

Dr Jitendra launches IAS officers' e-Book, proposes adding AI based options

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, Dr. Jitendra Singh on Monday launched the electronic Civil List, 2025 in the form of an e-book - a digital compendium of serving Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers across the country.

The launch marks a significant milestone as the 70th edition of the Civil List and the fifth to be presented in a fully digital format.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, while unveiling the e-book, said that the Indian Administrative Service continues to attract some of the finest minds in the country and plays a vital role in strengthening India's federal governance. He highlighted the Civil List as an important tool for transparency, offering a structured view of the country's administrative leadership.

Dr. Jitendra Singh proposed adding AI based options like AI based search option into the e-Civil List.



Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh interacting with senior DoPT officials after launching electronic Civil List, 2025 of serving Indian Administrative Service officers at North Block, New Delhi on Monday.

This enhancement, he noted, could allow domain-specific searches to help identify suitable officers for mission mode and other targeted government projects, while ensuring that access to such features remains appropriately restricted. The Minister also stressed the importance of regularly updating the digital list to maintain its relevance and utility.

The e-book, published by the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), contains comprehensive details of IAS officers-including their name, batch, cadre,

present posting, pay level, educational qualifications, and retirement dates-as updated on January 1, 2025. It also provides cadre-wise strength, the number of officers retiring over the next five years, and appointment data from 1969 onwards. For the first time, officers' photographs have been included in the digital document.

Designed as a searchable PDF with embedded hyperlinks, the e-book offers a user-friendly interface that enables instant access to information. "The Civil List is an important resource not

just for administrators and decision-makers but also for the general public," Dr. Jitendra Singh said, adding that the move reflects the Centre's larger push for digital governance.

The Minister described the initiative as part of the Government of India's Digital India mission, aimed at modernising systems and improving citizen-centric services. By discontinuing the printing of hard copies, the department is also saving on government expenditure and contributing to eco-friendly governance practices. He congratulated the

Secretary and the entire DoPT team for their successful effort in bringing out this digital initiative.

The DoPT, as the cadre-controlling authority of IAS officers, compiles the Civil List annually using inputs from central records and state cadres. The 2025 edition reflects a total authorized cadre strength of 6,877 officers, with 5,577 officers in active service across 25 state cadres.

The launch event was attended by several senior dignitaries, including Director General of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) Mr. S.N. Tripathi, Director and Chairperson of the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration (LBSNAA) Mr. Sriram Taranikanti, IAS, and Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Ms. Rachna Shah, along with other senior officials.

The e-book Civil List, 2025 is now available to the public on the DoPT website at <https://dopt.gov.in>.



Ex-BJP Minister distributes school bags, urges students to learn agricultural techniques



Former BJP minister Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar distributing school bags among students.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Former Minister and Senior BJP leader Ch. Sukhnandan Kumar on Monday visited village Galwade Chak in the Marh constituency in Jammu District, where he distributed school bags, notebooks, and pens among the students as part of an outreach initiative sponsored by Star Agrotech.

During the event, Choudhary Sukhnandan Kumar emphasised the importance of agricultural education, urging children to learn scientific farming techniques to contribute to a healthier and more self-reliant India. He mentioned that the Modi government is actively promoting agricultural learning in schools to build a generation of agriculturally aware and empowered citizens.

The former minister highlighted the Centre's support

to the farming community and acknowledged Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha's commitment to resolving issues faced by farmers. He noted that the government has consistently extended support in times of natural calamities, including heavy rains, thunderstorms, and strong winds, which often disrupt agricultural activities.

The BJP government, he said, has ensured timely compensation, crop insurance schemes, and farmer-centric policies to safeguard the backbone of India's economy.

Praising the vision of the BJP-led central government, the senior BJP leader Sukhnandan Kumar said that initiatives such as PM-KISAN, soil health cards, and modern irrigation techniques have revolutionized farming in the

country. He also lauded the digitalisation of agriculture and access to real-time weather and market information, which has empowered even the smallest of farmers. "The double-engine government at the Centre and in the Union Territory has made unprecedented progress in improving rural infrastructure, enhancing storage facilities, and providing direct benefit transfers," Sukhnandan added.

Among those present at the event include Vishav Partap Singh, Sales Manager at Star Agrotech; Shivander Rakwal, Territory Manager; Shishu Sharma, Field Officer; and DDC Balbir Kumar. The event concluded with a vote of thanks, and students expressed their gratitude for the generous gesture and valuable interaction with the leaders.

Gaurav Gupta meets J&K Bank MD & CEO, seeks urgent financial relief for industrialists, traders

Lays stress upon WCDL, interest subvention, moratorium for affected business community of J&K

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Gaurav Gupta, Spokesperson of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Jammu & Kashmir, and former Secretary General of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Jammu, on Monday called on Amitava Chatterjee, Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of J&K Bank, at the bank's Corporate Headquarters in Srinagar.

During the meeting, Gaurav Gupta submitted a detailed memorandum highlighting the alarming slowdown in commercial activity across the region due to the prevailing critical situation.

He apprised the Bank's MD of the financial distress faced by industrialists and traders, citing factors such as large-scale labour migration, supply chain disruptions, and a steep decline in market demand that have collectively destabilized businesses and threatened employment across various sectors.

In the memorandum, the BJP Spokesperson strongly appealed for the initiation of Working Capital Demand Loans (WCDL) on concessional terms, modeled on the COVID-19 relief framework. He emphasized that such support would provide urgent liquidity to viable yet distressed units, helping them stay afloat and avoid slipping into



Gaurav Gupta meeting with J&K Bank MD & CEO.

non-performing assets (NPAs). Gaurav Gupta also suggested that the Bank consider measures such as interest subvention, moratorium on existing loans, and other need-based financial solutions to ease the burden on the business community.

He stressed that a timely and focused financial response was essential to stabilize local markets, retain jobs, and boost confidence among entrepreneurs and traders.

Gupta acknowledged the pivotal role of J&K Bank in supporting the region's economy and expressed faith in the leadership of Chatterjee to guide the bank's response during this difficult period. Responding to the appeal, the Bank MD & CEO assured Gaurav Gupta that J&K Bank is actively working on appropriate relief measures. He stated that the COVID-19 pandemic served as a life lesson in preparing for unforeseen challenges and reiterated the Bank's commitment to standing firmly with the business community of Jammu & Kashmir.

He further assured that the Bank will take adequate steps, including interest subvention, temporary moratoriums, and customized financial packages, to support businesses impacted by the ongoing economic stress.

Gaurav Gupta thanked the MD & CEO of the Bank for his patient hearing and proactive approach, expressing hope that concrete relief measures would be announced soon to safeguard the interests of the business sector across Jammu & Kashmir.

Khoda re-elected President, Jandial Gen Secy of CGPWA

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: At the 28th Annual General Body Meeting (AGM) held on Monday, the Central Govt Pensioners' Welfare Association, Jammu (CGPWA) unanimously re-elected Kuldeep Khoda as its President and K B Jandial as General Secretary for the next three years. Dr Sudarshan Kumar was unanimously re-elected as its Vice President, B. B. Magotra as its Secretary and O P Sharma as Treasurer.

The triennial elections were conducted by the Returning Officer Yoginder Koul IPS (Retd.).

After the election, Khoda nominated five members of CGPWA to its Executive Committee for the next three years. They are Upender Pachmunda, K L Sharma, V

K Sambyal, Nisar Ahmad & V K Padha.

For the first time, the CGPWA honoured four of its members for their commendable contributions to the Association. They are Dr Ashok Bhan, S.S. Wazir, J. K Vaid & B. K. Raina.

Earlier, the newly published Pensioners' Journal was released. It has been uploaded in its portal. Its id is <https://www.cgpwajk.in>. This comprehensive annual Journal comprises selected articles of the specialists on different diseases common to senior citizens and all OMs (Office Memorandum) of Central Govt Pension Department and circulars of CGHS issued during 2024-2025. The Journal also carries the evolution of pension laws and the landmark



CGPWA honouring Dr Ashok Bhan, S.S Wazir, JK Vaid & B K Raina for their commendable contribution to the association.

Supreme Court judgment in D S Nakara case of 17th December, 1982 which day is being celebrated across the country by the pensioners as National Pensioners Day. Among other things, it carries the controversial amendment in Pension rules in this Year's Finance Act which empowers the Govt to decide the date of revised pension to be recom-

mended by the 8th Central Pay Commission, to the exclusion of earlier pensioners which has stirred pensioners all over India and some Pensioners' bodies have gone to High court against it.

On the Occasion, the AGM approved four amendments in its Bye-Laws.

Speaking on the occasion, the President, Khoda thanked

all members for their cooperation in achieving many successes in the last three years and hoped that it would continue to be available to the Executive Committee in future as well.

Khoda also flagged the issue of amendment in the Pension Rules that have given powers to the Govt which, if it so desires, can give prospective

effect to the implementation of 8th CPC Report to the exclusion of older pensioners. This issue, he said, demanded collective response from the Pensioners' organisations to fight it out, legally as well as through local MPs who can persuade the Govt against this discriminatory move.

Khoda also referred to the resolution of many of pensioners' issues with UT Govt and conveyed profound appreciation to the Chief Secretary, Atal Dulloo for his support for it.

The General Secretary K B Jandial, in his detailed presentation of the performance of the CGPWA in the last three years, listed several achievements and said that this tenure has been a path breaking resolving many issues of pensioners. These

included opening of second CGHS Wellness Centre, allotment of state land for CGHS Health Institution, CGHS empanelment of seven hospitals in Jammu with cashless facility, interactive talks of pensioner veterans with the destitute inmates of BAL-GRAN, celebration of several Days with Health Talk by specialists. He said that major achievement is the disbursement of pension by the JKB to pensioners on the fixed date of 28th of the month and automatic crediting of the additional Quantum of pension (increase) available on acquiring the age of 80, 85, 90 without making physical presence before the concerned Treasury Officer. This, he said, was possible due to the support of the Chief Secretary Atal Dulloo for which every

pensioner is thankful to him. This benefit covers UT pensioners as well.

The Treasurer O P Sharma presented the statement of receipts and expenditure for the year and shared with the AGM an annual deficit of Rs. 1.65 lakh. To meet this situation, the AGM called upon the members to contribute a minimum of Rs. 1000/- Many members made the contribution at the AGM itself.

Earlier, the Vice President Dr Sudarshan Kumar presented the welcome address and highlighted some of the landmark achievements of the Association. The Secretary B B Magotra presented the Vote Thanks.

Among others who spoke on the occasion included Dr Ashok Bhan, Ashok Angurana and B R Sharma.

NDA-IV Modi Govt deciding to include caste enumeration in Census raises hopes for real good to many SC/ST/OBC

■ DAYA SAGAR

Cabinet Committee on Political Affairs of Government of India chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modiji has decided on 30-04-2025 to include caste enumeration in the upcoming census that is going to be conducted after 2011 census. The government expresses in the decision something like commitment to holistic interests and values of the Indian nation society. The issue for including the element of Caste in the Population census, (as is mandated for to be done in terms of Art-246 of the Constitution of India after 10 years) which is a union subject listed at item 69 in the Union List in the Seventh Schedule, has been nominally live for more than nearly three decades but it had become a subject of more of active discussions/demands after the Bihar government projected some data about caste census got conducted by Nitish government (Bihar Caste Census Report 2023) and it was more taken as

a regular issue in public domain by Rahul Gandhi. Some other Indian states are also said to have conducted such surveys to enumerate castes but the surveys did not have that effective transparency and communication about the purpose/intent. Rahul Gandhi has been more vociferously raising the demand for such enumeration (both inside and outside Parliament too) census at all India level.

More so, Population Census is a subject of Union list and stressing for such exercise is otherwise also of utmost need of the day for reviewing / assessing the achievements made in benefitting the "backward" subjects of Indian nation by the system of special supports in the form of 'reservations' for some classes/castes from among the Indian citizens which are still being continued even after 7 decades of independence although it was anticipated by the 'elders' in 1950 that reference Indians may not need such special supports after a

decade {PART XVI Special Provisions Relating To Certain Classes Art-330 Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the House of the People& Art-332 :Reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Legislative Assemblies of the States . Art-334 the reservation of seats for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes in the House of the People and in the Legislative Assemblies of the States to cease after 10 yrs. Art-335. Claims of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to services and posts consistently with the maintenance of efficiency of administration, in the making of appointments to services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union or of a State but Art-335 did not specify any quantum and time limits.} Of course the directive principle Art- 46 also laid down for Promotion of

educational and economic interests of Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other weaker sections laying down that The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. Art-46 again referred to SC & ST in particular and also talked of 'weaker sections' without laying down any definition of 'weaker section', surely the other backward classes' (OBC) as have been identified by the successive government for providing special supports in government services & admissions to higher education institutions have been identified under the guidelines of directive principle Article-46. No doubt as on date reservation support in services & admissions in education institutions have been provided to



A Look through the Mist

OBCs like have been for the SC&ST but no any reservations in Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha have been provided to OBC although in very low tones people have been over last 3 decades been also talking of that & may be the demands for that may become more vocal in coming times. It may not be out of place to mention here that the elders in 1950 anticipated that the democratic governments in India republic would be so seriously concerned for their people that there will be no any need after that for retaining the prop supports in the form reservations in legislature for the socially & educationally backward Indian subjects (SC) and the Schedule Tribes but the position on ground has been much disappointing where in instead of reducing the numbers of socially & educationally backward Indian citizens needing support for becoming of superior government services/ higher education institutions and the legislature need has been felt for including more of Indian citi-

zens in reserved classes as another category (although only in services & higher educational institutions) as OBC. Some say that the political leadership of India elected for driving the 'cart' of India as a welfare state have not been able to truthfully deliver to 'her' voter citizen. May be amongst the identified SC & ST there are also some castes & tribes which have been more denied to avail the benefits of props. As per records available at no time after 1950 any exercise has been got done by the governments to pin the reasons for having not achieved the goal in 10 years & thereafter amending Art-334 for extension beyond 1960 with simultaneously applying some corrections. May be now with including caste in population census some analysis for betterment would be possible.

To be continued
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