

IIPA holds Members' Conclave to celebrate Top position

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), J&K Regional Branch (IIPA-JKRB) on Sunday held first ever Members' Conclave to commemorate the conferment of Award of Best Performing Regional Branch in the country this year.

At the conclave attended by a mix of galaxy of veterans & young members, the 45years' momentous journey of IIPA-JKRB was made live in seminar hall by Dr. C M Seth through a PowerPoint Presentation, listing different phases of its growth from a local branch at Srinagar, inaugurated by Prof VKN Menon and the Regional Branch in 1981 with S N Bajpayee as Chairman and Veeranna Aivalli as Hony Secretary. It was a journey of 'nomadic' office from Veeranna Aivalli's official residence in 1978 in Srinagar to an imposing double-story building in 2008 with a permanent address across Gujjar Nagar bridge. Today, it has 408 members.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Ashok Bhan, Patron since 2015, aptly categorised past 45 years in three phases. He described the period from 1978 to 1999 as the Foundational phase as during this period a strong foundation was laid by stalwarts like



Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K Regional Branch members during a conclave at Jammu on Sunday.

Veeranna Aivalli, M Rehman, Jalil Khan, Wajabat Habibullah and Dr. S. S. Bloeria who provided intellectual stimulus. There was a dedicated team of members with them. The notables among them were T P Singh, Sati Sahni, Ram Sahai, A M Watali, A K Srivastava, Farooq Ahmad, Prem Gupta & Bashir Ahmad Shah. He said during that time, resources were meagre and the programs were managed out of their pockets. He said that a battery of academics and public servants were also involved for the success of these programs. They included M A Noman, Prof K L Bhatia, Prof Ashok

Aima, M S Pandit, Swami Raj Sharma, Prof A N sadhu, Prof Nirmal Kamal, P P Sharma, Prof Rekha Choudhary, Prof Keshav Sharma, Prof Y R Malhotra, S D Swatantra, Prof Khurshid Ali, Ghulam Hassan Kaloo & Kh. Bashir Ahmad.

The second phase, Dr. Bhan said, was of Infrastructure from 2000 to 2013. In this phase IIPA -JKRB got its own building with a permanent address. This phase was managed under watchful eyes of Dr. S S Bloeria with Prem Gupta & Swami Raj Sharma, Er. JBS Johar as Hony Secretaries. There were notable contributions from the

hosts of members inclining Dr. Pawan Kotwal, Dr C M Seth, Chander Gulati, B N Dhar, V K Kapoor prof Poonam Dhawan, Prof Pathania, Prof Versha MehtaB K Suri, Late Madan Dogra, Dr. G N Qasba, GM Indrabi, M M Gupta etc.

The third & the current phase is of Permanent consolidation. Since 2014, the IIPA has had talented members led by B R Sharma as Chairman, like Prof Alka Sharma, Prof Anil Gupta, Prof Komal Nagar, Manoj Pandita etc. This phase has seen many training programs. It is encouraging to see that some research projects have been taken up. The new team has

added another floor in the building. He said it was pleasant to see members of all these three phases are present in the audience today to commemorate the achievement of acquiring the top slot in the country. He also made several suggestions which he summed up in two categories of Professional & Procedural. He made special mention of the commendable secretarial support rendered earlier by Pawan Gupta, Ashwani, Ram Singh and now Jatini.

Earlier, the Chairman IIPA -KRB, B R Sharma said that this journey and reaching the top position was the result of working together and sharing

experiences for the betterment of the society. This would not have been possible without a strong foundation. He complimented by name, the past Chairmen and other office bearers for their huge contributions in the steady growth of IIPA-JKRB and said that everyone of us is indebted to them for making this achievement possible. He said that it is difficult to stay at the top for long and for this, we must work harder than before. He said that our mantra would be to induct more young blood in IIPA, make it relevant and useful to the Govt as well as the society and take up evaluation studies of Govt programs.

He said he has taken up with the new Chief Secretary about the restoration of IIPA accommodation in Srinagar to us.

Past Patron, Dr. S. S. Bloeria expressed his profound happiness over IIPA JK RB bagging the top position in the country which is a tribute to the sincere and selfless work done by every member of this organisation. He made a special mention of late Veeranna Aivalli for inducting him into IIPA and thanked former VC of Jammu University Prof Anitab Mattoo for giving land where an imposing building is standing today. Wishing IIPA to move from strength to strength in years to come, he stressed the need for increasing membership especially the younger ones and bring down the average age of the organisation to 40. He also advised the management to undertake more activities and research projects.

A M Watali, veteran member from Srinagar, who also spoke on the occasion, advised that the lectures and conclusions arrived at seminars and other events of IIPA must be shared with the Government and academic institutions so that they can draw benefits from these. He also expressed his joy over the outstanding achievement.

During the interaction with the members to solicit sugges-

tions to further upgrade IIPA's activities and relevance for good governance, Arun Manhas, Director Industry & Commerce, suggested that IIPA should take up evolution of various Govt landmark programs to benefit the Government through objective & third-party feedback. He mentioned national schemes like mid-day meal, Saksham Bharat and employment generation in new industrial policy in J&K.

Manoj Pandita, SSP, also expressed his views on enlarging the canvas of activities of IIPA in fast changing technology and the huge impact of social media. He advised that IIPA's activities should not only produce light but also heat to make necessary impact through social media. He also advised IIPA to collaborate with all Universities of J&K and take research projects relevant to good governance.

Earlier, the Hony Secretary, Prof Alka Sharma welcomed the veterans & members to the first Members' Conclave and said that this would be made an annual feature.

Among the veterans present on the occasion included 96-year-old Gen. Govindan Singh Janwal.

Col. Karan Singh and Dr. Anil Gupta conducted the conclave.

SOS Int'l delegation meets CS, submits memo for early resolution of PoJK refugees' issues

Dulloo expresses strong commitment to resolve all genuine concerns of DPs in time-bound manner

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: A high-level delegation of the 'S.O.S International' led by chairman Rajiv Chuni accompanied by VK Datta, Amarjit Singh, Ved Raj Bali, Jagjit Singh, Daleep Chib, Piyush Raina, and Prateek Raina yesterday called on the newly-appointed Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir, Atal Dulloo and apprised him of various issues confronting the PoJK displaced persons.



S.O.S International delegation led by chairman Rajiv Chuni calling on Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo.

would make sincere efforts to find a way out to resolve these issues.

The Chief Secretary also assured the delegation that the UT administration would also formulate a mechanism to address all genuine concerns of the PoJK displaced persons in a time-bound manner.

Drawing the attention of the Chief Secretary towards a sensitive issue, Mr Chuni apprised Mr Atal Dulloo that the PoJK refugees became owner in possession of land falls under section 254-C of 1965 all over the J&K by way of inheritance on the basis of Law of Succession Act but not on the basis of direct Allottee of

Government.

"The transfer of said land falls under section 254-C of 1965 (C. 7056423) has been stopped in compliance to the government order (No. Rev-Regt/69/2022 dated 06/09/23) with description of matter that the 'Transfer of Land under Government Order No. 254-C of 1965 is under clarification. This transfer of land under section 254-C of 1965 should be allowed to PoJK DPs immediately without any delay," Mr Chuni said.

The delegation said "Consequently, the scheme is not implemented fully on ground despite the lapse of more than six years. The government needs to imple-

ment the whole scheme in a time-bound manner. It is therefore imperative to issue necessary instructions to all the concerned government officials to remove the unnecessary hurdles at the earliest for smooth implementation of "PM Central Assistant Scheme for PoJK displaced persons," Mr Chuni elaborated.

"These DPs should simply be asked to produce their record of DPs from PoJK, JKUT Domicile and Legal Heir Certificate," he suggested, adding that those displaced persons having original record with them but no record found in PRO Office, Jammu should be allowed to file their claims of cash assistance on the basis of that original record. "Those DPs allotted lands at different places in J&K under Section 3 and even mutation was allowed in their favour being a displaced person from PoJK should be allowed to file their cash assistance claims on the basis of that record", he said.

Chuni further suggested that the DPs who were issued Form "A" (Alf Form)

but their Form "A" was not authenticated by the authorities at that time due to reasons only known to the authorities concerned and their Form "A" record is available with PRO Jammu should be allowed to file their claims of cash assistance on the basis of Form "A" available with PRO Jammu.

"The properties of the displaced families from Mirpur city have now been submerged in water forever due to the construction of Mangla Dam for which world bank has given compensation,

"We request the Government of India to receive the compensation amount along with interest upto date and hand it over to the legal heirs of the affected families," he said, adding the rehabilitation package passed by the J&K Government Cabinet in October, 2014 and later on endorsed by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Home Affairs in its 183rd Report submitted in both Houses of the Parliament on December 22, 2014 in respect of PoJK DPs should be implemented in whole without any further delay.

Development works launched to improve overall condition of neglected areas: Randhawa



Senior BJP leader Vikram Randhawa starting blacktopping work of Sunjwan-Chaatta.

STATE TIMES NEWS
JAMMU: Several development works have been launched to improve the overall condition of lanes and drains, link roads and other amenities in neglected areas. This was informed by Former Legislator and senior Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader Vikram Randhawa while kick-starting the blacktopping work of Sunjwan-Chaatta road at Chaatta Panchayat of Bahu Assembly segment.

This road is being constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) at an estimated cost of Rs 2 crore.

The Former Legislator said that with the blacktopping of the road, the people will get respite from the problems being faced by them since long.

He also interacted with the locals and listened to area's developmental issues. He asked locals to identify developmental needs of their area so that the works can be enlisted for execution by the concerned departments on priority.

He said that regular monitoring is also being done to ensure no lapses. He also stressed upon locals to avail benefits under various flagship welfare schemes and programmes launched by the central governments.

Randhawa further said that several projects are underway to provide all basic amenities including better connectivity, safe drinking water and better sanitation to the people.

Randhawa assured that all pending development works

in the area and other development works of the area would be fulfilled in a phase manner.

He further assured that no compromises will be made on quality of construction works and in this regard he has issued directions to concerned authorities and contractors to adhere to the defined norms.

Former Legislator exhorted upon the concerned departments for proper utilization of resources and strict adherence to quality norms. He stressed for strict vigil by the inhabitants to cross check the quality of material being used during the execution of developmental works in their area.

The residents applauded the efforts of the Former Legislator Vikram Randhawa for carrying out development works in the areas, which were neglected by the successive governments. They assured their full support to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in future.

On the occasion, Talib Hussain Panch, Raman Sharma, Farman Ali, Anwar Hussain, Gulshan Sharma, Nazir Ahmed (Fouji), Lateef, Majeed Chowdhary, GD Malik and many others were present.

Home for Aged and Infirm holds 58th annual general meeting

STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 58th Annual General Body Meeting of Home for the Aged & Infirm, Ambphalla, Jammu (popularly known as Vriddh Ashram), established on 8th June, 1964, was held ON Sunday under the Chairmanship of its Vice-President, H.S. Manhas. During the meeting, the Annual Report and Audited Accounts for the year 2022-2023 and Budget proposals for the year 2023-2024 presented by the Secretary, Vijay Bhagotra, were adopted by the House. A "Day Care Senior Citizen Centre/Club" (Swabiman Parisar) with all the free requisite facilities, amenities and medical care was setup in this Home on March 1, 2020. Desirous elders were once again appealed to get themselves registered to avail comfortable, peaceful, reposeful and restful experience during their leisure time at the Club daily from 10.00 AM to 2.00 PM and or 5.00 PM to 7.00 PM. Home also extends its courtesy to provide light refreshment during their stay. The House expressed satisfaction over efforts put in by the Managing Committee for improvement in overall functioning of the Home and living conditions of its inmates. Male and female representatives of the inmates also expressed satisfaction with the amenities, facilities and medical care, etc being provided free to them by the Management. Manhas appealed the general public for liberal donations in cash and in kind on regular basis for day to day needs of the inmates and further improvement in their facilities and amenities as well as maintenance of requisite infrastructure and assets of the Home. The donations to the Home are exempted from Income Tax under section 80G(V) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 subject to completion of the requisite formalities. He also appealed the public at large to visit the Home at their convenience and interact with the inmates so that they do not feel neglected by the society for whose welfare they had also contributed during their active past life as they are starving for emotional touch of their well wishers at advanced age of life. Vijay Bhagotra, Secretary conducted the proceedings and urged the members to pay visit from time to time and favour the management with their valuable suggestions for further overall improvement in living conditions of the inmates as well as functioning of the Home.

Besides large number of Members of its General Body, Er. Vijay Gupta Joint Secretary, Members of the Managing Committee Nirmala Zutshi, R.C Vaid, Er. Pankaj Gupta were present in the meeting.

LG attends Vedic Mahotsav organised by Arya Samaj Ghazipur Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati founded Arya Samaj to ensure that wisdom, values of great civilization of India enriches society: Sinha



Lt Governor Manoj Sinha attending Vedic Mahotsav organized by Arya Samaj Ghazipur.

STATE TIMES NEWS
GHAZIPUR: Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha on Sunday attended the Vedic Mahotsav organized by Arya Samaj Ghazipur. The Vedic Mahotsav was organized to commemorate 200th Birth Anniversary of Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati, the renowned philosopher, social reformer and leader who played a significant role in India's freedom movement and shaped the young minds.

The Lt Governor paid

tributes to Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati. He said, Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati revived the great knowledge traditions of Vedas, tirelessly worked to eradicate social evils, stereotypes and promoted women empowerment.

Addressing a public gathering, the Lt Governor observed that Arya Samaj, established by Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati has ensured that wisdom and values of great civilization of India

enriches the society. Appreciating the students and Acharayas for organising the Vedic Mahotsav, the Lt Governor said it is matter of great pride that today our society, inspired by the glorious past and rich culture is scripting a new saga of development.

The Lt Governor said, Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati united the people and awakened its collective consciousness.

Maharishi Dayanand Saraswati, as the pioneer of Swarajya, pledged to free the society from slave mentality. He gave the slogan of moving back to the Vedas and worked to restore the glory of Indian culture. PM Narendra Modi is realizing the dreams of Maharishi Dayanand and building a prosperous and developed India, he added.

Santlal Arya, Harinath, Dr. Satyabhan Shastri, office bearers of Arya Samaj Ghazipur, Acharayas, students and large number of people were present.