



INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION J&K REGIONAL BRANCH



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COMMUNAL HARMONY IS INTEGRAL TO GOOD GOVERNANCE

The connotation of good governance is generally thought of as accountability and transparency, ignoring the aspect of communal harmony, which basically is a matter of trust reposed in various communities and the system comprising of bureaucrats and politicians who decide the fate and future of the country and also decide the destiny of the people at large. I



Chander Gulhati

personally feel, we in this country are victims of “Trust deficits”, you don't believe me and I don't believe you. For example, during election times planning is conducted in the following manner by the politicians: Hindu Votes, Christian Votes, Muslim Votes, Sikh Votes, Dalit votes.

Similarly in several instances, where either bureaucrats or politicians belong to a particular community, impartiality has to be practiced to deliver justice and ensure accountability. This does not happen in several cases hampering the process of delivery system and damaging communal harmony. Corruption free delivery system and governance can only be achievable if there is no communal feeling but communal harmony on both sides of the administration and the justice seeker. Recent incidents and development in the country like desecration of holy books, the beef controversy are a big set back to the communal harmony. These incidents, no doubt, emanate from handful of people (miscreants) but unfortunately multiply into the larger arena of the population. This is the most dangerous development in our Nation. In the pre- independence era we had a slogan “Unity in Diversity” which strengthens our bonds but as of today I feel it is almost disunity in diversity.

Parochialism has to be gotten rid of. One of the main elements of ensuring harmony is better understanding of various communities and religions. Ours is a society which comes from our heritage of ancestral days. Our rulers and politicians should end the culture of divisive politics which dismembers the fiber of our country and people by unscrupulous measure and actions of the people in power

diverting the attention from main issues and problems faced by the citizens and creates communal disharmony. I am totally against the reservation for any community/caste and everything should be based on merit and performance. To ensure communal harmony and good governance there has to be a fair electoral system which we have in place and but needs to be strengthened further, and anomalies removed.

We have to emerge as a united nation to ensure communal harmony leading to good governance. The other aspect of our society is the gap between haves and have not's leading to distrust. The vulnerable section of the society and secular population has to be educated sufficiently to be able to differentiate between the good and not so good people. Whether in power or otherwise to emerge as an integral society to improve the governance is the need of the hour.

The judiciary should play more accountable, important and impartial role and decide matters in a time frame manner putting in more accountability which will also lead to more communal harmony ensuring better governance. The culture of favouritism should also end to ensure healthier communal harmony and good governance. This can be ensured if we are all united and change the inefficient way of working of the system. The tug of war between the administration and judiciary should be minimized to bring people/communities together. We should be able to differentiate between being communal and communal harmony. The role of governance should be impartial timely and accountable for all communities. To ensure nation building we have to believe in Nationalism to achieve communal harmony and good governance.

We should have more tolerance and respect for the feelings of various communities and people and emerge as a united lot appeasement policy of the government must end to bring people together which will result in a better relationship amongst people culminating in healthier governance. We have in our country inherited the divide and rule policy of British Empire in a different avatar of

**Theme for next issue of Newsletter is
“Women Empowerment in J&K”.**

dividing people and communities on the basis of caste and religion. This should be eliminated.

We as people and citizens of this country are at mercy of the system and can only improve the communal environment and become healthier by getting united. The responsible citizens have to play a very constructive and result oriented role to bring people and communities together. United we rise and divided we fall. Accountability, efficiency and corruption free system can only be achieved if we accept the reality of both sides of the coin.

Various internal issues of the country have to be settled within the time framework of the constitution keeping in view the aspirations and needs of the people belonging to various states of the country. For instance, the Kashmir issue remains unsettled from last many decades creating communal disharmony. Similarly, there are several other issues in the country which are regional by nature but in totality are part of the large population of the country.

Compatibility and communal harmony go hand in hand; they should get to ensure good governance. Incidents that emerge in any state or anywhere spread far and wide like wild fire and engulf the entire country, causing serious damage to the infrastructure and hurt the fabric of communal harmony thereby delaying the process of good governance.

In conclusion, I suggest extreme tolerance, understanding and patience to ensure communal harmony and good governance. Peace and harmony are extremely important components of development, unity and solidarity which give us mental strength and courage. Thought process of each citizen should be towards National building leading to communal harmony and culminate into better governance. We should have our thoughts embedded by the thoughts of Baba Sahib Ambedkher, the father of our constitution who preaches equality by getting rid of untouchability from the minds of people of our Nation which is still existing and still in practice. This seriously harms communal harmony leading to weak governance. The strikes, protests, disruption, and blockages of highways pose serious law and order problems culminating into closure of business and establishments and affecting our government offices have to be avoided.

More recently, the canvassing during the elections in Bihar is another example of causing communal disharmony by accusing political parties and individuals. This definitely affects good Governance and development-We should all desist from such practices. The news paper report says that I the last 25 years only one Pandit family has returned to the Kashmir valley-This is another example of communal disharmony and a matter of great concern affecting good governance.

On 31st October which is Ekta Devas, let us all resolve to ensure communal harmony at every stage and good governance and to take our Nation on the road to progress at a faster pace. Sadar Vallabhai Patel, the Iron man who bore the responsibility for merging the states to ensure equality and communal harmony. Let us all get together and rebuild the trust levels ensuring good governance. Before I conclude I would like to mention the National Slogan.....

Ekta mein Aneka

Jai Hind Jai Bharat

COMMUNAL HARMONY IS INTEGRAL TO GOOD GOVERNANCE

After the dawn of Independence and becoming a secular and democratic republic, India faced rise of fundamentalism in some parts and governance deficit. Both posed serious challenge to the nation's avowed quest for social justice, removal of poverty, people's empowerment, their economic uplift through equal opportunity of progress and efficient delivery of services.



K B Jandial

In his historical 'tryst with destiny' midnight speech on 14 August 1947, Pt Jawaharlal Nehru articulated challenge of "the ending of poverty and ignorance and disease and inequality of opportunities".

India is a multi-religious, multilingual and multi-racial democratic country which has enjoyed the essential unity of culture amidst diversities that kept her people united despite occasional communal tensions and mindless riots. The inter-community relations, at times, suffer a breach that vitiates the atmosphere. At times, the vested interests contrive and sponsor strife. It is also part of governance to protect the life and property of every citizen from all threats- by terrorism (Jammu and Kashmir), insurgency (north-eastern states), and naxalite violence in 150 districts of India's mainland.

Such tendencies impacted the growth and development planned in all spheres including nuclear and military sectors as these cannot be possible in an environment of discord between people of different faiths and regions. Maintaining unity and building understanding between different communities is a fundamental challenge to, as well as part of good governance in pluristic India.

It is in this context, President Pranab Mukherjee, while addressing the 46th Governors' Conference on February 11, 2016, has underscored the need for preserving peace and communal harmony in the country and said that the

people of India look toward the Constitution as “guarantor of liberties, freedom and equality.” “Any deviation from these principles will jeopardise the social, economic and political well-being of our citizens,” he said, adding, “prevalence of peace & communal harmony must be ensured.”

What is good governance? There is no accepted definition of “good governance”.

It has become a fashionable term that is used in a variety of ways. It is believed to be a form of governance which serves the citizens by safeguarding territorial integrity of the State and securing individual security, rule of law and the delivery of services ranging from education, communication, health to livelihood and food security. In the Indian context it relates to social development. Mr. B.P. Singh, former Union Home Secretary in his paper on “The Challenge of Good Governance in India: Need for Innovative Approaches” writes that, “good governance means securing justice, empowerment, employment and efficient delivery of services”.

According to him, “good governance” is a relative term rather than the absolute. The global definition of “good governance” may not fit into the scenario of every country since the demand side of governance may differ from one country to another. The UNDP definition of “good governance” encompasses three key words: transparency, accountability and participatory. These three words form a key part of any governance model which may be deemed 'good'.

Divergent opinion exists about the meaning of governance between the conservatives and the liberals, between socialists and the communists. The World Bank takes a middle path by defining governance as “the traditions and the institutions by which authority in a country is exercised”. It includes the process by which governments are selected, monitored; the capacity of the government to effectively formulate and implement sound policies and the respect of citizens and the State for the institutions that govern economic and social communications.

Prime Minister Modi aptly sums up “good governance” as a key to Nation's progress and said that “Citizen-First” is his government's mantra, motto and guiding principle to bring government closer to the citizens and making them active participants in governance process. He feels that development is a solution to all problems.

The government has the responsibility to create an enabling environment where development programmes are properly implemented within a timeline. It has to facilitate, enable and coordinate to benefit the citizens. It can also be government intervention to provide welfare schemes including social security, upgrade health-care and provide special opportunities for women and the

minorities. It is also associated with accountable political leadership, enlightened policy-makers and professional civil service along with a strong civil society.

Many think that it encompasses all that the Govt. is supposed to do for the people in every sphere and also all that it fails to do that the people expected it to do. It is hardly anything that is not covered in the public perception of good governance – security environment, people's welfare, services relating to public daily needs, overall development and growth, education, employment opportunity, health, road and tele-communication etc. Bad governance restricts opportunities of success and even degenerate into sectarian conflicts.

In Indian context, governance is largely assessed by public perception, notwithstanding the self claimed good governance on which the Govts dole out huge money. The perception of governance deficit and policy paralysis had routed the ruling alliance in 2014 elections.

The governance suffers when the State is beset with internal strife as it keeps the administration on tenterhook in quelling violence and its aftermath. So, communal harmony is integral to good governance that ensures inclusive development-“Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas”.

TRAINING PROGRAMME ON “MANAGEMENT COMPETENCIES”

One day training programme on “Management Competencies” was organized by Indian Institute of Public Administration, J&K Regional Branch, Jammu on November 2015. Sh Gazzanfar Hussian, Commissioner/ Secretary, GAD, J&K Government was the guest of honor during the Valedictory function.



L to R : Dr. Komal Nagar, Er. J. B. S. Johar, Dr. Ashok Bhan
Sh. Gazzanfar Hussain, Prof. Alka Sharma & Dr. Anil Gupta

Following are the highlights of the inputs by the key resource persons of the workshop:

- Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd) Former DGP, JK Police and Patron, IIPA shared his professional experiences while delivering his talk on “Leadership”. He heavily emphasized on the need to lead the change and be a catalyst for bringing transformation in the future workplaces. He said



Dr. Ashok Bhan interacting during the training programme

that leadership is all about and Vision and Will and that delegation and accountability are the two pillars for organizational success.

- Prof Alka Sharma, Director (Seminars), IIPA JK Regional Branch emphasized the role of management competencies for good governance by identifying six competency areas i.e. Building Strategic Alliances, Vision and Goal Setting, Change Management, Creative Problem Solving, Promoting Empowerment and Executive Presence for professional effectiveness.
- Dr. Neelika Arora, Assistant Professor, Department of HRM & OB, Central University of Jammu spoke on the need and relevance of “Positive Attitude” at workplace. She deliberated at the length the effects of having a positive attitude and suggested measures to develop such an attitude from within.
- Dr. Komal Nagar, Assistant Professor, The Business School and Joint Director (Seminar), IIPA in her session on “Lateral Thinking” highlighted the concept of left and right brain and the role of creativity in enhancing the performance at all levels.



Resource Persons interacting with the participants

- Dr. Anil Gupta, Assistant Professor, The Business School and Joint Secretary, IIPA delivered a talk on “Service Orientation” and emphasized the need for building various competencies including patience, tenacity, time management, attentiveness etc in building this orientation among public servants.

During the valedictory session the participants also shared their feedback of the training programme while the dignitaries released the IIPA Newsletter. Er. J.B.S. Johar Hony Secretary presented the formal vote of thanks. The programme was attended by 120 officers from various state government departments including Dept. of



Participants during the training programme

Directorate of Sheep Husbandry, Directorate of Information, J&K Police, Tourism, J&K SICOP, Agriculture, SMVDSB, JDA, JMC, Drugs & Food Control Organization, RTIC, MED, ICDS, PDD, Excise & Taxation, PCCF, JK PCC Ltd., CA&PD, PHE, Irrigation and Flood Control, Handicrafts, Commercial Taxes, Cooperatives, Social Welfare, Excise, Transport, Home, Relief Organization, Employment, Health & Medical Education, Forests, Rural Development, Revenue, Education, Estates, Industries & Commerce Dept.

3RD RAM SAHAI MEMORIAL LECTURE ON DIGITAL INDIA

Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) J&K Regional Branch organized the 3rd Shri Ram Sahai Memorial Lecture on “Digital India and its Impact on the industry” in memory of Late Shri Ram Sahai, on February 20th, 2016, one of the founding members of the Regional Branch.

Shri Gopal Jiwarajka, Senior Vice President, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, New Delhi, delivered the key note address while Shri B. R. Sharma, (IAS) Chief Secretary, Government of J&K and Chairman IIPA, JK Regional branch was the chief guest of the function.



*L to R : Sh. Chander Gulati, Sh. Gopal Jiwrajka, Sh. B. R. Sharma
Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala, Sh. Rahul Sahai*

The function was held under the guidance of Dr. Ashok Bhan, Patron IIPA, J&K Regional Branch.

Following are the key highlights of the discussion by Shri Gopal Jiwrajka:

- Prospects of the Indian economy look bright as recent government reforms have facilitated implementation of start-up India, Jan Dhan Yojana, smart cities, Make in India etc.
- Such initiatives have helped India improve its ranking from 147 to 130 in the recent World Bank report on the index of 'Ease of doing business'.
- Proliferation of knowledge and good health are the most significant roles that digital India campaign has to play in an emerging economy like India.
- Benefits of digital India include the six key areas in which digital India can contribute enormously. These comprise improving service delivery efficiency, security and harmony, easy accessibility, reduced corruption and employments generation.



Industry representative during the function

- For the state of Jammu and Kashmir, digital India would contribute in the growth of tourism and handicraft industry by building capacity among the youth and connecting on a single platform with the rest of the country.

Sh. B R Sharma, IAS Chairman IIPA, JK Regional Branch in his presidential address paid rich tributes to Shri Ram Sahai and acknowledged that digital economies grow faster and made the following observations:

- Make in India and Digital India have to work together for realizing the ultimate growth of India as the emerging superpower.
- The opportunity of Digital India cannot be missed out by J&K which is at the bottom of the growth ladder.

Sh. Chander Gulati in his welcome address introduced the subject of discussion and the guest speaker to the audience. Earlier Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala paid rich tributes to the late Shri Ram Sahai and while recalling his contribution to the IIPA, Chamber of Commerce and Industries and many



A views of the Audience

other organizations pointed out various aspects of his life as an industrialist who worked for the development of the industry in the state.

Shri Rahul Sahai, Chairman, Sahai Group of Companies thanked the organizers of IIPA in institutionalizing this lecture series and offered his support for future events in this direction. In his vote of thanks he said that the industry has an onus of responsibility to be a cog in the great wheel of change in this country.

The industry is proud to be a part of this process in the making of history of Digital India. He said that India is getting on its fast track wheels and the nation building process is in its full swing.

Dr. Komal Nagar, Joint Director Seminars, IIPA conducted the proceedings of the function while the function was attended by members of the civil society, various trade, commerce and industrial associations, members of IIPA and family and friends of Late Shri Ram Sahai.

6TH SAT PAUL SAHNI MEMORIAL LECTURE ON “KAL-AAJ-AUR-KAL: INDIA STORY THROUGH BOLLYWOOD”



L to R : Er. J. B. S. Johar, Sh. B. R. Sharma, Jb. Naeem Akhtar, Prof. Ashok Ogra, Prof. K. L. Bhatia, Prof. Alka Sharma

The 6th Sat Paul Sahni Memorial Lecture on “Kal-Aaj-Aur-Kal: India story through Bollywood” was organized by the branch on December 18, 2015. Prof Ashok Ogra, Director Apeejay Institute of Mass Communication, New Delhi delivered the key note address in presence of Jenab Naeem Akhtar, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Jammu & Kashmir and Sh. B R Sharma, Chairman of IIPA J&K Regional Branch. The lecture was attended by eminent citizens of state including Dr. S S Bleoria, Dr. Ashok Bhan, Patron, IIPA, members of IIPA, media fraternity, and civil society.

Prof Ashok Ogra in his presentation reflected on India transformation through the lens of Indian cinema citing various examples of bollywood movies. He traced back various economic, social, political and cultural reforms happening spread over several decades since Independence.



Jb. Naeem Akhtar speaking on the occasion

Jenab Naeem Akhtar, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Jammu & Kashmir in his address said that J&K is the last and final bastion of God which reflects a multi cultural,



Prof. Ashok Ogra delivering the keynote address

multi religious society of different ethnic extractions. He said the challenge before us is to preserve and strengthen the uniqueness of our region and culture.

Prof. K L Bhatia while paying rich tribute to Late Shri Sat Paul Sahni said that he was a perfectionist and an institution in itself. He said that Sh. Sahni was a multi-dimensional personality having the privilege of covering all the four war of India and Pakistan. He said that Sh. Sahni was having an eye for detail and would capture instances that are now part of rare collection.



Members during the function

Earlier Prof. Alka Sharma, Director (Seminars) formally welcomed the august gathering and introduced the speaker. Er. J B S Johar, Hony Secretary presented the formal vote of thanks. Dr. Komal Nagar, Joint Director (Seminars) conducted the proceedings of the function.

**The Members
are requested to visit
www.iipajkbranch.com
for regular updates
and information related to
forthcoming programmes
of the branch**

37TH ANNUAL MEETING OF GENERAL BODY

The 37th Annual General Meeting of the J&K Regional Branch of IIPA was held on January 24, 2016. During the AGM the following discussions / decisions were taken

- The Officer Bearers for the period 2016 – 18 were elected and the Executive Committee was nominated Shri V.N.Sharma, Senior Life member of IIPA, acted as the Returning officer.



L to R : Dr. Anil Gupta, Sh. B. R. Sharma, Dr. Ashok Bhan, Er. S. K. Gupta

- Based on the recommendation of the outgoing Executive Committee Dr. Ashok Bhan was nominated as the Patron of the branch by the General Body for the period 2016–2018.
- Sh. B R Sharma, IAS was elected as the Chairman of the Branch for the period 2016-18
- The list of the new office bearers and the members of the Executive Committee are presented on Page 8 of this newsletter
- The annual report was read by Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary on behalf of Er. J.B.S.Johar (who was indisposed) which was approved by the General Body with words of appreciation. During the year 2015, the Branch organized 15 programmes on diverse subjects including the training programme with an aim to enhance the

capacity of government officers.

- Shri S.K. Gupta, Hony. Treasurer presented audited statement of accounts for the financial year 2014-15. This was followed by discussion on the annual report and the financial statement, which were approved by the General Body.
- Shri B R Sharma, IAS and the Chairman of the branch focused on the need for inviting young officers of the state to apply for IIPA membership. He suggested that the members of the branch should encourage their young colleagues in the state administration to participate in the events organized by the branch and also apply for the membership. He further proposed that the branch can play an instrumental role in conducting various evaluation and monitoring studies and undertake collaborative work with various government departments.
- Dr. Ashok Bhan, Patron of the Branch emphasized on experimenting with young minds / officers by consciously making way for the young team to look into the affairs of the branch. He said that there should be emphasis on training programme every two months and also interactive programmes with the University students should also be organized on regular intervals.
- A detailed discussion was held for future programmes. Suggestions for future programmes made by the Hony Secretary & the members were included training / seminars / panel discussion on wide array of subjects including ethics in public administration, Health care management, Traffic Mangement, Tourism and Culture, Consumer Protection, RTI Act, Security of individuals and institutions, Food security bill, Issues of Senior citizens, Corporate Social Responsibility and similar topics aiming at good governance. The branch welcomes suggestions of all its members on topics of interest.



Glimpses of AGM

OFFICE BEARERS 2016-18



Dr. Ashok Bhan, IPS (Retd.)
Patron



Sh. B. R. Sharma, IAS
Chairman



Sh. A. M. Watali, IPS (Retd.)
Vice-Chairman (Kashmir)



Dr. G. N. Qasba
Vice-Chairman (Central)



Dr. C. M. Seth, IFS (Retd.)
Vice-Chairman (Jammu)



Sh. J. B. S. Johar
Hony Secretary



Sh. Vikrant Kuthiala
Hony Treasurer



Dr. Anil Gupta
Joint Secretary (Jammu)



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



Prof. Alka Sharma
Director (Seminars)



Dr. Komal Nagar
Joint Director (Seminars)
Jammu



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

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2016-18



Sh. Ashok Sharma



Sh. B. K. Suri



Sh. Chander Gulhati



Sh. Farooq Ahmad



Sh. K. B. Jandial



Prof. Mehraj-u-din



Prof. Neelu Rohmetra



Sh. Narinder Khajuria



Prof. Rekha Choudhary



Sh. Randheer Singh



Sh. S. K. Gupta



Sh. Sameer Rekhi



Sh. T. P. Singh



Sh. V. N. Sharma



Sh. Vikram Gour

Editorial Team

Dr. Ashok Bhan, Patron

Sh. B. R. Sharma, Chairman

Er J.B.S. Johar, Honorary Secretary

Prof. Alka Sharma, Director (Seminars)

Dr. Anil Gupta, Joint Secretary (Jammu)

Dr. Komal Nagar, Joint Director (Seminars)

Mr. Jatin, Secretarial Assistance

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