

IIAS-DARPG India Int'l Conference 2025 concludes

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: The IIAS-DARPG India International Conference 2025, convened in New Delhi, concluded here on Saturday with senior policy-makers, administrators and experts from 55 countries discussing the future of governance.

Inaugurated by Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh, the prestigious event focused on innovative strategies to redefine public administration and last-mile service delivery under the theme "Next - Generation Administrative Reforms: Reaching the Last Mile."

Jammu and Kashmir was represented by Secretary ARI & Trainings, Shabnam Shah Kamili; Secretary Technical ARI & Trainings, Dr. Abdul Kabir Dar and Tasadduq



Union Minister, Dr. Jitendra Singh lighting ceremonial lamp at a programme.

Hussain Mir, Special Secretary, ARI & Trainings Department.

The conference served as a vital platform for knowledge exchange, addressing critical governance priorities such as empowering citizens by strengthening last-mile service delivery for more inclusive and accessible governance, leveraging technology

through artificial intelligence, digital tools and automation.

With over 350 research papers presented, the mega event facilitated in-depth discussions on administrative modernisation, policy resilience and best practices, fostering global collaboration among governance leaders.

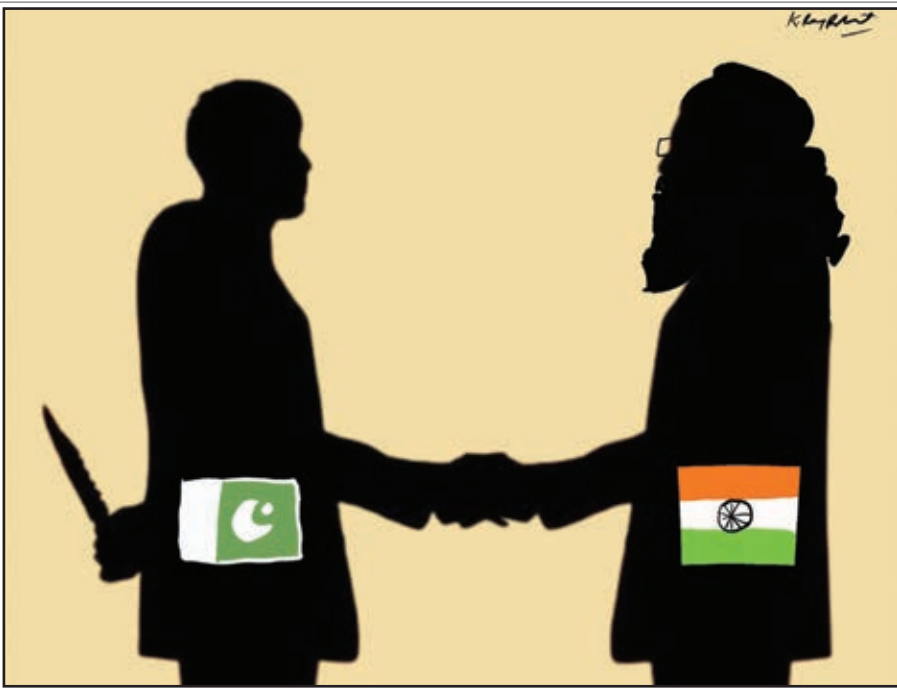
Delegates from various regions spread across the

globe actively participated in the five day event, contributing towards discussions on governance innovation.

Reflecting on the conference's impact, Dr. Abdul Kabir Dar highlighted the significance of integrating digital advancements and global best practices into governance frameworks. "This forum has provided invaluable

insights into global best practices in administration explaining how technology and innovation can drive administrative efficiency and enhance citizen-centric governance. The discussions and collaborations here will help shape more transparent, inclusive and effective public service delivery mechanisms", he added.

The IIAS-DARPG India International Conference underscored the need for data-driven decision-making, technology-enabled governance and resilient policy frameworks to meet the evolving demands of public administration. The event's takeaways will contribute towards shaping next-generation governance models that prioritise efficiency, accountability and citizen engagement.



Gaurav calls on LG Sinha, submits memorandum on key public issues

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Gaurav Gupta, Spokesperson of BJP J&K, met with Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha today and submitted a memorandum highlighting critical issues affecting the people of Jammu.

While appreciating the unprecedented development under the leadership of LG Sinha, Gaurav Gupta urged immediate intervention on unresolved land disputes, housing approvals, and economic support for local traders.

Gupta lauded the administration's efforts in improving infrastructure, healthcare, and education, emphasizing that key projects have significantly enhanced regional connectivity and economic growth. However, he stressed that certain persistent issues require urgent attention.

Firstly, he raised concerns over the delay in resolving 'Gair Mumkin Khad' land disputes. Despite progress in Kathua and Samba, thousands of families across Jammu remain entangled in legal and administrative challenges. He urged the LG to expedite the resolution process, ensuring justice and economic security for affected residents.

The BJP Spokesperson further highlighted the hardships faced by property owners in Gandhi Nagar Colony due to the Housing Board's refusal to issue No Objection Certificates (NOCs) for plot approvals and transfers. He pointed out that this long-standing issue has hindered legal transactions and development in one of Jammu's oldest residential colonies. Seeking immediate redressal, he requested the LG's intervention to facilitate systematic urban growth.

Furthermore, he also raised the issue of



Gaurav Gupta, Spokesperson of BJP J&K meeting with LG Manoj Sinha.

traders at Narwal Fruit Mandi who have been grappling with severe hardships due to the long-pending renewal of lease agreements, now overdue by more than two years. The expiration of lease periods has resulted in banks refusing credit and insurance companies denying coverage, compounding financial distress. Established in 1982 to accommodate traders relocated from Sabzi Mandi and Fruit Mandi, Narwal Mandi has been a crucial hub of trade. The delay in lease renewal has further prevented traders from availing benefits of government schemes under the J&K Agriculture Production Department. He strongly urged you to expedite the approval process to restore normalcy and stability for affected traders.

The Lieutenant Governor gave a patient hearing to Gupta's concerns and assured that all issues raised would be thoroughly examined for necessary action.

Third edition of SARAS AAJEEVIKA Mela returns to Jammu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Jammu and Kashmir Rural Livelihood Mission (JKRLM) is all set to organize the third edition of the SARAS Aajeevika Mela, a vibrant celebration of India's art, culture, and traditions, from February 20 to March 1 at Kala- Kendra in Jammu.

Organized under Department of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, this 10-day event aims to highlight the country's diverse Art and craft while empowering rural artisans and entrepreneurs.

The fair will feature 70 stalls representing 17 states, offering a wide range of handmade products, including textiles, jewelry, pottery, woodcraft, metalwork, paintings, and home decor. A special culinary section will showcase traditional delicacies prepared by Self-Help Group (SHG) members, featuring regional favorites such as Kashmiri Wazwan, Dogri cuisine, additionally live demonstrations of crafts such as pottery, grass handicrafts, Basohli Art capturing the spirit of rural artistry and the cultural legacy of the region.

Cultural performances by local artists will be a key highlight, showcasing the rich artistic legacy of Jammu and Kashmir. The event also seeks to inspire the younger generation by promoting traditional crafts and encouraging a

deeper connection to the region's cultural roots.

Dr. Shubhra Sharma, Mission Director JKRLM, on Saturday highlighted that the fair provides a unique platform for rural women artisans associated with the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-NRLM (DAY-NRLM) to exhibit and sell their products directly to consumers. By eliminating intermediaries, the event empowers these entrepreneurs to enhance their income, gain market insights, and refine their skills in product innovation and marketing.

Dr. Sharma emphasized that the entire event is managed by rural women, selling their products directly to the customers at each stall. To ensure a flawless experience for attendees, the venue will offer essential amenities besides ensuring the safety of the sellers as well as the customers.

Entry to the fair will be free of charge, and it will remain open daily from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Visitors can explore nearly 70 stalls showcasing a variety of artisanal creations, making it a must-visit destination for art enthusiasts and cultural aficionados alike.

The SARAS Aajeevika Mela celebrates India's artistic diversity and also serves as a catalyst for economic empowerment, enabling rural women to take center stage in the country's growing entrepreneurial landscape.

Rijju praises Waqf Chairperson for development at Hazratbal, other shrines

'Hazratbal upliftment can be a role model for Waqf development throughout country'

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs & Minority Affairs Kiren Rijju on Saturday visited Dargah Hazratbal to pay obeisance at the shrine and also take stock of the development works here.

Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board, Dr. Syed Darakhshan Andrabi accompanied the minister.

Kiren Rijju addressed the media persons and praised the development activities undertaken by J&K Waqf Board at Hazratbal and other shrines in Jammu & Kashmir.

"Dr Andrabi has transformed the Sufi shrines in J&K and the development done by the Board under the leadership of Madam Andrabi can be the role model for all shrines



Chairperson of J&K Waqf Board, Dr. Syed Darakhshan Andrabi interacting with Union Minister, Kiren Rijju.

throughout India. As the Minister of Minority Affairs and as the Chairman of Central Waqf Council, it is my responsibility to strengthen J&K Waqf Board and we will take steps in this direction", said Rijju.

In reply to a question about Haj pilgrims, he said that due to increased tem-

peratures in Saudi Arabia, the govt has increased the medical staff deputation in Saudia for the safety of pilgrims.

Dr Darakhshan Andrabi thanked the Minister for his visit to the world famous spiritual shrine of Hazratbal and briefed him about the initiatives of the Board.

JMC Commissioner inspects Surya Putri Tawi Arti Ghat

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Commissioner Jammu Municipal Corporation (JMC), Dr. Devansh Yadav on Saturday conducted a comprehensive tour of the Surya Putri Tawi Arti Ghat to assess the area and plan for its development so that it could be developed as religious and tourist attraction.

During the visit, the Commissioner directed the concerned to formulate a detailed plan of development activities to be carried out by JMC on priority.



Commissioner JMC, Dr. Devansh Yadav conducting tour of Surya Putri Tawi Arti Ghat.

Among others, President of Tawi Bachao Andolan, Chander Mohan Sharma, Joint Commissioner (Revenue & Enforcement) Rakesh Gupta, and Health Officer Dr. Vinod Sharma accompanied the Commissioner during the tour.

The inspection focused on improving the ghat's infrastructure, cleanliness, and overall beautification to enhance its cultural and environmental significance.

Highlighting the importance of the Tawi River and its conservation, Dr. Yadav emphasized

that all necessary steps would be taken to develop the Arti Ghat as a prominent religious and tourist attraction. He further instructed the officials to ensure the timely execution of development works while maintaining environmental sustainability.

JMC remains committed to the beautification and preservation of public spaces in Jammu, he said and added that this initiative aligns with its broader efforts to enhance urban infrastructure and promote eco-friendly development.

Secy RDD inspects development projects in Akhnoor, Pargwal; emphasises community participation

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Department, Mohammad Aijaz Asad, conducted an extensive inspection of multiple developmental initiatives in Akhnoor and Pargwal blocks of Jammu District on Saturday.

The visit focused on assessing progress, addressing public concerns and reinforcing community-driven sustainability efforts.

At Panchayat Sungal C, the Secretary reviewed the newly constructed Plastic Waste Management Unit, which serves three blocks and was established at a cost of Rs 65 lakh. He stressed the need to raise awareness among the local population, urging them to deposit plastic waste at designated locations instead of disposing it randomly. He also highlighted the importance of involving self-help groups in this process. He stated that the unit not only contributes to environmental protection but also generates employment opportunities.

He also reviewed the activities of self-help groups operating under the Jammu and Kashmir National Rural Livelihoods Mission (JKRLM) and encouraged



Secretary RD&PR Department, Mohd Aijaz Asad conducting inspection of developmental initiatives in Akhnoor.

them for their projects.

Responding to the request from women-led self-help groups for a kitchen shed and a sanitary complex, he directed the concerned officials to commence the construction work for the kitchen shed and CSC.

During the tour, the Secretary also inspected the Panchayat Ghar and the under-construction library in Sungal Lower Panchayat. He instructed that a sanitary complex be built at the site.

Ajaz Asad also reviewed the GOBARdhan unit at Gurha Brahmana East, which has the capacity to generate two gas cylinders daily. The project supplies gas to 15 nearby households through a pipeline.

The Secretary was informed that the project

has enabled them to switch from firewood to gas, which is not only more affordable but also more convenient.

To ensure the sustainability of GOBARdhan, the Secretary assigned the responsibility of monitoring the plant's to the respective Block Development Officers. He emphasised that the maintenance of these units should be self-sustained through revenue income. He stated that the department will soon organize a workshop to train relevant personnel and community members in operating these units efficiently.

He reiterated that local communities play a crucial role in success of these projects and directed that a local committee be formed to oversee operations and receive necessary training. Furthermore, the

Secretary conducted a detailed review of developmental works under Mahatma Gandhi NREGA, PMAY-G, SBM-G, UT Capex and other schemes in Akhnoor and Pargwal blocks. He instructed the officials to ensure that all PMAY houses and Panchayat Ghars are completed within the stipulated timeframe besides constructing community sanitary complexes wherever required.

He also inspected the CSC, Plastic Waste Management Unit and other development projects in Pargwal Lower Panchayat.

During his visit, the Secretary met with border residents who expressed concerns over difficulties in reaching their fields during the rainy season due to deteriorated pathways and the challenge of crossing water channels.

Addressing their concerns, Ajaz Asad directed for construction of culverts over local water channels and development of footpaths to facilitate smoother movement for the residents.

During the tour, MD NRLM, Subhra Sharma, Additional Secretary, Wasim Raja, ACD Jammu, ACP Jammu and other officials were also present.

J&K Police organises workshop on three New Criminal Laws

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: To enhance the knowledge and understanding of the new criminal laws, Headquarters Jammu & Kashmir Police organized a workshop for all officers posted in PHQ Complex, at the Police Auditorium Gulshan Ground. The programme was organized by the training branch.

The key speakers at the workshop were the DIG (Personnel) Headquarters J&K Police, Mubassir Latifi, JDP Crime J&K Laeeq Ahmad Dar, CPO Headquarters J&K Police, Suhaib Ashraf.

The officers delivered lectures on various aspects of the new criminal laws viz Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA).

The sessions provided an in-depth overview of the important updates to criminal procedures and legal obligations for law enforcement.

The DIG personnel, during his lecture highlighted the key features of Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) besides importance of these legal reforms in strengthening the police department's operational

capabilities and ensuring the efficient administration of justice.

He emphasized that it is essential for every officer to stay updated with these changes to effectively carry out their duties while maintaining public trust and upholding the rule of law.

The JDP, Crime Branch and CPO,HQ J&K Police while highlighting key features of Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) focused on providing comprehensive insights into the procedural nuances, helping officers understand how these new regulations would impact the investigation process, trial procedures, and their daily responsibilities.

They also clarified doubts regarding the legal framework, ensuring that all participating officers were well-equipped to apply the new laws in the field.

This initiative aligns with Jammu and Kashmir Police's continuous efforts to train and empower its workforce, ensuring a skilled and proficient police force capable of meeting the challenges posed by modern day crime.

BEFORE THE COURT OF LD. ADDITIONAL DISTRICT JUDGE, DODA		
Caveat No. /2025		
Power Grid Corporation of India Through its Chief Manager Sanjeev Kumar Dogra	versus	Caveators
Public at large.		Non-Caveator
IN THE MATTER OF:-		
Caveat Petition in terms of Section 148-A read with Section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908.		
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR LORDSHIP:-		
The Caveator named above most respectfully submits as under:-		
1. That the Caveator, a Government of India Enterprise, is implementing the work of construction of 132 KV D/C Khellani-Kishtwar on consultancy basis for Jammu & Kashmir Power Transmission Corporation Limited (JKPTCL), in accordance with MoU dated 15th March 2022.		
2. That the work of construction of 132 KV D/C Khellani-Kishtwar transmission line is currently ongoing in District Doda and currently stringing work is pending between tower location no. 96-99 at village Parinot bijarni, location no 100-108 at village Pulli doda, location no. 109/1,115,115/1 & 116/1 at village Gadsu, location no. 117-118 at village Badhra, location no 124/1 at village shaja, location no 130/1 at village Suigori of tehsil & District Doda as well as location no 149 at village Parlate of Tehsil Thathri District Doda, location no 153,153/1,154,155 at village Charya of Tehsil Thathri District Doda, location no 156-158 at village Mahila of tehsil Mahila, location no 159 at village Kandhote of tehsil Thathri, location no 170-172 at village Jangalward, location no 178/1 at village Barshala, Tehsil Thathri District Doda.		
3. That the caveator apprehends that the non-caveator or any other person may file an Appeal, Petition, suit or any other miscellaneous application along with an application of stay against Caveator and by concealing material facts from this Hon'ble Court may succeed in getting some ex-parte, interim/interlocutory order against the caveator herein.		
4. That the caveator submit that in the eventuality of filing of any suit, appeal or any other miscellaneous application along with an application of stay against the Caveator, the caveators may kindly be provided an opportunity of being heard before passing any interim/interlocutory order which would otherwise cause prejudice and may not be repaired at later stage.		
5. That it would, therefore, advance the cause of justice, equity and fair play, if this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to afford an opportunity of being heard to the caveator before passing any interim/interlocutory order in appeal/suit/plaint or any other miscellaneous application along with an application of stay filed or to be filed by any aggrieved persons against the caveator qua the construction work of 132 kv D/C Khellani-Kishtwar, in the interest of justice.		
PRAYER		
It is, therefore, most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Court may be pleased to afford an opportunity of being heard to the caveator before passing any interim/interlocutory order in suit/plaint or any other miscellaneous application along with an application for stay filed or to be filed by any aggrieved persons against the caveator qua the construction work of 132 kv D/C Khellani-Kishtwar, in the interest of justice.		
Dated: 16-02-2025		Caveator Through Counsel Surjeet Singh Thakur Advocate