



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION J&K REGIONAL BRANCH



Newsletter

VOL : XI

DECEMBER 2020

No : 1&2

41ST ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

41st Annual General Meeting of the Branch was held on January 4, 2020. The AGM was attended by 54 members and the new office bearers for the period 2020 – 2022 were also elected. The Executive Committee for the period 2020 – 2022 was also nominated. Shri B.R. Sharma, IAS (Retd.) was re-elected as Chairman of the IIPA, JK Regional Branch and Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.), Former DGP, J&K Police was nominated as Patron for the Branch (Refer Page 8 for details). Dr S.S. Bloeria, IAS (Retd.) former Patron and Chairman of IIPA, JK Regional Branch also addressed during the AGM. The key highlights of the AGM are :

- The branch should develop Vision 2025 and lay emphasis on quality output in form of policy reports, research projects, training programme, seminars and panel discussions.
- Joint projects in collaboration with academic institutions should be planned.
- Branch is committed to establish itself as a Centre for Excellence in public administration and management by taking up research projects having public policy implications.
- A detailed expansion plan of the existing infrastructure proposed by Executive Committee was approved by AGM. As per the plan, the extension will be undertaken in two phases. J&K Police Housing Corporation shall be approached for executing the approved plan.

Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary presented the annual report and Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala, Hony Treasurer presented the statement of accounts for the last financial year. Er. M.M. Gupta was the returning officer during the conduct of the elections.

ER J.B.S. JOHAR AWARDED PAUL H. APPLEBY AWARD

Er. J.B.S. Johar, former Chief Engineer J&K Govt and Vice Chairman IIPA J&K Regional Branch was awarded Paul H. Appleby Award for his distinguished service to IIPA and the Public Administration. The award was given by His Excellency Vice President of India Sh. Venkaiah Naidu in the 63rd Annual IIPA conference held in New Delhi 18th October, 2019. Er J.B.S. Johar has remained actively associated with the J&K Regional Branch of IIPA since 1992. He served with distinction as Hony Secretary of the Regional Branch for four terms from 2010 to 2018 during which he established strong academic links with the parent body IIPA New Delhi.



Er. J.B.S. Johar receiving the award

The other prominent awardees this year included – Nripendra Misra, former Principal Secretary to the Prime

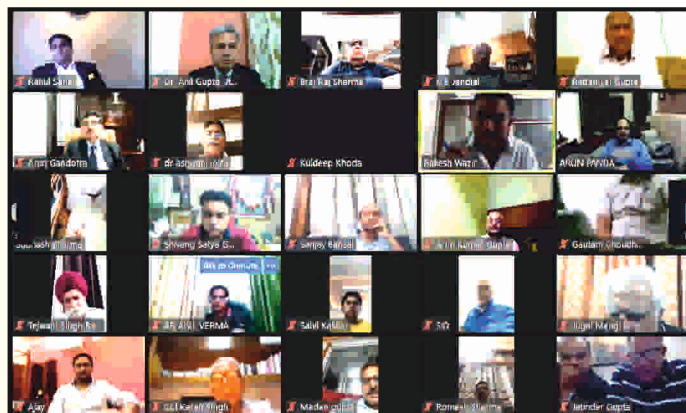


IIPA, J&K Regional Branch congratulates Dr Jitendra Singh, Union Minister, Government of India for taking charge as the National Chairman of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)

Minister; D M Sukthankar, Former Chief Secretary of Maharashtra; Mrs. Nirmala Buch, former Chief Secretary of Madhya Pradesh and Sh. Prakash Singh, former DGP of Uttar Pradesh. Previous recipients of the award from J&K include Shri N. N. Vohra, Honble Governor of Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Karan Singh, Member Parliament; ShriVeeranna Aivalli, former DG Police & founder Honorary Secretary of the J&K Regional Branch, Dr. Ashok Bhan IPS (Retd) former DG Police and Patron of IIPA J&K Regional Branch and Dr S.S.Bloeria, IAS (Retd) Former Chief Secretary J&K Govt and Former Chairman and Patron of IIPA J&K Regional Branch.

7TH RAM SAHAI MEMORIAL LECTURE

The 7th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture on “Rebooting Stressed Economy: Leveraging Stimulus Package for MSMEs” was organized on June 6, 2020. Sh. Arun Kumar Panda, IAS (Retd), Former Secretary, MSME, Government of India and the architect of the stimulus package delivered the lecture. Mr. Arun Gandotra, (Executive President Credit), J&K Bank; Sh. S. N Tripathi (IAS), Director IIPA New Delhi were the special guests; Sh. B.R Sharma, IAS (Retd), Chairman, PSC and Chairman, IIPA, JKRB presided over the function. The major highlights of the lecture were



Participants during the lecture

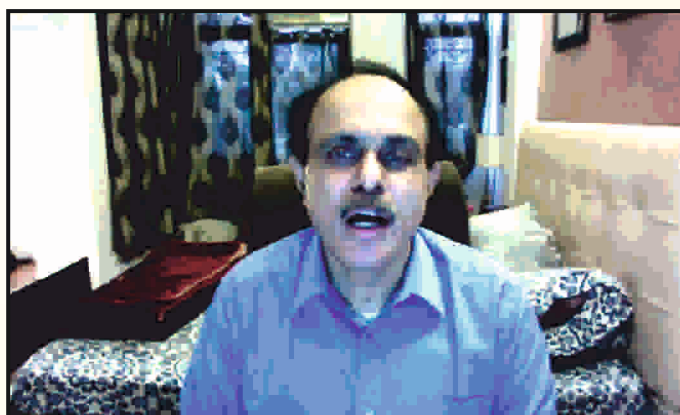
- Access to collateral free credit, equity infusion through “funds of funds”, and subordinate debt for stressed MSME in the recently announced stimulus package, if leveraged effectively, can help MSME to not only to reboot themselves from the COVID-19 crisis, but will also facilitate them to scale up their operations to be globally competitive.
- The decisions taken by Central Government to support MSMEs will help the stakeholders to reduce their overdependence upon debt by leveraging Rs 50,000 crore equity infusion



Sh. Arun Gandotra, Executive President Credit, J&K Bank addressing the lecture

scheme which will give them access to the funds of venture capital firms.

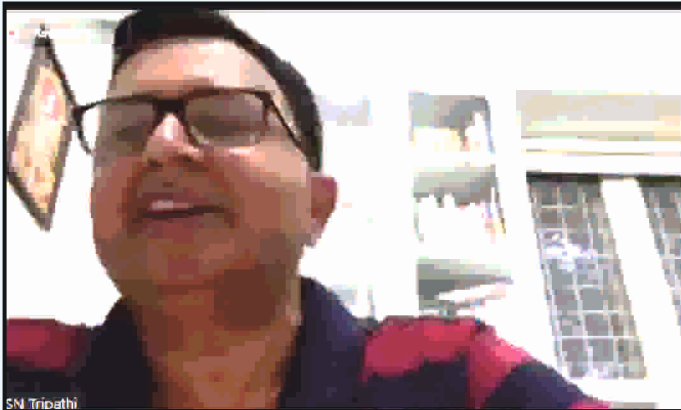
- Competitive MSMEs can even explore the opportunity to get listed on stock exchanges.
- Technology will be a great differentiator and access to technology will be the key to become globally competitive.
- Reforms in procurement policy can help local manufacturers to be competitive and that all stakeholders should adopt the TReDS platform, be vocal on MSME Samadhan Portal and activate the MSME Facilitation Council at the UT level.
- J&K Bank being the lead bank in UT of J&K will play a proactive role by facilitating all the MSME's with access to credit as outlined in the guidelines of the stimulus package.
- 360 degree reforms initiated by Central Government to support MSME, should receive adequate support by the state governments and the bankers, by creating an environment of mutual trust.



Sh. Arun Kumar Panda, IAS (Retd.), Former Secretary, MSME, Govt addressing the lecture

- Awareness at the Cluster level and training & development of MSME should be undertaken to harness their innovative capacities.
- Resilience of MSMEs is important in India, but considering the region of J&K, there are some region specific issues, which need to be considered while implementing the package.

Sh. K.B Jandial, Director, Seminars, paid rich tributes to Sh. Ram Sahai. Prof. Alka Sharma, Hony Secretary introduced the speakers. Sh. Rahul Sahai, Chairman Sahai



Sh. S. N. Tripathi, IAS, Director, IIPA, New Delhi addressing the lecture

Group Of Companies moderated the discussion round and also presented the formal vote of thanks. Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary IIPA J&K Regional Branch coordinated the webinar.

Eminent members present included Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd), Sh Kuldeep Khoda, IPS (Retd), Er. J B S Johar, Sh. Mushtaq Chayya, Sh A M Watali, IPS (Retd), Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala, Sh Arun Kumar Gupta, Sh Sudhir Chandra, Sh Sanjay Bansal, Sh Lalit Mahajan, Sh Annil Suri, Sh. Neeraj Anand, Sh. Rakesh Wazir, Sh Shivang Satya Gupta and other prominent citizens of the UT.

10TH SAT PAUL SAHNI MEMORIAL LECTURE ON “THE MENACE OF FAKE NEWS”

The 10th Sat Paul Sahni Memorial Lecture on “The Menace of Fake News” was delivered by Ms. Rakhee Bakshee Political Analyst, ABP News, New Delhi on February 15, 2020. The function was presided over by Dr Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.) Former DGP, J&K Police. The key points highlighted during her lecture were

- Citizens should be proactive and should always decontextualize the news before evaluation, as it has a potential to influence their minds and emotions.



L to R : Sh. K. B. Jandial, Dr. Ashok Bhan, Ms. Rakhee Bakshee & Prof. Alka Sharma

- There is a greater need for value driven and ethical based journalism to curb the menace of fake news.
- The strength of a robust democracy lies in the independence of its media and fake news poses a greater challenge to the society, especially with the advent of technology.
- Fake news has a potential to create hatred, disturb democratic processes, generate violence and even lead to war between nations. The power of fake news to generate societal tensions is a concern for government as well as society.
- Media fraternity should guard itself from becoming the propagators of fake news and adopt ethical code of conduct while fulfilling their responsibility as the fourth estate of democracy.

K B Jandial, IAS (Retd), Director (Seminars) paid rich tributes to Sh. Sat Paul Sahni. Prof Alka Sharma, Secretary, presented the vote of thanks. Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary conducted the proceedings of the function. The function was well attended by members from media, journalism, police, administration, academia, students senior citizens and members of IIPA.



View of Audience

PANEL DISCUSSION ON CYBER SECURITY

A Panel Discussion on “Cyber Security” was organized on July 11, 2020. The panelist included Sh S K Bhalla, Director (Cyber & Information Security Cell), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India and Mr. Amit Dubey, a renowned National Security Expert and Crime Investigator from New Delhi and was chaired by Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd), Former DGP, J&K Police. Sh. B.R Sharma, IAS (Retd), Chairman, PSC and Chairman, IIPA presided over the function. The key highlights of the Panel Discussion included



Dignitaries addressing during the lecture

- Individual privacy in the networked boundary-less world is a utopian thought and therefore cyber safety and security is essential.
- Information can play a vital role in the investigation of cyber crimes.
- More than 60% of the cyber crimes in the country correspond to financial frauds and the intensity of such crimes have increased during COVID-19 outbreak.
- Central Government through the Cyber Division of MHA has proactively taken a number of policy initiatives in protecting the citizens from potential threat of cyber crimes.
- The National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (www.cybercrime.gov.in) is an initiative of the government to register digital FIR with special focus on cyber crimes against women and children.
- Further efforts are being made to strengthen National Cyber Crime Forensic Lab to investigate and prevent complex cyber crimes.
- Various initiatives like Indian Cyber Crime

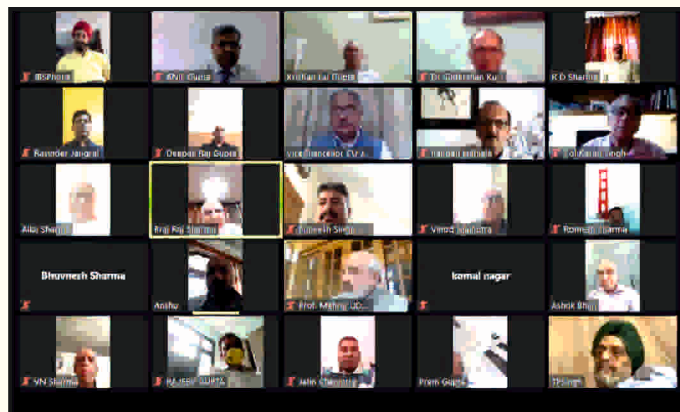
Coordination Centre (I4C) scheme, National Cyber Crime Research and Innovation Centre have been established to create strategic partnerships with all institutions which can help in cyber crime containment and investigations.

- It was proposed that the Government can create a national level database of cyber criminals and their activities should be tracked using high end technological solutions for proactive response
- Various international and national level case studies were presented which exhibited how companies are capturing the data of people across the world which is a two edged-sword and can be leveraged by the companies.
- Digital capabilities of individuals, institutions and government agencies should be enhanced to prevent vulnerabilities.
- The proposed Personal Data and Protection Bill, 2019 will emerge as a legal framework for data protection in India.

The panel discussion was attended by the participants from Puducherry, Odisha, Maharashtra, UP, MP, Gujarat and Bihar. Also international participants from USA and Singapore also joined the Webinar.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON “RETHINKING EDUCATION PEDAGOGY FOR THE NEXT GENERATION: LESSONS FROM COVID-19”

A Webinar Panel discussion on the topic “Rethinking Education Pedagogy for the Next Generation: Lessons from COVID-19” was organized on May 8, 2020. The panel was chaired by Prof Mehraj-ud-din, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir and the panellist included Shri Arun Manhas, KAS, Project



Participants during the lecture

Director. Samagra Shiksha and Shri Nandan Kuthiala, Trustee, Jodhamal Public School. The expert comments were made by Prof R D Sharma, Former Vice-Chancellor University of Jammu; Prof Ashok Aima, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Jammu and Prof Manoj Dhar, Vice-Chancellor University of Jammu. Sh. B R Sharma, IAS (Retd), Chairman, IIPA JK Branch presided over the function. The key highlights during the webinar were

- COVID-19 has given a tremendous opportunity to the education sector to reinvent, reorganize and reform itself in terms of pedagogy, examination and extension activities.
- In light of the Digital India initiative, many Universities and other educational institutions can leverage technological platforms to provide 24x7 teaching - learning processes.
- There is a tremendous need to build the technological capacities of the teachers and the institutions especially in the semi-urban and rural areas in order to bridge the digital divide.
- There is an urgent need to explore and possibilities of sustainable reforms in the examination and evaluation processes which can go beyond the pandemic.
- The institutions should invest in building the technological infrastructure which can meet the needs of the teachers, scholars and students even in the future.
- Government should create digital platforms through which synergies can be created by the sharing of resources, best practices and infrastructure.
- In J&K under the Sarv Shiksha Abhiyan, prior to pandemic, a number of initiatives have already been taken through JK Knowledge Network. This will surely help the school students in the backward areas to get access to global knowledge and help them to become globally competitive

Prof Alka Sharma, Hony Secretary moderated the discussion and Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary coordinated the webinar and presented the formal vote of thanks. Prominent participants included Dr. Ashok Bhan, Former DGP; Sh. K B Jandial, Er. J B S Johar, Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala, Sh. Vinod Malhota, Sh. K B Jandial, Dr. Komal Nagar, Prof Rekha Choudhary, Sh G M Andrabi, Prof Afzal Qadri and other members of IIPA.

PANEL DISCUSSION ON NATIONAL EDUCATIONAL POLICY-2020

A Panel Discussion on National Education Policy-2020 and Roadmap for effective Implementation in J&K today was organized in collaboration with Samagra Shiksha-J&K on September 18, 2020. Prof. Hrushikesh Senapati, Director NCERT, New Delhi; Dr. Asgar Hassan Samoon (IAS), Principal Secretary, School Education, Technical Education & Skill Development, Government of Jammu & Kashmir and Prof. Manoj Dhar, Vice Chancellor of University of Jammu were the panellists. Dr. Arun Manhas, Project Director Samagra Shiksha moderated the session.



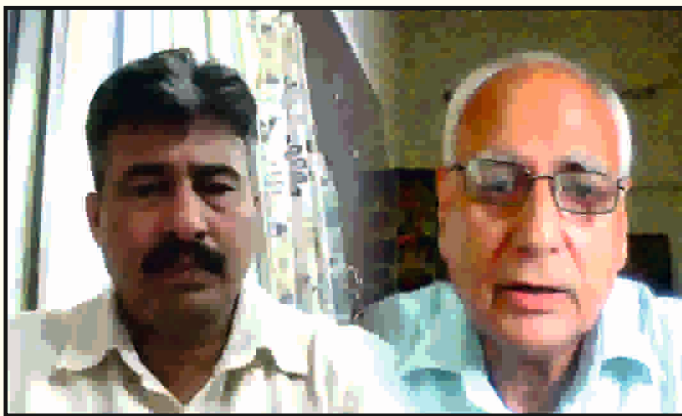
Dignitaries addressing during the lecture

The major highlights of the panel discussion are

- NEP will enable India to achieve global education development agenda reflected in the Goal 4 (SDG4) of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- NEP lays emphasis on competency mastery instead of content mastery which if implemented effectively will enable to youth to become more



Dignitaries addressing during the lecture



Dignitaries addressing during the lecture

productive in the interest of the nation.

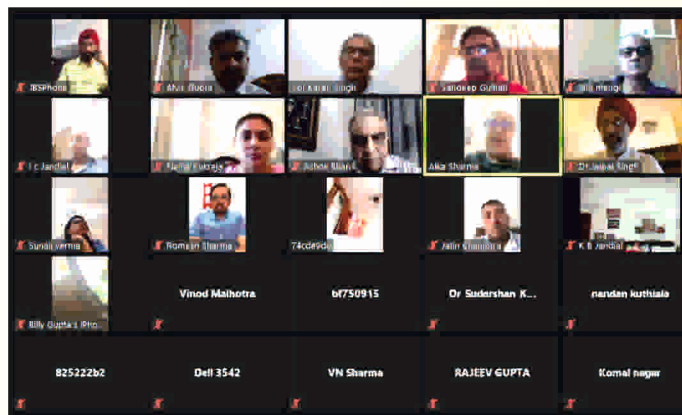
- NCERT is working towards creation of new curriculum framework which will transform the way the knowledge is transmitted to the children.
- Critical and innovative thinking among children should be encouraged so that they construct their own knowledge based on experiential learning.
- Concept of Self-Assessments, emotional well-being aspects, personality development and inculcation of concepts of arts, culture and sports should be incorporated into curriculum.
- Government of Jammu & Kashmir is committed for effective implementation of NEP 2020 by creating appropriate structural and procedural reforms by involving all the relevant stakeholders including higher education.
- Around 600+ Vocational Laboratories, focusing more on Inclusiveness and ICT based pedagogy in schools is being planned in UT of J&K.
- Skilling and re-skilling of existing teachers for holistic development of teachers is also critical for effective implementation of the policy.

Sh. K B Jandial, Director (Seminars), presented the welcome address. Prof. Alka Sharma, Secretary presented the formal vote of thanks. Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary, and Dr. Ravinder Jangral, Samagra Shiksha coordinated the programme. The session was attended by around 150 participants including all the Chief Education Officers, Principals and HoDs of DIETs, Private School representatives, teachers, members of IIPA and civil society.

WEBINAR ON “MANAGING STRESS AND COPING WITH COVID 19”

A webinar on “Managing Stress and Coping with Covid 19” on May 19, 2020. Dr. Jaipal Singh, ex HOD and Professor of Medicine, GMC Jammu; a Reiki Grandmaster, pranic healer and a life-style counsellor was the key note speaker. The key highlights of his talk were

- It is important to differentiate between concern and fear while dealing with Covid-19.
- Explain the science behind the stress; he informed the participants that when our body is stressed, the sympathetic nervous system contributes to what is known as the "fight or flight" response whereas the parasympathetic nervous system plays a vital role in helping the body to calm down from stress reactions.
- He urged the participants to follow both general and specific rules—regular exercise, balanced diet, sound sleep, inculcate hobby, positive approach, mindful meditation and yoga which can help to build immunity and manage stress in times of crisis.



Participants during the lecture

The session was followed by a lively interactive session, wherein a number of queries were raised by the participants to clear their doubts about the present uncertain situation. Prof. Alka Sharma Secretary presented the formal welcome address; Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary, conducted the proceedings and presented the vote of thanks. Prominent participants included Dr. Ashok Bhan, Former DGP; Sh. K B Jandial, Er. J B S Johar, Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala, Col. Karan Singh and other members of IIPA.

PRELUDE CONFERENCE ON “MANAGEMENT OF PANDEMICS”

A prelude conference on “Management of Pandemics” was organized on October 23, 2020. Dr Pawan Kotwal (IAS), Principal Secretary, Revenue, Government of Jammu & Kashmir and also Administrative Coordinator for all non-treatment issues at Hospitals; Dr. Yashpal Sharma, Managing Director, J&K Medical Supplies Corporation Limited and Director (Coordination), New Medical Colleges, J&K; and Dr. Arun Sharma, Medical Superintendent Super Specialty Hospital & (Maternity) Designated COVID Hospital Gandhinagar, Govt Medical College Jammu were the key resource persons. The key highlights of the deliberations are

- Doctors and other staff in a span of 6-8 months have learned exponentially about the various challenges and strategies to combat the pandemic.
- Government of UT of Jammu & Kashmir has taken adequate measures to improve the health infrastructure & facilities across various hospitals across the UT to combat this pandemic. The improved facility will go a long way in future management of patients and such disasters.
- Despite various challenges faced during the initial period, the health care infrastructure for management of COVID patients / suspects has improved by establishing 22,644 Isolation beds, 442 ICU beds and 5553 Oxygen supported beds in Category-I, II & III hospitals / COVID Care Centres.
- Besides this, 1,053 Ventilators were also provided to the health care institutions out of which 850 ventilators were provided under PM CARES. He informed that as on date, the bed occupancy is 23% and 33% in Jammu Division and Kashmir Division respectively in Tertiary Care Hospitals indicating that the UT has enough facility to combat the pandemic.
- Government has sanctioned Oxygen generation plants, Manifolds and medical gas pipelines for all associated hospitals of GMCs (Old & New), with the financial implication of Rs. 212 Cr., 30 CHC / District Hospitals (15 each in Kashmir & Jammu Divisions), are being provided with Manifold and Gas Pipeline System under World Bank funded project with financial implication of Rs. 60 Cr. Liquid Oxygen Tank with financial implication of

Rs. 11 Cr has also been sanctioned for Govt. Medical College Hospital Jammu to overcome the crisis of Oxygen shortage.

Sh. K B Jandial, IAS (Retd), Director (Seminars) presented the welcome address. Prof. Alka Sharma, Hony Secretary conducted the proceedings and Sh Vikrant Kuthiala, Hony Treasurer presented the formal vote of thanks.

REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

To mark the 71st Republic day, flag hosting ceremony was organized in association with SAHYOG INDIA on January 26, 2020. The specially abled children of the association cheerfully enjoyed the ceremony. Prof Alka Sharma, Hony. Secretary of the branch and other office bearers and members of Executive Committee were present during the ceremony.



Members of IIPA along with students celebrating Republic Day

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

IIPA, J&K Regional Branch celebrated the Independence Day in the IIPA Complex by hosting the National Flag on August 15, 2020. Prof Alka Sharma, Hony. Secretary of the branch and other office bearers and members of Executive Committee were present during the ceremony.



Members of IIPA celebrating Independence Day

OFFICE BEARERS 2020-22



Dr Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.)
Patron



Sh. B. R. Sharma, IAS
Chairman



Er J.B.S. Johar
Vice Chairman (Jammu)



Dr G. N. Qasba
Vice Chairman (Kashmir)



Dr Pawan Kotwal, IAS
Vice Chairman (Central)



Prof Alka Sharma
Hony Secretary



Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala
Hony Treasurer



Dr Anil Gupta
Joint Secretary (Jammu)



Sh. G.M. Andrabi
Joint Secretary (Kashmir)



Sh. K. B. Jandial, IAS (Retd.)
Director (Seminars)



Lt Col (Retd.) Karan Singh
Joint Director (Seminars)
Jammu



Prof S.M. Afzal Qadiri
Joint Director (Seminars)
Kashmir

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Dr C.M. Seth, IFS (Retd.)



Sh. A.M. Watali, IPS (Retd.)



Sh. P. P. Sharma, IFS (Retd.)



Prof Rekha Choudhary



Sh. Prem Gupta, IPS (Retd.)



Er M. M. Gupta



Prof Mehraj-u-din



Dr Qazi Shabir Ahmad



Prof Nasir Iqbal Bhat



Sh. Narinder Khajuria, KAS



Sh. Rajeshwar Singh, KPS



Sh. Randheer Singh, KPS



Sh. Vinod Malhotra



Dr Komal Nagar

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Er J.B.S. Johar, Vice Chairman

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Dr Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary (Jammu)
Sh K. B. Jandial, Director (Seminars)

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