



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION J&K REGIONAL BRANCH



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IIPA J&K RB celebrates 77th R-Day

The Indian Institute of Public Administration J&K Regional Branch, Jammu also celebrated the 77th Republic Day with sanctity and fervor. At a simple but a well-attended at its office premises, the Chairman B R Sharma along with the Patron Dr. Ashok Bhan unfurled the Tricolour. National Anthem was sung by the gathering. Among those present on the occasion included former DGP, Kuldeep Khoda, Vice Chairmen Er JSB Johar & K B Jandial, Honorary Secretary, Prof Alka Sharma, Jt. Secretary Prof Anil Gupta, Prem Gupta, S S Bijral, Dr C M Seth, Nisar Ahmad, S G M Andrabi, V S Sambyal & Anil Sharma.



Dr. Bhan Appointed as the Eminent Member of the National Executive Council of the prestigious IIPA

Dr. Ashok Bhan (IPS Retd J&K Cadre) , former Director General of Police and former Member of National Security Advisory Board has been appointed as the Eminent Member of the National Executive Council of the prestigious Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA).



In an official order issued with the approval of the National Chairman IIPA and Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, Dr. Ashok Bhan will replace Dr. Shekhar Dutta (IAS Retd), former Governor of Chhattisgarh who was the Member of National Executive Council, but suddenly passed away last week.

Sources said that Dr. Ashok Bhan, with his rich academic and administrative experience not only as a Police Officer but also as a Ph.D in Botany and an author, will be an appropriate replacement to take over the position vacated by Late Dr. Shekhar Dutta.

Pertinent to mention that Dr. Ashok Bhan has been a very active and a senior member of the J&K Chapter of IIPA for several years and is widely respected in the academic circles.

24th Veeranna Aivalli Memorial Debate – 2025

Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch, in collaboration with the J&K Police and the Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu, Organised annual debate competition in the memory of Late Shri Veeranna Aivalli, IPS, Founder Honorary Secretary of IIPA on 24th December, 2025.

The Government Degree College (GDC), R.S. Pura, Jammu comprising of Sarbjeet Heera and Mridul Sharma, lifted the 24th Veeranna Aivalli Running Team Trophy on December 24, 2025 at University of Jammu. In the individual category, Ms. Shilpa Devi (Jammu College of Physiotherapy) secured the first prize, followed by Ms. Kum Kum Sharma (Cluster University of Jammu) and Mr. Sarbjeet Heera (GDC R.S. Pura).

The debate, held on the theme “In the opinion of the House, Artificial Intelligence will diminish human creativity,” witnessed participation from 35 teams drawn from university teaching departments and affiliated colleges across the region. Shri Nalin Prabhat, IPS, Director General of Police, graced the occasion as Chief Guest, while Prof. Neelu Rohmetra, Dean, Research Studies, University of Jammu, was the Guest of Honour. The function was presided over by Shri B. R. Sharma, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, IIPA J&K Regional Branch, and Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.), Patron, who, along with other dignitaries, paid rich tributes to Late Shri Veeranna Aivalli.

The event witnessed the presence of senior police officers, academicians, students, and members of civil society, reflecting a strong interface between academia, public administration, and the community, while honouring the legacy of dedicated public service exemplified by Late Shri Veeranna Aivalli.



Guest Lecture on "Digital Life Certificates & SBI's Services to Senior Citizens"

The Central Government Pensioners' Welfare Association (CGPWA), Jammu, in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch, organised a Guest Lecture on “Digital Life Certificates and SBI's Services to Senior Citizens”. The programme marked a first-of-its-kind interactive session between pensioners, senior citizens, and senior officers of the State Bank of India (SBI). The function was presided over by Shri Kuldeep Khoda, President, CGPWA, with Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.), Patron, IIPA J&K RB, as the Chief Guest and Shri B. R. Sharma, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, IIPA J&K RB, as the Guest of Honour.

The guest lecture was delivered by Shri Jayant Mani, Deputy General Manager, SBI (Business & Development), J&K Module, who outlined various pensioner-friendly schemes and digital banking services of SBI and also highlighted SBI's extensive national and global presence, its role in financial inclusion, and the importance of cyber awareness, particularly for senior citizens. The session included an interactive question-and-answer segment, reflecting keen interest and engagement among the participants.

Addressing the gathering, the dignitaries commended SBI for its commitment to senior citizens, digital innovation, and social responsibility. The programme concluded with a formal vote of thanks by Prof. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary, IIPA J&K RB, followed by the felicitation of the resource person. The event was attended by senior SBI officers, members of CGPWA, IIPA members, and a large number of pensioners and senior citizens.



Lecture on “Emerging Trends in Public Policy & Public Administration”

The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch, organised annual Prelude Conference on “Emerging Trends in Public Policy and Public Administration”. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Sushma Yadav, Member, K. G. Balakrishnan Commissions, Former Vice-Chancellor, Bhagat Phool Singh Mahila Vishwavidyalaya, Sonapat. Prof. Yadav provided a comprehensive perspective of Public policy and administration, highlighting global trends in governance, GovTech, algorithmic accountability, citizen participation, social equity, and green governance. She also underscored India’s innovative policy initiatives and outlined strategic recommendations to achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047 & governance perspectives.

Addressing the gathering, Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.), Patron, IIPA J&K Regional Branch, stressed the pivotal role of civil servants as Karmayogis in effective implementation of policy initiatives and called for institutional reforms that foster innovation and nation-building. Shri B. R. Sharma, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, IIPA J&K Regional Branch, highlighted the need for a responsive and citizen-centric administrative system, strengthened grievance redressal mechanisms, ethical governance, and servant leadership. The programme commenced with a welcome address by Shri K. B. Jandial, IAS (Retd.), Vice-Chairman, IIPA J&K Regional Branch, while the proceedings were conducted by Prof. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary. The lecture witnessed wide participation from officers of various government departments, academicians, scholars, students, and members of IIPA J&K Regional Branch.



IIPA Annual Debate – 2025

The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch, in collaboration with the University of Kashmir, organised a debate on “The House Believes that Urban Living Offers Better Prospects for Quality Life and Livelihoods” on October 15, 2025, at the University of Kashmir. The programme was presided over by Dr. G. N. Qasba, Vice Chairman, IIPA J&K Regional Branch, with Prof. Nilofar Khan, Vice Chancellor, University of Kashmir, as the Chief Guest and Er. Iftikhar Ahmad Hakim, Chairman, IIE J&K Chapter, as the Guest of Honour. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students representing universities and colleges across the Kashmir Division, reflecting a high level of academic engagement and interest in issues of urban governance and sustainability.

In her address, the Vice Chancellor lauded IIPA’s initiative in fostering youth participation in public discourse and announced the signing of a proposed Memorandum of Understanding between IIPA J&K Regional Branch and the University of Kashmir to promote collaboration in the areas of good governance, knowledge exchange, and public-oriented programmes. The programme concluded with the announcement of awards to the best performers and reaffirmed IIPA J&K Regional Branch’s commitment to strengthening the interface between academia and governance through meaningful and inclusive academic initiatives.



15th S. P. Sahni Memorial Lecture

The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch, in collaboration with the Amar Singh Club, Srinagar, organised the 15th S. P. Sahni Memorial Lecture on October 5, 2025, at the Amar Singh Club, Srinagar. The memorial lecture was delivered by Prof. Shahid Rasool, Dean Academic Affairs and Dean, School of Media Studies, Central University of Kashmir, who emphasised the critical role of developmental journalism in achieving the vision of “Viksit Bharat @2047”. He highlighted concerns over the commercialisation of mainstream media were highlighted with a need to empower citizens through digital access, and the responsibility of media to strengthen democracy, promote scientific temper, and focus on inclusive and positive narratives.

Shri Khurshid Ganai, former Advisor to the Governor, delivered the Chief Guest address, highlighting key challenges facing the country despite economic progress. In his presidential address, Shri B. R. Sharma, Chairman, IIPA J&K Regional Branch and former Chief Secretary, J&K, paid rich tributes to Late S. P. Sahni, recalling his legacy as a committed journalist and a bridge between societies during challenging times. The lecture was attended by eminent intellectuals, academicians, media professionals, civil society members, and family members of Late S. P. Sahni.



Seminar on “Climate Change: Challenges, Mitigation & Adaptation”

The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch, in collaboration with the J&K Forest Department, organised a seminar on “Climate Change: Challenges, Mitigation and Adaptation”. The first-of-its-kind seminar brought together experts, policymakers, academicians, and civil society representatives to deliberate on the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change. Shri B. R. Sharma, Chairman, IIPA J&K RB, was the Chief Guest, while Dr. Ashok Bhan, Patron, presided over the seminar.

The keynote presentations were delivered by Shri Vasu Yadav, Chairman, Pollution Control Board & Director, Environment and Remote Sensing, J&K, and Dr. Rajeshwar Singh Jasrotia, IFS (Retd.), who provided insightful perspectives on climate variability and emphasized the need for sustainable development, conservation of natural resources, adoption of renewable energy, afforestation, and climate-resilient strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Addressing the gathering, the Chair highlighted climate change as a global civilizational challenge requiring collective responsibility, ethical governance, and harmony with nature.

In his presidential address, Dr. Ashok Bhan underlined the urgency of balancing development with environmental protection and cautioned against irreversible ecological damage, particularly in fragile and biodiversity-rich regions. The proceedings were conducted by Prof. Komal Nagar, EC Member. The seminar witnessed wide participation from senior officers of the Forest, Agriculture, and Horticulture Departments, academicians, students, and members of civil society.



79th Independence Day of India on August 15, 2025



The 79th Independence Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm at the IIPA Complex. The event was attended by the office bearers and members of the Executive Committee, marking the occasion with a formal gathering to honor the significance of the day.

Awareness Programme on “Disaster Management”

The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch, in collaboration with J&K Civil Defence, Home Guards, and SDRF, organised an Awareness Programme on “Disaster Management” on at the IIPA Complex, Jammu. The programme underscored the importance of community participation, preparedness, and integrated response mechanisms in disaster management. Shri B. R. Sharma, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, IIPA J&K RB, and Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.), Patron, emphasised proactive civil society engagement and coordinated institutional efforts for effective disaster mitigation and response.

The programme was formally introduced by Ms. Ansuya Jamwal, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, while Shri Imtiaz Hussain Mir, Director, Civil Defence & SDRF, highlighted the role of citizens as the first line of defence in ensuring safety and resilience. Technical sessions and live demonstrations were conducted by experts from Civil Defence and SDRF, focusing on disaster preparedness and response strategies. The event was widely participation attended by district administration officials, civil society organisations, and professional bodies.



One-Day Training Programme on “New Criminal Laws in Jammu & Kashmir

The Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), J&K Regional Branch, in collaboration with the District Administration Jammu, successfully organised a One-Day Training Programme on “New Criminal Laws in Jammu & Kashmir”. The programme aimed to familiarise government officials with the newly enacted criminal laws—Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam (BSA). The technical sessions were addressed by Shri Irshad Hussain Rather, JKPS, SP Headquarters Jammu, and Shri Anil Sharma, Chief Legal Aid Defence Counsel, Jammu, who elaborated on key legal reforms, citizen-centric provisions, procedural safeguards, and the integration of technology and forensic evidence in law enforcement.

Addressing the participants, Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.), Patron, IIPA JKRB, and Shri B. R. Sharma, IAS (Retd.), Chairman, IIPA JKRB, emphasised the need for understanding the spirit of the new laws and ensuring their effective implementation at the grassroots level. Ms. Ansuya Jamwal, JKAS, Additional Deputy Commissioner, Jammu, highlighted the District Administration’s commitment to citizen-centric governance and capacity building. The event witnessed active participation from senior district officers, civil society representatives, and members of IIPA JKRB.



One-Day Training Programme on “Recent Trends in Cyber Crimes: Challenges, Impact and Prevention & New Laws in J&K”

The Indian Institute of Public Administration, Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch (IIPA J&K RB), organised a One-Day Training Programme on “Recent Trends in Cyber Crimes: Challenges, Impact and Prevention, & New Laws in J&K” at its Jammu premises. The programme aimed to sensitise government officials, IIPA members, and civil society representatives about emerging cyber threats and recent legislative reforms. The programme witnessed participation from middle-level officers of the J&K Administration, Central Government pensioners, and members of civil society.

The key resource persons were SSP Mohd Yaseen Kichloo, SSP CICE, J&K and Shri Laeeq Ahmad Dar, Joint Director Prosecution, Crime Headquarters, J&K. Emphasising the alarming rise in cybercrime, Shri B. R. Sharma underlined the need for continuous awareness, particularly among senior citizens. The training programme was widely appreciated for its relevance, practical insights, and contribution towards strengthening cyber awareness and legal preparedness in Jammu & Kashmir.



11th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture



The Indian Institute of Public Administration, Jammu and Kashmir Regional Branch (IIPA J&K RB), organised the 11th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture, commemorating the contributions of Late Shri Ram Sahai. The memorial lecture was delivered by Dr. Arun Manhas, Director, Industries and Commerce, Jammu, on the theme “Benefits of Industrialisation under the New Central Sector Scheme (NCSS) to the Local Populace.” The Eminent speakers paid rich tributes to Late Shri Ram Sahai, acknowledging his enduring legacy in entrepreneurship and societal development. The lecture witnessed wide participation from industry, government officials, academia, civil society members, and the family of Late Shri Ram Sahai, reaffirming IIPA J&K RB’s commitment for creating a platform for informed dialogue on industrial and economic development in the region.



46th Annual General Meeting of the Branch

The Jammu and Kashmir Regional Branch of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA JKRB) successfully conducted its 46th Annual General Meeting on February 1, 2025, with record participation of Life Members. The meeting reviewed the activities of the Branch for the year 2024, approved the annual accounts, and deliberated on strengthening IIPA JKRB as a dynamic platform for promoting good governance and capacity building. The Patron and Chairman highlighted the Branch's national-level achievements, future academic initiatives, and the roadmap for innovative training and research programmes, reaffirming the Branch's commitment to excellence in public administration.

Patron of the, Dr. Ashok Bhan, in his presidential address envisioned the future roadmap of the branch and urged it to design innovative and quality capacity building / training program for the Government departments. He said that the JK RB of IIPA should inspire excellence in Governance so that it becomes more responsive to human needs and aspirations that are aligned with the human values.

Dr Bhan said that IIPA JKRB should create an annual event involving various stakeholders from academia, government, civil society, and students that brainstorm on various issues related to good governance and welfare of the society.

Addressing the AGM, the Chairman Sh. B R Sharma, referred to the historical growth and development of IIPA JKRB and said that it has consistently performed as one of the best IIPA's branches in the country and got top ranking last year which was the result of the collective effort of all past leadership and members. He said efforts would continue in the coming year as well to maintain its glory.

Hony Treasurer Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala presented the Annual Statement of Accounts which was approved by the AGM.



76th Republic Day, flag hoisting ceremony

The 76th Republic Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on January 26, 2025, at the IIPA Complex. The event was attended by the office bearers and members of the Executive Committee, marking the occasion with a formal gathering to honor the significance of the day.

Other Highlights



Mr. K. Baskaran, Honorary Secretary, Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), Local Branch, Madurai, along with his wife Dr. R. Selvameena, paid a visit to the Branch on December 20, 2025. During the visit, he expressed his appreciation for the campus and its facilities.



The IIPA J&K Regional Branch participated in the 69th Members' Annual Conference, 71st Annual General Body Meeting, and the Meeting of Chairmen of Regional and Local Branches, held on 30th and 31st October at the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA), New Delhi.

IIPA takes up SC/ST POA Act, 1989 & Baseline Survey for SC

Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K Regional Branch in collaboration with Department of Social Welfare, J&K Advisory board for Welfare and Development of Schedule Castes Government of Jammu & Kashmir organizes two days training workshop on field data collection for the projects titled: Baseline survey on educational, socio-economic status of SC in Jammu Region and implementation of SC/ST (PCR) Act, 1955. & SC/ST (POA) Act 1989.

The training programme was aimed at familiarizing the Field investigators with both the projects. The workshop was attended by the field investigators, Projects In-charge and the representatives of the department of J&K Advisory board for Welfare and Development of Schedule Castes Government of Jammu & Kashmir.

The first day of the training workshop was initiated with the brief inputs by Mr. Jagdish Raj and Mr. Siddharth, representative of the J&K Advisory board for Welfare and Development of Schedule Castes wherein they appraised the Field investigators on the relevance and significance of the concerned projects along with briefing them on the institutional dimensions of the Act and the practical redressal mechanism available for the same.

This was followed by the briefing of the relevance of the two projects by Prof. Rekha Chowdhary, Director Research-IIPA. She also familiarized the field investigators with the team of the two projects and also the attitude, acumen and knowledge required while making field interventions for the data collection.

Following this, Dr Zeba, one of the project in-charge spoke about the details of the two projects referring to the Districts of field investigation, the methodology to be employed along with the process to be followed in the concerned projects. This was followed by a further discussion and interactive session with the Field investigators where the questionnaires of the two projects were discussed in detail. Day two of the training workshop began with hands-on training of the Field investigators for conducting interviews in their respective fields. This session involved carrying out field exercises (simulation exercise) by the field investigators to develop their field skills for engaging with various questions and the responses expected from the respondents. It was a vibrant session with active participation of the Field investigators through their inputs and suggestions.

Both the projects attain importance as SC/ST PoA Act, 1989 has been extended to the state only after the reorganization of 2019. Further, there is no baseline survey ever done or available on the 13 sub-castes of the scheduled caste residing in the Jammu region.



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