



# INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION J&K REGIONAL BRANCH



## Newsletter

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### 44<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING

The 44th Annual General Meeting of the Jammu and Kashmir Regional Branch of IIPA was held in Jammu, which was attended by IIPA Life members.



L to R : Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala, Er. J.B.S. Johar, Dr Ashok Bhan & Prof. Alka Sharma

Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (R) Patron of the branch in his address laid out the roadmap for the year 2023 and urged upon the team to design innovative capacity building program for the government departments. He also proposed that IIPA should engage with various universities in the region and explore academic and research collaboration in the area of public administration and governance.

Sh B R Sharma, IAS @, Chairman of the branch in his address shared that IIPA JKRB has consistently featured in the top three branches in the country for the last three years. He also shared that in the coming year, IIPA JKRB through its experienced human resource, will be undertaking policy and governance related research projects.

While presenting the annual report for the year 2022, Prof Alka Sharma, Hony Secretary, IIPA JKRB shared that in the last year the branch has been able to organize various capacity building programmes for the government officers in line with the vision of the government. Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary presented the Annual Statement of Accounts. The members complimented the officer bearers & Executive

Committee for record number of quality programs during 2022 and also proposed various themes around which the future programmes should be organized.

Shri K.B. Jandial, IAS (R), Director Seminars presented the formal vote of thanks. Some of the members present during the AGM were Er. J B S Johar, Dr. G N Qasba, Sh. Kuldeep Khoda, IPS (R), Dr. Sudershan Kumar, Dr. C M Seth, IFS (R), Sh A M Watali, IPS (R), Shri P P Sharma, IFS (Retd), Prof R D Sharma, Shri S D Swatantra, IFS (Retd) Shri Hemant Sharma, IAS (Retd), Sh G M Andrabi, Prof Rekha Choudhary, Er V.N.Sharma, Sh. Manoj Pandita, Dr. Komal Nagar, Sh Amit Sharma, IAS.

### SEMINAR ON “INDIA’S RECENT NOTICE TO PAKISTAN ON INDUS WATERS TREATY (IWT), ITS SIGNIFICANCE AND BACKGROUND”

Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K Regional Branch (IIPA JKRB) organized a seminar on “India’s recent notice to Pakistan on Indus Waters Treaty (IWT), its significance and background” which was attended by eminent members from the civil society.

In his keynote address, Shri Sant Kumar Sharma, a journalist and co-author of "Indus Waters-Issues, Concerns, Perspectives," discussed the historical



Winning team receiving Veeranna Aivalli trophy

development of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) and emphasized India's generosity towards Pakistan. He explained that India has never invoked "Article 7" and "Article 12" of the IWT, but for the first time in six decades, India has invoked Article 12(3), which calls for an amendment to the treaty. Shri Sharma highlighted three scenarios between the contending parties, India and Pakistan: no treaty, modifying the treaty, and the same treaty. The recent notice of modification has forced Pakistan to come to the negotiation table, allowing India to strategically maneuver the treaty in its favour. Therefore, Shri Sharma believed that modifying the treaty is the best option and scenario for India.

During his address, Dr. J. Jeganaathan, an Assistant Professor in the Department of National Security Studies at the Central University of Jammu, explained the context of the treaty and the various developments that have occurred over the past six decades leading to the issuance of the notice. Dr. Jeganaathan also touched upon the role of the World Bank in the treaty's development and explained the treaty's dispute resolution mechanism. In conclusion, he stated that it is time to address Pakistan's intransigent behavior and take a closer look at the treaty.



*Dignitaries presenting the certificate to the participants*

During his address, Shri B.R Sharma, IAS (Retd), Former Secretary, GOI & Former Chief Secretary J&K Chairman IIPA JKRB, discussed the current state of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) and emphasized the need for interaction. The seminar was attended by Sh. Ashok Motwani, Brig. Anil Gupta, Brig. Dhiman, Er. JBS Johar, Dr. C.M Seth, Er. M.M Gupta, Prof. Rekha Choudhary, Sh. Prem Gupta, Prof. Ashok Aima, Prof. Alka Sharma, Prof. Virender Koundal and students & scholars working in this area. The welcome address was given by Shri K.B. Jandial, IAS (Retd), Director

Seminars IIPA JKRB and Lt Col (Retd) Karan Singh, the Joint Director of Seminars in Jammu, delivered a formal vote of thanks. The proceedings were conducted by Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary IIPA JKRB.

### **IIPA TAKES ON SC/ST POA ACT, 1989 AND BASELINE SURVEY FOR SC IN JAMMU REGION**

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.



*L to R : Prof. Alka Sharma, Prof. Neharika Vohra, Dr. Ashok Bhan, Sh. B. R. Sharma, Sh. K. B. Jandial & Sh. Rahul Sahai*

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 schedule caste residing in the Jammu region.

The valedictory session was attended by Dr. Ashok Bhan (Patron-IIPA J&K RB), B.R. Sharma (Chairman-IIPA J&KRB) and Prof. Alka Sharma (Hon. Secretary-IIPA J&K RB). In his address to the FIs (field Investigators), Dr. Ashok Bhan (Patron-IIPA) stressed upon the role of the researcher while dealing with a marginal community and also apprise them about the extraordinary responsibility to be carried by them in terms of authenticity in data collection, research ethics and also the possible lay out of the study to be undertaken. Sh. B.R. Sharma (Chairperson-IIPA) in his brief highlights the value of this projects which essentially requires empathy and also highlights the value of this research intervention for further policy making for the respective community. He also stressed upon the value of a field investigators being unbiased and credible in his efforts. Prof. Rekha Chowdhary ( Director-Research-IIPA) in his address thanks the IIPA for posing trust in her for guiding and mentoring the entire team for this research intervention of the IIPA. Prof. Alka Sharma (Hon. Secretary-IIPA) presented the formal votes of thanks

and also reinstated that by this research intervention, the IIPA regional branch will be creating a new niche among the entire regional branches in the country.

### **13<sup>TH</sup> SAT PAUL SAHNI MEMORIAL LECTURE ON “FREE PRESS AND THE CONSTITUTION OF INDIA”**

The Indian Institute of Public Administration (J&K Regional Branch) held its 13th Sat Paul Sahni Memorial Lecture on “Free Press and the Constitution of India” on June 3, 2023.



*Participants during the lecture*

The event was attended by several notable speakers including Judge of J&K High Court, Justice Sanjeev Kumar Shukla; Chairman IIPA (J&KRB), BR Sharma; Patron IIPA (J&KRB), Dr Ashok Bhan and Honorary Secretary, IIPA (J&KRB), Professor Alka Sharma.

Justice Sanjeev Kumar Shukla, who was the keynote speaker, paid tributes to Sahni during his speech. He highlighted Sahni's achievements including his distinction of covering all four wars of 1947, 1962, 1965 and 1971.

During his lecture, Justice Shukla discussed freedom of expression and free press. He stated that free press



*View of Audience during the Workshop*

cannot be conceived unless it is afforded protection by the provisions of the Constitution of India. He referred to Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India which states that all citizens have the right to freedom of speech and expression. Justice Shukla elaborated specifically on Freedom of Press vis a vis subjects of media trials and contempt of court. He warned that partial news coverage may lead to wrongly shaping public opinion.

B R Sharma, IAS (Retd) Chairman IIPA J&K Regional Branch spoke about the significance of freedom of press in a democratic society. “Its freedom gives it power, but power in democracy implies responsibility,” said Sharma. “No institution in a democracy can have absolute power. The press is critical to the functioning of a participatory democracy. It is the fourth pillar and has to play its role”, he added.

Dr Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd) Patron IIPA J&K Regional Branch threw light on the significance of freedom of press in a democratic society and emphasized that independence of media is a sacred right of citizens in a democracy and its nexus with the political executive seriously impinges on the rights of citizens. The freedom of speech and expression available to the media needs to be nurtured very carefully in the service of citizens, he added.

KB Jandial, Director (Seminars) of IIPA J&K Regional Branch, spoke about Sat Paul Sahni's life and career in journalism. “Sahni had a long career in journalism who represented many prestigious news organizations. His contribution towards promotion of Ladakh tourism cannot be forgotten”, he said.

Dr Alka Sharma, Hon'y Secretary IIPA J&K Regional Branch while presenting vote of thanks and paying tributes to Sat Paul Sahni, acknowledged Sahni's contribution in establishing the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) in Jammu and Kashmir while the proceedings were conducted by the Dr Komal Nagar, Executive Member IIPA J&K RB

Among others the event was attended by media veterans, senior retired officials, students of journalism besides other prominent citizens and members of the media fraternity.

All the leading local newspapers, electronic and print media and national papers have covered this event.

## ONE DAYS' WORKSHOP ON THE PROTECTION OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACT, 1955 & THE SC/ST (PREVENTION OF ATROCITIES) ACT, 1989

Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K Regional Branch in collaboration with Department of Social Welfare, J&K Advisory for Welfare and Development of Schedule Castes Government of Jammu & Kashmir organized workshop for District Social Welfare Officers/Police Personals (Dy. SP' HQ') Nodal Officer/Special cell for Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 & the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989/Special Public Prosecutors and newly empanelled Legal Advisors, on Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955 & the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

Advocate Shruti Bist, Advocate Supreme Court of India while deliberating on various provisions of these laws in detail; discussed preventive actions that can be taken, role of law enforcing agencies, challenges which can be encountered and also the roles and responsibilities of the police officers in effective implementation of the Act. During the sessions, a video was also played to understand how the Act is being implemented in other states and Union territories of India.



L to R : Smt. Sheetal Nanda, Sh. B. R. Sharma, Sh. D. C. Raina, Dr. Shahid Choudhary, Prof. Alka Sharma



*View of Audience during the Workshop*



*Participants during the workshop*

Earlier, during the inaugural function, in her message, Ms. Sheetal Nanda, IAS, Commissioner Secretary, Department of Social Welfare, Government of Jammu & Kashmir informed that these laws have been implemented in UT of Jammu & Kashmir after the reorganization in 2019. She outlined various initiatives being taken by the Social Welfare department to promote and realize the vision of government to support social integration, equality and mainstreaming the marginalized section of the society.

Sh. B.R.Sharma, IAS (Retd) State Election Commissioner & Chairman IIPA J&K Regional Branch in his address talked about the relevance of this Act in the present context. He suggested that such programs are important to create awareness among general public and also the officials are able to perform their duties without harming any individuals respect and dignity.

Earlier Prof Alka Sharma, Honorary Secretary IIPA JKRB delivered the formal welcome address and the Dr Anil Gupta Joint Secretary IIPA JKRB presented the formal vote of thanks and coordinated the program. Secretary, J& K Advisory Board for Welfare and Development of SCs Ms. Seema Bharti (JKAS) coordinated the entire event on behalf of the Social Welfare Department.

### **10<sup>TH</sup> SHRI RAM SAHAI MEMORIAL LECTURE ON “REVITALIZING ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEM IN J&K”**

Indian Institute of Public Administration, JK Regional Branch organized 10th Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture on “Revitalizing Entrepreneurial Ecosystem in J&K” which was delivered by Sh. Vikramjit Singh, IPS, Commissioner/Secretary to Government Industries & Commerce Department J&K. Sh B R Sharma, IAS (R),

State Election Commissioner and Chairman, IIPA JKRB presided over the function.

While delivering the lecture, Sh. Vikramjit Singh said that Government of Jammu & Kashmir is committed to revitalize the entrepreneurial ecosystem through various innovative strategic and policy measures, which will enable the flow of finance for all types of industrial units, and create facilitating conditions for large scale units to come to J&K. Substantiating his arguments with various data-points, he was of the view that agriculture, tourism, power, IT and logistics sector should be exploited by encouraging the youth to create start-ups. He also said that Lithium “White Gold” Reserve in J&K will be a game changer and bring in new opportunities.

Sh B R Sharma in his presidential remarks while paying homage to Sh. Ram Sahai said that he was a visionary and a passionate entrepreneur who had the ability to network and negotiate for a larger common good for J&K. While speaking on the theme, he said that the environment in J&K is conducive for entrepreneurs and it is only through the joint effort of government and other stakeholders that the opportunity can be fully leveraged. He suggested that regular stakeholder consultation workshops should be organized to fine tune the policy.



*L to R : Prof. Alka Sharma, Sh. B. R. Sharma, Sh. K. B. Jandial, Sh. Hitesh Gupta*

Sh. K B Jandial, IAS (Retd.), Director (Seminars), IIPA JKRB paid glowing tributes to Late Sh. Ram Sahai. He said that as a founding member of the branch, Sh. Sahai has made immense contributions towards bringing the issues of trade and commerce to the forefront and this memorial lecture is organized every year to carry forward his legacy by deliberating on issues of relevance to the industry.

Sh. Rahul Sahai in his concluding remarks said that J&K has immense potential for socio economic development through entrepreneurship. He laid emphasis on entrepreneurial education and skill development. He further said access to capital, supporting infrastructure, networking opportunity and create conducive environment can surely make J&K an attractive hub of entrepreneurship. He acknowledged IIPA for organizing this memorial lecture in memory of his father every year.

Earlier Prof. Alka Sharma, Secretary, IIPA JKRB delivered the formal welcome address and the proceedings were conducted by Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary. The programme was attended by over 100 eminent citizens, members of IIPA, family members of Late Sh. Ram Sahai including Shri Khalid Jahangir MD JKTPO, Shri Tejwant Singh Reen, Chairman Federation of Industries, Shri Lalit Mahajan, President BBIA, Shri Neeraj Anand, President CTF, Shri Rakesh Gupta, Ex-President CCI Jammu, Shri Manish Gupta, Secretary General CCI Jammu, Shri Rajesh Jain, Shri Parveen Pargal, President Laghu Udyog, Shri Sanjay Bansal, Chairman Federation of All India Vyapar Mandal, Shri Sandeep Jain, General Secretary Jain Sabha, Shri Samar Dev Charak, Co-Chair PHDCCI Jammu.

### PRELUDE CONFERENCE ON “NEW PARADIGMS OF GOVERNANCE”

*“Technology has immense potential to bring government and citizens' closer”*

- V. SRINIVAS, IAS

Sh.V. Srinivas, (IAS) Secretary, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions (Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances), Government of India while delivering key note address on the Prelude Conference on “New Paradigms of Governance” organized by Indian Institute of Public Administration, JK Regional Branch said that through various policy interventions, we are strongly moving ahead toward digital empowerment of citizens and digital transformation of institutions to optimize

transparency and accountability in day-to-day functioning. He said that good governance include technology usage, secretariat reforms, special campaigns, benchmarking of governance and services, redressal of public grievances and improving service delivery, recognizing meritocracy and replication of good governance practices of the country..



Winning team receiving Veeranna Aivalli trophy

Sh. Srinivas said that Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), is at the forefront of driving transformative changes in governance, embracing digitalization and focusing on inclusive development, with innovative approaches to enhance public service delivery and good governance. The Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) stands as a hallmark in the journey towards an accountable governance. This online platform has significantly streamlined grievance redressal mechanisms, providing citizens with an effective channel to voice their concerns and seek resolutions. The system's efficiency has been duly recognized through the esteemed PM's Awards for Excellence. While mentioning the initiative like Har Ghar Jal Yojana and Aspirational Districts Program, he outlined the role of effective governance in transforming lives, especially in rural areas, by ensuring water security and improving overall public health and well-being. He further pointed out the focused approach in Jammu and Kashmir, which exemplifies the government's dedication to uplift underdeveloped regions through strategic interventions and collaborative efforts, which aim to improve key indicators related to education, health, nutrition, financial inclusion, and infrastructure.

The District Good Governance Index, which was first implemented in Jammu and Kashmir, plays a pivotal



*View of Audience*

role in evaluating and enhancing the performance of districts across the nation. This initiative facilitates healthy competition among districts, encouraging them to strive for higher standards of governance and service delivery. National E-Services Delivery Assessment is another significant step towards evaluating and benchmarking e-services delivery mechanisms, promoting innovation, and ensuring the effective redressal of public grievances. It stands as a testament to the government's commitment to providing citizen-centric services in the digital age. He said that efficiency in the Central Secretariat is being enhanced through systematic reforms and leveraging technology to streamline processes, improve coordination, and achieve greater effectiveness in policy formulation and implementation through convergence of multiple portals to one portal "one nation, one portal" with reverse integration. Jammu & Kashmir is a huge success story in this context. Vision India@2047, an ambitious initiative, aims to transform India into a self-reliant and globally competitive nation, emphasizing sustainable growth, equitable development, and inclusive governance is a testament to the government's unwavering commitment to providing efficient, transparent, and citizen-centric services. These transformative initiatives pave the way for a brighter and more prosperous future, aligning with the aspirations of a 'New India' by 2047.

Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd), Former DGP, JKP and Patron, IIPA JKRB in his address said we are

enlightened to have first hand information from Sh. V. Srinivas and emphasized the vital role of citizen-centric governance. He stressed that good governance alone is insufficient; proactive citizen involvement and a citizen-centric approach are imperative. Dr. Bhan emphasized the need to empower citizens, ensure a proactive delivery system at various levels, and foster participation to ascertain inclusive and equitable practices. He highlighted the optimal utilization of available resources and urged the catalyzation of efforts through technology, public scrutiny, and community discussions to align actions with public interest and benefit citizens at large.

Sh. B R Sharma, IAS (Retd), Former Secretary, GoI and Chief Secretary, JK and Chairman of IIPA JKRB, emphasizes e-government as a developmental priority with a focus on citizen-centric governance and effectiveness, rule-of-law-based implementation. He said that integration of cutting-edge technology is vital for achieving objectives in the pursuit of good governance.

Sh K B Jandial, IAS (Retd), Director (Seminars), IIPA JKRB in his welcome address advocated evolving governance from British legacy, drawing from Kautilya Arthashastra, e-governance, to embracing AI's potential. Prof. Alka Sharma, Hony Secretary presented the formal vote of thanks and the proceedings were conducted by Dr. Komal Nagar. The programme was attended by over 100 government officials from General Administration Department and J&K Police, members of IIPA, eminent people from civil society, academia.

### **21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL VEERANNA AIVALLI MEMORIAL DEBATE COMPETITION**

Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K Regional Branch and J&K Police in collaboration with Department of Students Welfare, University of Jammu organized the 22nd Annual Veeranna Aivalli Memorial Debate Competition on the topic "In the opinion of the house, unchecked development and widespread use of Artificial Intelligence poses significant risks to the humanity". A total of 24 teams from various affiliated colleges and University teaching departments and other Universities and Institutions of the region participated in the competition.

The team from DD & OE, University of Jammu comprising of Mahrosh Naiz Malik and Nipun Sharma lifted the Veeranna Aivalli Running team trophy. The



*Participants during the programme*

individual first prize was won by Vatsalya Chadha Deptt of Law, JU; second prize was won by Shiena Singh, Department of English, JU while the third prize was given to Riya Sharma, Department of Political Science, JU. The consolation prizes were won by Adhinayak Singh, The Law School, JU, Mehrosh Niaz Malik, DD&OE, JU and Surraya Bano, Deptt of Dogri, JU.

Sh. R. R. Swain, IPS, Director General of Police, J&K Police, Chief Guest of the prize distribution function in his address raised issues about ethical dilemma of artificial intelligence and technology. He emphasized that individuals face challenging ethical concerns while making decisions working in organizations. While remembering the immense contribution of Sh Veeranna Aivalli, he complimented IIPA JKRB for organizing this event which stimulates the minds of the youth.



*L to R : Prof. Alka Sharma, Sh. B. R. Sharma, Dr. Ashok Bhan, Prof. Varun Sahni, Sh. K. B. Jandial*

Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (R), Patron of the IIPA JKRB in his address said that there is an urgent need for the global fraternity to come together and develop a policy framework to address the challenges posed by artificial intelligence. While remembering Sh. Veeranna Aivalli, he said that this debate competition is a reflection of his personality and he urged the youth to remember the sacrifices of the martyrs who fought terrorism in J&K for more than three decades.

Sh B R Sharma, IAS (Retd), State Election Commissioner and Chairman IIPA J&K Regional Branch in his address also raised concern about exponential growth of artificial intelligence and how it is impacting governments across the world. While discussing the risks of deep fakes, he was of the view it is important to regulate the growth of AI to the advantage of mankind.

Prof. Meena Sharma, Dean Planning and Development, University of Jammu, Guest of Honor in her address appreciated the sustained initiative of IIPA in organizing this debate competition. She said that University of Jammu is keen to collaborate with IIPA on various other academic initiatives related to public administration and good governance.

Prof Alka Sharma, Hony Secretary, IIPA JKRB presented the formal welcome address. Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary, IIPA conducted the proceedings and presented the formal vote of thanks. Earlier during the day, Prof Prakash Chand Antahal, Dean Students' Welfare, University of Jammu in presence of Er. J B S Johar, Vice-Chairman, IIPA & Sh K B Jandial, IAS (Retd) Director Seminars, Prof Monika Chadha, Chairperson, Campus Cultural Committee, Prof Sarika Manhas, Co-Chairperson & Dr Hema Gandotra, Teacher in charge of debate, introduced the rules and regulations to be followed during the debate session.

The adjudicators for the debate competition were Prof Neelam Saraf, Prof Ekta Gupta and Dr. Komal Nagar. The rapporteur of the event was Gagandeep Singh and Setaj Kour. The event was coordinated by Mr Jatin, Mr Sumit Sharma, Kulbhushan, Arif. The family members of Sh Veerana Aivalli including Mr. Girish Aivalli and Mrs Kanmani Aivalli also joined the event. The event was attended by serving and retired police officers,



*Participants during the conference*

office bearers & executive committee of IIPA, teaching fraternity of University of Jammu, students and members of civil society.

### MEMBERS CONCLAVE

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



L to R : Prof. Alka Sharma, Dr. B. Srinivas, Sh. B. R. Sharma, Dr. Ashok Bhan, Sh. Rajiv Narang, Dr. Sudershan Kumar

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 Veeranna Aivalli, M Rehman, Jalil Khan, Wajahat Habibullah and Dr. S. S. Bloeria who provided intellectual stimulus. There was a dedicated team of members with them. The notables among them were TP Singh, Sati Sahni, Ram Sahai, AM 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 Nomani, 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.



Participants during the workshop

The second phase, Dr. Bhan said, was of Infrastructure from 2000 to 2013. In this phase IIPA -JKRB got its own balding 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 Mehta B K Suri, Late Madan Dogra, Dr. G N Qasba, GM Indrabi, MM 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 Jatin.

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 V C of Jammu University Prof Amitab 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

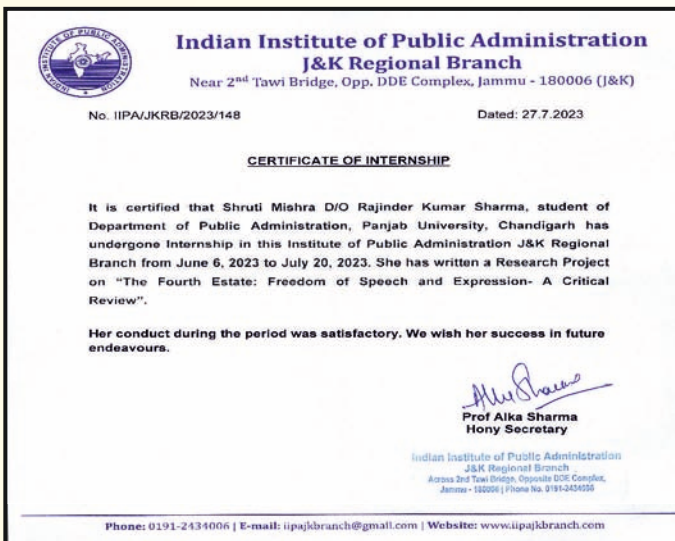
projects.

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

## INTERNSHIP IN IIPA



## REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS

To mark the 74th Republic Day, flag hosting ceremony was organised on January 26, 2023 at IIPA Complex. Shri B.R.Sharma, IAS (Retd) Chairman of the Branch and other office bearers and members of Executive Committee were present during the ceremony.

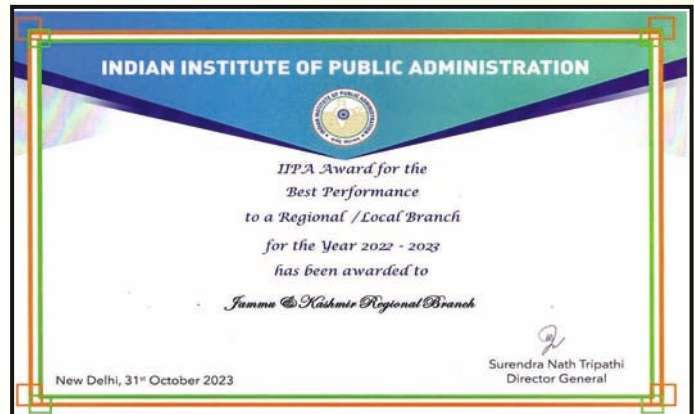


Members of IIPA celebrating Republic Day

## 69<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NEW DELHI



IIPA Award to Jammu & Kashmir Regional Branch for Best Performance in the year 2022-23



## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

IIPA, J&K Regional Branch celebrated the Independence Day in the IIPA Complex by hosting the National Flag on August 15, 2023. 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

*Editorial Team*

**Dr Ashok Bhan**, Patron  
**Sh. B. R. Sharma**, Chairman  
**Er J.B.S. Johar**, Vice Chairman

**Prof Alka Sharma**, Hony Secretary  
**Dr Anil Gupta**, Joint Secretary (Jammu)  
**Sh K. B. Jandial**, Director (Seminars)

**Mr Jatin Chanjotra**  
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