

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 at 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/s et-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

Arun Kumar Rath and the third to Prof D Ravindra Prasad.

The Minister was apprised of the action taken on the minutes of the 320th Meeting of the EC held on 5th July, 2022.

The IIPA's Executive Council has the Vice President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar as its President and Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, as Chairman.

The meeting was attended by members of IIPA's Executive Council, including, Shekhar Dutt, former Governor, Chhattisgarh, Srinivas R. Katikithala, Director, LBSNAA, G P Prasain, G R Kurup, Shri Arun Kumar Rath, S.S. Kshatriya, Shri K.K Pandey, Prof N. Lokendra Singh along with Surendra Nath Tripathi, DG, IIPA and Member-Secretary, EC and Amitabh Ranjan, Registrar, IIPA. Several regional branches also attended the meeting virtually.



Efficiency in governance to be hallmark of B2V4: CS

■ 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 debottleneck any major project or scheme implementation.

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



Chief Secretary, Dr Arun Kumar Mehta chairing a meeting.

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, Brashatchar 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 about all the above mentioned government schemes and deliverables for smooth conduct of B2V4 programme.

Pt Abhay Sopori presented Parampara Award 2022

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Parichay Foundation, a well-known foundation known for its social projects, celebrated 8th edition of its prestigious Parampara Awards 2022 on the occasion of Kumari Purnima in New Delhi by honouring 15 eminent personalities from different walks of life.

The lamp lighting ceremony was done by Bindeshwar Pathak, Founder of Sulabh International; Dr P K Patasani, former Member Parliament, Pt Abhay Rustum Sopori, 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



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, who was posthumously honoured by Parichay Foundation for his contributions to the music. The honour was received by his elder son Sohrab Sopori.

On this occasion internationally acclaimed music maestro Pt Abhay

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, Gijrija Pattanaik, Debasish Mukherjee, Dr Nisha Kohli, Sunada Rao, Snehasis Das, Dr Bhusan Balasaheb Jadhav, Gaurav Gupta, Inder Kumar Goel and Anantinee Mishra.

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 Durrani, 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.

Pulwama synonymous with good governance, development: Kansal

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

PULWAMA: Principal Secretary, Information and Higher Education, Rohit Kansal, on Wednesday visited Pulwama to review overall developmental scenario in the district. He took first-hand appraisal of all central and UT government developmental and social security schemes besides assessing performance of different departments. Principal Secretary, who is also Secretary In-charge for Pulwama district, also assessed sector wise progress achieved under different schemes by various departments. Deputy Commissioner, Pulwama, Baseer Ul Haq Choudhary, through a power point presentation, gave a detailed overview of the developmental activities and scheme-wise achievements under District Capex Budget, Languishing Projects, Health, JJM, RDD , PWD, PHE, Social Welfare and other sectors.

During the meeting, it was



Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Rohit Kansal chairing a meeting.

informed that the number of total works under District Capex 2022-23 was 2720 including 2138 new works and 582 ongoing works. Besides, 80 works have been completed and funds worth Rs 19.07 crore and Rs 119.13 crore stands released under Regular and ADF components. The total allocated cost under Capex was Rs. 438.16 crore.

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.

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.

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.

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

Emphasizing the importance of schemes like PM - SEHAT - Ayushman Bharat, PM - KISAN, MUMKIN and others, Kansal asked the concerned officers to prioritize achieving set targets under these schemes. He enjoined upon the officers to have 100 per cent saturation in beneficiary oriented schemes with special focus on credit linkages and financial inclusion. He added that analysis of missing links and gaps should be done so that projects are completed in time.

Laying emphasis on online services, he said these digital utilities are way towards accountability and transparency. He emphasized on officers to work in unison and identify bottlenecks and impediments in ongoing projects so that projects are accomplished in a time-bound manner. He cautioned officers against any lackadaisical approach on their part as far as public services are concerned.

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



Former Union Minister, Dr. Karan Singh calling on Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Dr. Karan Singh, former Union Minister & Member of Parliament met Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, here on Wednesday.

Dr. Karan Singh and the Lt Governor discussed various matters with regards to development of Jammu Kashmir and welfare of the people, besides other issues of public importance.

Dr. Karan Singh was accompanied by his son and former legislator, Vikramaditya Singh.

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 per cent of agricultural land in south Kashmir has been converted for horticulture purpose, while

North and Central Kashmir, on the other hand have had a crop. "The government gave subsidies for buying fertilizers. Our livelihood depends on paddy farming," said a farmer resident of central Kashmir of Chadoora Tehsil, adding, "We are getting a lot of benefits due to the subsidy received from the Agriculture Department on fertilizers." The farmers said that this year, due to sufficient rainfall, farmers were very happy as they were harvesting a bumper crop.

Director Agriculture Kashmir Chowdhary Mohammad Iqbal told STATE TIMES correspondent, "Although agriculture land is shrinking but we are trying to get quality and good quantity of grain and this year farmers have got a bumper crop after 15 years. We are very happy and satisfied with that,

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
Lot No.	Name of Stations
1	ADVT-FZR-FZR-OSN-508-22-1 Firozpur Cantt.
2	ADVT-FZR-PTKC-OSN-515-22-1 Pathankot Cantt
3	ADVT-FZR-PTK-OSN-514-22-1 Pathankot
4	ADVT-FZR-PGW-OSN-513-22-1 Phagwara
5	ADVT-FZR-UHP-OSN-517-22-1 Udhampur
6	ADVT-FZR-JRC-OSN-510-22-1 Jalandhar Cantt.
Only registered Vendors can participate. For other details please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in	
2726A/22	
SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE	

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.	EAFZR-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	12492/12491/12470/12489/14606/14605
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
For other details please visit Railway website www.ireps.gov.in	
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