Lot No./Rake Link	Trains in Rake Link
ADVT-EFF-109222-22-1	14612/14611
ADVT-EFF-84053-22-1	14650/14650/14674/14673
ADVT-EFF-95027-22-1	12408/12407
ADVT-EFF-110591-22-1	12422/12421/14616/14615
ADVT-EFF-132173-22-1	12492/12491/12470/12469/14606/14605
ADVT-EFF-132340-22-1	12472/12471/12474/12473/12476/12475/12478/12477
ADVT-EFF-109229-22-1	12460/12459/14681/14682
ADVT-EFF-88368-22-1	14610/14609
ADVT-EFF-110792-22-1	14632/14631
ADVT-EFF-98513-22-1	14646/14645/14662/14661
ADVT-EFF-90417-22-1	12414/12413
ADVT-EFF-91669-22-1	22462/22461
ADVT-EFF-110778-22-1	14602/14601/14614/14613/14630/14629
ADVT-EFF-90978-22-1	14624/14623
ADVT-EFF-133298-22-1	14634/14633/54612/54613/54615/54616/54621/54622/54625/54626

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SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE



Efficiency in governance to be hallmark of B2V4: CS



Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: In a meeting with the Administrative Secretaries including Civil and Police administration, Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta on Wednesday remarked that the greater efficiency in governance would be the key motive behind the upcoming fourth phase of the Back to Village (B2V4) programme.

Dr Mehta impressed upon the officers that public feedback about the working of government offices in the local areas shall be a significant component of this outreach programme. He urged them to ask public about the promptness and efficiency of services offered to them by the government departments.

The Chief Secretary stressed on creating awareness among masses about all the online portals and services offered by the government. The officers were asked to display prominently in each Gram Panchayat the name and number of services available online for digital literacy of the villagers. They were urged to saturate certain deliverables in the run up to this programme and de-bottleneck any major project or scheme implementation.

Dr Mehta also stressed on holding convergence meeting of all the depart-

ments at the panchayat level for ironing out any of the issues hindering development in these villages. He called for making it a monthly feature in each Panchayat. He prompted each department and officer to own this initiative and put up their best in meeting all its objectives.

Moreover the Chief Secretary underscored the need of involving common people in some cultural or sporting activity. He said that this opportunity should be availed to take the flagship programmes of Nasha Mukht, Brashatachar Mukht J&K a step further.

Other initiatives talked about by the Chief Secretary to be reviewed by the visiting officers includes the issuance of Golden Cards, Door to Door collection of waste in villages, Swachh Grameen, PMAY-Grameen, saturation of Self Employment Schemes, working of Public Distribution System, Land Passbooks,

Digitisation of Revenue Records, Playgrounds in panchayats, Jal Jeevan Mission, functioning of Youth Clubs, Social Welfare and other centrally sponsored schemes.

Earlier the Principal Secretary, Information and Higher Education Departments, Rohit Kansal informed the meeting about the background and objectives of this renewed initiative. He enumerated different aspects to be achieved during this major public outreach programme.

He gave out that the programme is tentatively scheduled to be held in the last week of this month and a Jan Abhiyan is to be held a week before that. He maintained that during this Jan Abhiyan senior officers would visit villages and listen to people and see the achievements of all the above mentioned government schemes and deliverables for smooth conduct of B2V4 programme.

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The Lt Governor advised the Director to continue maintaining high standards of academics and research development with special focus on preparing the entrepreneurs and leaders of the future.