



## GOVERNANCE@WORK

**With 58 Indicators distributed in 10 sectors, DGGI of J&K is one of unique exercise in assessing the status of Governance in the Districts of J&K: Dr Jitendra Singh**

**January 2, 2022**

Jammu & Kashmir will soon become the first Union Territory in the country to have a district level Good Governance Index. Disclosing this after receiving an update from the newly appointed Secretary of Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Union Minister of Personnel, V Srinivas, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said, Centre will set up District Good Governance Index (DGGI) in J&K and the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) will carry out this task in collaboration with the Union Territory Government. The framework of the proposed Index has been finalised with the technical support from the Centre for Good Governance (CGG) Hyderabad.

The Minister said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is keen that we should replicate in Jammu & Kashmir, the same best practices of governance which are followed in other States and UTs of the country. He said, for a long time, as a result of certain constitutional and administrative constraints, many of the Central Rules of DoPT and ARPG were not applicable in Jammu & Kashmir, but in the last over two years, there has been a fast-track attempt to change the work culture and to follow the Mantra of "Maximum Governance, Minimum Government", which has been the guiding principle at the Centre and States ever since the Modi government came in 2014.

Good Governance Index at the district level, said Dr Jitendra Singh, will enable each of the 20 districts of Jammu & Kashmir to rise to the level of some of the best administered districts of the country, with time bound disposal of office files and other matters, increased transparency, increased accountability and increased citizen participation. He said, the next step would be to carry forward these Good Governance practices down to Tehsil and Block level.

The DGGI Framework has 58 Indicators drawn from different aspects of development and district administration distributed in all-encompassing 10 sectors such as Agriculture & allied sector, Commerce & Industry, Human Resource Development, Public Health, Public Infrastructure & Utilities, Economic Governance, Welfare & Development, Public Safety & Judiciary and Citizen Centric Governance.

These indicators were finalised after a series of consulta-

tions with the District officials of Government of Jammu & Kashmir, Academia, Subject Specialists, etc. Looking at the availability of authentic published data and other key principles, the set of indicators have been finalised from a larger list of 135 to 58.

To compute the index and rank, the Districts on their performance based on finalised 58 Indicators, an elaborate exercise of data collation followed by rigorous data sanitisation was undertaken. Final index computation process using standard and tested data normalisation and scoring methods is underway. This would result in coming out with Division-wise and District-wise ranks of the Districts. While there will be a comprehensive rank of Districts based on composite 10 Sectors, the DGGI will also offer a window on indicator-wise performance of the Districts.

**Prize money for PM's Excellence Award doubled from Rs10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh in 2021**

**January 3, 2022**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh launched the Web Portal for PM's Excellence Award.

Speaking after the launch, the Minister said, under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the entire concept and format of the PM's Excellence Award has undergone a revolutionary change since 2014. PM's Award for Excellence in Public Administration portal for the year 2021-2022 is [www.pmawards.gov.in](http://www.pmawards.gov.in).

Dr Jitendra Singh said that India's governance model has become a Jan Andolan with people responding to the Prime Minister's call for Jan Bhagidari in major schemes.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's exhortation to the civil servants to "change their role from being a regulator to an enabling entity to turn the challenges into opportunities" Dr Jitendra Singh said, officers must become a facilitator to bring the "Ease of Life" for the common man.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, after 2014, the process and selection of PM's Excellence Award have been institutionalized and now this is based on the performance of the District, rather than that of the District Collector or individual civil servant. He said, another improvisation brought is to assess the scale and rating of the implementation of Flagship Schemes in the district.

The Minister also added that the prize money was also doubled this year from Rs.10 lakh to Rs.20 lakh to the awarded District/Organization which is to be utilized for implementation of project/programme or bridging resource gaps in any area of public welfare. The Minister informed that it is now mandatory for all District Collectors to apply for the Award. At the same time, he noted with satisfaction that from 80 districts in 2015, for the last two-three years all districts are participating in the award scheme.

For the year 2021, the scheme for Prime Minister's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration aims to recognize the contribution of civil servants in: 1) Promoting "Jan Bhagidari" or Peoples' participation in Poshan Abhiyan 2) Promoting excellence in sports and wellness through Khelo India scheme 3) Digital Payments and good governance in PM SVANidhi Yojana 4) Holistic Development through One District One Product scheme 5) Seamless, End-to-End Delivery of Services without Human Intervention and 6) Innovations

### **Next generation Administrative Reforms to bring citizens and Government closer on Digital Platforms**

**January 8, 2022**

The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, in association with the State Government of Telangana organized the 24th Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) 2021 on 7th - 8th February 2022 at Hyderabad, Telangana. The theme of this Conference is "India's Techade: Digital Governance in a Post Pandemic World". At the Valedictory Session today, 'Hyderabad Declaration' on e-Governance was adopted after intensive deliberations during the sessions held over two days.

The Conference was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Minister of State of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Atomic Energy and Department of Space, Government of India and presided by Shri K. T. Rama Rao, Cabinet Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development, Industries, Information Technology Electronics and Communications, Government of Telangana.

The 24th NCeG represented a platform for constructive exchange of ideas on some of the latest technologies for promoting e-Governance. The Distinguished speakers invited for the Conference shared their knowledge and insights on the themes identified for the Conference. The 24th NCeG 2021 provided all participating State and UT Government teams with a detailed view of the latest concepts and technologies to promote e-Governance and enable them to go back with useful takeaways for being implemented in their respective States and UTs.

Over the two days, discussions were held on six sub-themes in Plenary sessions- AatmaNirbhar Bharat: Universalization of Public Services; Innovation- Platformization, Emerging Technologies; Ease of living through Technology Interventions for Good Governance; Government Process Re-engineering and Citizen's participation in Government Processes; India's Techade - Digital Economy (Digital Payments - Building Citizen's Confi-

dence). There were also parallel breakout sessions where the awardees of National e-Governance Awards 2021 from Centre, State and District showcased their award winning entries. These sessions were on the themes : Unicorns of 2021: Demonstrating Power of Innovation, Digital Excellence at District level; Seamless, Creating a technology Innovation Ecosystem, End to End service delivery without human interference through technological interventions; Replicability and sustainability in e-Governance-Best Practices. An Exhibition including a Wall of Fame was also organized during the event to showcase India's achievements in the field of e-Governance.

Over 50 speakers presented their papers in semi-virtual mode. The Conference was attended by over 2000 delegates in semi-virtual mode.

To recognise the implementation of e-Governance initiatives, the National e-Governance Awards 2021 were presented during the Inaugural Session. 26 awards were presented under the 6 categories of the Award Scheme to Central Ministries/Departments, State/UT Governments, Districts, Local Bodies, Public Sector Undertakings and Academic & Research Institutions. This include 12 Gold, 13 Silver and 1 Jury Award.

The 24th NCeG provided a platform for the delegates, including senior Government officers from across the country, industry stalwarts and researchers, to share best practices, latest technology developments, thus leveraging them for achieving effective governance and public service delivery. The focus of all the sessions was on learning by experience sharing effective e-governance tools for benefits of the citizen and achieve Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi's vision of 'Minimum Government, Maximum Governance'.

### **The Minister chairs the first ever DARPG's Vision India@2047 meeting with Sectoral Experts on Governance**

**January 15, 2022**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said that India's @2047 would have evolved beyond imagination. Not only are things moving fast, but the pace of this forward movement is much faster than ever before, which makes it very difficult to precisely visualise the exact shape of India that emerges 25 years from now, he said. But one thing is certain, he said, that when independent India turns 100, it will be the world's Technological and Economic powerhouse.

Chairing the first ever meeting of Sectoral Experts to deliberate on Vision India @2047 from the Governance perspective, organised by Department of Administrative Reforms (DARPG), Dr Jitendra Singh said, several initiatives, policies, schemes and programmes during the last 7 years have given rise to a new era, in what has been described as the dawn of



New India, and the emergence of Atma Nirbhar Bharat. Dr Jitendra Singh said, as we formulate the Vision for Governance, one has to recognize that to bring citizens and Government closer, digital institutions have to be created. He said, adopting 21st century management practices represents a significant challenge for Governments and it is with this objective that Prime Minister Modi has embarked on the ambitious Vision India@2047 initiative.

Referring to Prime Minister Modi's exhortation from the ramparts of Red Fort on 15th August, 2021, Dr Jitendra Singh said India's 'CAN DO' generation can achieve every goal imaginable. He quoted Modi as saying, "I believe that in 2047, on the occasion of celebrating 100 years of independence... whoever will be the Prime Minister after 25 years from today, when he will be unfurling the flag... I say this with confidence today that he or she shall be chronicling those accomplishments in his speech about which the country has taken a vow today... This is my firm belief of victory".

The Minister pointed out that the Government has tried to ensure digital infrastructure as a core utility to every citizen by providing unique digital identity, access to common service centres and has provided thousands of Services on Demand by seamless integration of services across Departments/Ministries. Recalling the DARPG's Regional Conference at Nagpur on 'Improving Service Delivery' in December 2019, he said, both State/Central Governments have tried to ensure availability of services in real time by digital empowerment of citizens. Dr Jitendra Singh said, the unprecedented scale at which several programmes have been implemented like One Nation One Ration Card, e-Office, CPGRAMS, Passport Seva Kendras, e-Hospital reflect in the Government's willingness to adopt 'Building to scale Building to last' approach where Reforms are deep rooted and long lasting.

V. Srinivas, Secretary, DARPG informed that in 2021, the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances has strived to adopt the Whole of Government Approach in implementing 3 critical campaigns aimed at deepening administrative reforms. The initiative for Increasing Efficiency in Decision Making envisaged reducing the channels of submission, financial delegation, operationalization of e-Office version 7.0, Digitization of Central Registration Units and Operationalization of Desk Officer System in all Ministries/ Departments.

Some of the eminent Sectoral Experts who presented their views for India Vision @47 included Prabhat Kumar, former Cabinet Secretary, Sanjat Kothari, former CVC, Dr K. Radhakrishnan former ISRO Chairman, Prof Eroll D'ouza, Prof Himanshu Roy, Prof Abhay Karandikar, Prof Sachin Chaturvedi, Dr R. Balasubramaniam, Prof Nirmalaya Bagchi, Dr C. Chanramauli, Dr Mahadeo Jaiswal and S.N. Tripathi.

## **Mentally challenged child entitled to Family Pension**

**January 30, 2022**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said that mentally challenged child of a deceased Government employee/Pensioner is entitled to Family Pension and the spirit of this provision needs to be understood and respected.

Giving details, the Minister said, this reiteration in public was necessitated by the fact that it has come to the notice of the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare that in some cases the Banks are not allowing Family Pension in respect of a mentally challenged child through the person nominated by the Pensioner or his/her spouse and they insist for a Guardianship Certificate issued by a Court of Law.

Dr Jitendra Singh emphasised that under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, the Government follows the Mantra of Good Governance for bringing "Ease of Living" to the common man. In that spirit, the provision for nomination for Family Pension is intended to avoid any hassle to the child suffering from a mental disability in obtaining Guardianship Certificate from the Court or in claiming Family Pension after the death of his/her parents. Therefore, he said, insisting for a Guardianship Certificate by a Bank in such cases defeats the very purpose of such nomination and also amounts to violation of the statutory provisions of Central Civil Service (Pension) Rules, 2021.

The Department has, therefore, reiterated the provisions of the above rules. CMDs of all Pension Disbursing Banks have been advised to issue suitable instructions to their CPPCs/Pension Paying Branches for payment of Family Pension in respect of a mentally challenged child through the person nominated by the Government servant/Pensioner/ Family Pensioner in accordance with the statutory provisions of the Rules and not to insist for a Guardianship Certificate issued by Court of Law in such cases.

Pertinent to mention that in recent months, the Department of Pensions has introduced a number of path breaking reforms including relaxation in the provision of Family Pension for divorced daughters, introduction of Face Recognition Technology through mobile app for ease in submitting Life Certificate by elderly pensioners, Electronic Pension Pay Order, assistance from Postal Department to facilitate pension process etc.

## **Capacity Building Commission under Mission Karmayogi**

**February 2, 2022**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pen-

sions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said that Capacity Building Commission has been setup as envisaged under Mission Karmayogi.

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha today, Dr Jitendra Singh informed that the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) namely 'Karmayogi Bharat' has been incorporated under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 on 31st January, 2022.

The details of the chairman and other Members of the Capacity Building Commission appointed with the approval of Appointments Committee of the Cabinet are as following:

Chairman - Shri Adil Zainulbhai  
Member (HR) - Shri Ramaswamy Balasubramaniam  
Member (Administration) - Shri Praveen Pardeshi

### **The Minister inaugurates "Innovations in Public Administration" programme of Capacity Building Commission of Mission Karmayogi**

**February 4, 2022**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said that technology based governance is no longer an option, but a necessity and under Prime Minister Narendra Modi, technological innovation has become a hallmark of the governance system.

The Minister was speaking after inaugurating "Innovations in Public Administration" program of Capacity Building Commission (CBC) of Mission Karmayogi to identify successful innovations in public service pioneered by civil servants. He said, these will serve as case studies for capacity building of present and future civil servants. The Minister said that a CBC Knowledge Repository will be created to be accessed by all to scale up successful innovations in the whole country.

The event marked the launch of the portal, which would be open from February 4th to March 5th for government employees to share innovations undertaken by them. Capacity Building Commission invites all Government Employees to share their successful innovations at <https://innovateindia.mygov.in/cbc-inviting-innovations>. Selected Innovators will have the opportunity to showcase their leadership, creativity and initiatives to enhance governance and public service delivery in the Annual Health of Civil Services Report.

Lauding the role of CBC for successfully taking forward the vision of Prime Minister for genuine empowerment of civil servants within a short span of six months, Dr Jitendra Singh called upon them to set up Global Benchmarks to face global challenges head on.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that Prime Minister Narendra

Modi has a special penchant for governance reforms and in the last seven and half years several out of box ideas were implemented for scaling up the administrative output. He said, in 2016 a path breaking decision was taken making it mandatory for civil servants to undergo a three-month stint as Assistant Secretaries at the Centre before going to their respective cadre.

Similarly, the Minister said, the entire concept and format of the PM's Excellence Award has undergone a revolutionary change since 2014 as the focus shifted from Individual performance to competition among districts for excellence achieved in implementation of flagship schemes. The Minister said that India's governance model has become a Jan Andolan with people responding to the Prime Minister's call for Jan Bhagidari in major schemes.

Dr Jitendra Singh said the training is also undergoing a sea-change in LBSNAA Mussoorie and other Central Training Institutes with a renewed focus on modern curriculum and Integrative Approach. He said, through Mission Karmayogi, the ultimate objective of the Governance is to bring "Ease of Living" for the common man of India.

Chairman of Capacity Building Commission Adil Zainulbhai in his address said that Innovation Portal will be open for about 3.1 million civil servants to capture the innovations that will have huge bearing on efficiency of governance. He said, innovators will be rewarded suitably and the unique projects will be scaled up.

Member (HR) CBC, Shri Ramaswamy Balasubramaniam said that for the 1st time after 75 years of Independence, an Annual Health of Civil Services Report will be released. He also added that India can become a global repository of case studies of civil servants for successful innovations.

Member (Administration) Shri Praveen Pardeshi, Secretary, CBC, Hemang Jani and over 100 top bureaucrats across the country joined the launch event today.

During the event, the Commission invited three innovators from different states to share their experiences of driving innovation projects. Dr Rajendra Bharud, Commissioner, TRTI presented about Soak pit model for gutter free villages in villages of Maharashtra. Dr Rakesh Gupta, Joint Commissioner, Ministry of Women and Child Development, presented on Antyodaya Saral project implemented in Haryana to improve citizen service delivery; and Ms Kshipra Agre, Deputy Collector, Valsad presented on Early flood warning system implemented in Valsad, Gujarat.

### **Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh says Centre is examining the comments received from the States/UTs on a proposal to amend Rule 6(1) of IAS (Cadre) Rules, 1954, relating to the Central Deputation of IAS officers**

**February 9, 2022**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth



Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh said, the Centre is examining the comments received from the States/UTs on a proposal to amend Rule 6(1) of IAS (Cadre) Rules, 1954, relating to the Central Deputation of IAS officers.

In a written reply to a question in the Lok Sabha, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the Indian Administrative Service (Fixation of Cadre Strength) Regulations, 1955 provide for a Central Deputation Reserve not exceeding 40% of the Senior Duty Posts of a cadre/joint cadre. However, State Governments have not been sponsoring adequate number of officers for central deputation to meet the requirements of the Government of India.

Therefore, in order to address the above problem, comments have been sought from States/UTs, in terms of the provisions contained in Section 3 of All India Services Act, 1951 on a proposal to amend Rule 6(1) of IAS (Cadre) Rules, 1954, relating to the Central Deputation of IAS officers.

## Capacity Building Commission meet on Civil Services Reforms

February 26, 2022

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh said that an ideal public administration must be competitive, efficient, cost effective and accountable to deliver good governance.

Addressing an event on 'Revisiting the History of Civil Service Reforms from Capacity Building Lens', the Minister said, public officials today are facing increasing pressure to deliver better services with fewer resources which requires, among other things, an investment in capacity building. He maintained that the Civil Servants for a New India need to keep pace with these constant and evolving changes.

Dr Jitendra Singh underlined New Generation Reforms for New Generation Civil Servants and said that India must follow global benchmarks in Governance as it is poised to assume a global leadership role in the Comity of Nations. He said, increasing Transparency, Accountability and People-Centric Delivery mechanisms must become cornerstones of New Generation Reforms for the New Generation Civil Servants.

Dr. Singh said that the Capacity Building Commission of India will be publishing an 'Annual Health of Civil Services Report' (AHCSR) in 2022 that will take a deeper look at the performance of the Indian civil service and how Mission Karmayogi is impacting capacity building

in the civil service. He opined that the concept of 'Good governance' is not alien to India and is well captured even in the country's ancient literatures. It has been seen as a comprehensive pathway to achieving the ideal state of serving people and overcoming the crisis and challenges in administration. He said that in our ancient literature, the foundation of good governance is based on Dharma (righteousness). One who practises 'Dharma' immediately distinguishes oneself from the present materialistic repository of values. For a Civil servant following the path of Dharma and supporting it with good Karma will lead to administrative excellence. The earliest works on Public administration in India have been illustrated in various sacred texts such as Vedas, Buddhist literatures, and Jain canonical works.

The Union Minister said that a thorough study of Ancient Indian works present to us stellar examples of political philosophies. The science of statecraft in India is well rooted in our history and has been lived in and evolved upon. We have so much learning to build upon that we don't have to look towards the West for at least our political philosophy.

Dr. Jitendra Singh stated that present governments can use the learning of traditional, historical knowledge and recent administrative reform attempts to further improve governance and achieve the goal of Maximum Governance, minimum government. The Minister expressed hope that Mission Karmayogi will be a key enabler in continuously augmenting and enhancing delivery, and over the time will be able to support in achieving the goal of \$5 Trillion economy set by the Prime Minister. He said, the foundations of this Mission are rooted in the recognition that a citizen-centric civil service empowered with role right attitude, functional expertise and domain knowledge will result in improved ease of living and ease of doing business. He said, in the background of ever changing demographics, digital penetration as well as growing social and political awareness, there is a need to empower the civil servants to be more dynamic and professional.

The Capacity Building Commission (CBC) and Ashank Desai Centre for Leadership and Organisational Development (ADCLOD), IIM-Ahmedabad hosted the Virtual Roundtable Conference on 'Revisiting the History of Civil Service Reforms from Capacity Building

The event was organized to understand the historical perspectives of public administration in India, key implementable recommendations from earlier Administrative Reforms Commissions (ARCs) and to capture ideas that can aid the capacity building agenda of Capacity Building Commission. Secretary, DARPG, Shri V. Sinivas and other senior officials also graced the occasion. The event was chaired by Mr Adil-Zainulbhai, Chairman of the Commission, in the presence of Members - Dr R. Balasubramaniam and Mr Praveen Pardeshi - and Secretary of the Commission - Mr HemangJani.

## **The Minister inaugurates three Day Orientation Programme on Urban Governance for Mayors/ Chairpersons and Municipal Commissioners/Chief Executives Officers from Urban Local Bodies from Jammu & Kashmir at IIPA**

**March 2, 2022**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said that the NDA Government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given special emphasis on urban sector in the last 8 years to ensure economic development of all the states.

Inaugurating the three-Day Orientation Programme on Urban Governance for Mayors/ Chairpersons and Municipal Commissioners/Chief Executives Officers from Urban Local Bodies from Jammu & Kashmir, Dr Jitendra Singh said, for the first time, this year's union budget talks about urban planning and development in a 25 year perspective when 50% India will be living in urban areas.

The Minister said, Union Budget of 2022-23 allocated the highest ever grant of Rs 76,549.46 crore and announced several measures including setting up a high-level committee of planners, economists, and institutions to steer a paradigm change in the approach towards urban sector policies, planning, implementation, capacity building, and governance. The Minister said, by the time India turns 100 in 2047, about half the population of the country is likely to live in urban areas.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, since 2014 many special urban missions have launched which include SBM (Swachh Bharat Mission), PMAY (Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana), AMRUT (Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation), SCM (Smart Cities Mission), NULM (National Urban Livelihood Mission) to ensure that the transition to urban majority society is inclusive, sustainable, environment friendly and productive.

Dr Jitendra Singh said in India, the states with the above average level of urbanisation have much higher per capita income than states with low level of urbanisation like Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha etc. The states from Gujarat up to Tamil Nadu have either achieved 50% mark (Tamil Nadu) or are closer to the urban majority, he added.

Referring to Orientation Programme on Urban Governance for municipal leaders from Jammu and Kashmir, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the organisation of this course in the 75th years of Independence has special significance as India is undergoing a transition from semi-urban (25% plus) to urban majority society by next 25 years. He said, it is a symbol of economic growth as urbanisation is linked with expansion of manufacturing and services.

The Minister pointed out that like the country as a whole, Jammu and Kashmir is also undergoing a changeover from 27% urban population in 2011 to half way mark in coming decades. He, however added that this journey poses a challenge to carry out urban sector reforms effectively as initiated by our urban missions. He said, the role of Jammu which is one of the oldest municipalities, created in 1930, and is the gateway of state is crucial to expedite economic development in the state.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that in the overall context, he is happy to note that the municipal corporation of Jammu which was created in 2000 has taken appreciable steps in the last few years, which include online payment gateway and approval procedure, checking illegal construction, banners hoardings and efficient grievance redressal. He, however, added that there are several innovations and best practices in other parts of the country which need suitable exposure for the city of Jammu and in this connection, the role of elected leaders in the city government becomes decisive.

Dr Jitendra Singh referred to multiple roles of elected leaders like developing a bottom-up connectivity in city governance, promoting emergence of natural leadership from the grass-root level, community participation and mobilisation of local resources, and operating as intermediary link between city government and community, and state leadership and city. He said, water, sanitation, mobility and housing are key areas of our attention.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, besides the Jal Jeevan Mission with a focus on Har Ghar Nal se Jal, the country has already achieved ODF (Open Defecation Free) status for all the urban areas. He said, Smart Cities Mission is providing infrastructure and governance, PMAY is focusing on affordable housing, while PMSVANidhi is providing working capital loan to street vendors. All these schemes need suitable implementation in Jammu, the Minister emphasised.

In his concluding remarks, Dr Jitendra Singh said, the three-day programme of IIPA covers a pointed exposure on government of India missions and case studies from different parts of the country and added that these lessons will certainly give some take home points for adaptation in Jammu. He said, the urban reforms in Jammu are not only important for the city but are also important for other towns in the state. The Minister expressed hope that this three day conclave on urban governance will provide live cases and agenda for each of our elected representatives and will add to our efforts to make Jammu a clean, green and productive city.

**Minister addresses valedictory function of three-day Orientation Programme on Urban Governance for Mayors/ Chairpersons and Municipal Commissioners/Chief Executive Officers from Urban Local Bodies from Jammu & Kashmir at IIPA**



## March 4, 2022

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh today said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi is committed to strengthen the local bodies in Jammu and Kashmir. He said that this three-day workshop of local bodies' representatives of Jammu is a step in that direction which will be followed by a similar program for Srinagar and then other parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

Addressing the valedictory function of three-day Orientation Programme on Urban Governance for Mayors/ Chairpersons and Municipal Commissioners/Chief Executive Officers from Urban Local Bodies from Jammu & Kashmir at the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) headquarters, New Delhi today, Dr. Jitendra Singh, who is also the Chairman of IIPA, said that the smooth elections to the village councils and the the first-ever elections to District Councils after seven decades, conducted in Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir are a symbol of commitment of the Government of India, led by Prime Minister Modi, to strengthen the local bodies.

The Union Minister said that there have been efforts to change the political culture since Narendra Modi became the Prime Minister of India in 2014. He said that Prime Minister Modi has given the mantra of 'Reform, Perform, Transform' and today transparency in all spheres and at all levels of the governance can be seen.

Dr Jitendra Singh said that honesty and accountability are the key words for the smooth conduct of the duties by people's representatives. He added that the local bodies' representatives should be in better coordination with the officials to be able to remove several obstacles easily. He urged the participants to inculcate vision, imagination and innovation.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that efforts are on to conduct a number of programs in Jammu and Kashmir such as start-up based workshops which can open a new horizon for people, especially youth of the valley. Such programs will be based on themes, specific to the local area. Similarly, discussions are on with the M/o Skill Development and Entrepreneurship to organise Rozgar Mela.

Dr Jitendra Singh referred to multiple roles of elected representatives like developing a bottom-up connectivity in city governance, promoting emergence of natural leadership from the grass-root level, community participation and mobilisation of local resources, and operating as intermediary link between city government and community, and state leadership and city. He said, the urban reforms in Jammu are not only important for the city but are also important for other towns in the state.

Dr. Jitendra Singh gave away certificates to 28 participants of the three-day programme and also released a booklet titled, 'Training Need Assessment for Virtual Training

on Urban Governance for Municipal Engineers', penned by Professor KK Pandey, Faculty, CUS, IIPA and Dr. Sachin Chowdhry.

Senior officials of IIPA including SN Tripathi, DG, IIPA and Amitabh Ranjan, Registrar, IIPA were also present on the occasion.

## **DARPG, IIT Madras at IITM Research Park brings IAS officers, academics, and start-ups together in novel Symposium**

### March 8, 2022

Government of India (DARPG), in collaboration with Indian Institute of Technology Madras organized a three-day symposium on 'Imagining India @2047 through innovation' between 7th and 9th March 2022 at IIT Madras Research Park (IITMRP), Chennai.

This Symposium was organized to bring together pioneering minds in the country across the diaspora of academia, Government, and entrepreneurs to evolve a 'Vision 2047,' marking India's 100th year of independence. DARPG and IITM selected around young officers working as Deputy Secretaries of Government of India, District Collectors who will be serving in 2047 and Young entrepreneurs will have teamed together to collectively brainstorm innovative solutions for benefits of the citizens.

Around 300 participants from all over India including Principal Secretaries (AR) of all States and all ATI's joined the inaugural session.

Mr. V Srinivas, Secretary, Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG), Shri Surendra Nath Tripathi, DG, IIPA, Professor V Kamakoti, Director of IIT Madras & Professor Ashok Jhunjhunwala President, IIT Madras Incubation Cell (IITMIC) and IIT Madras Research Park (IITMRP) were present at the inaugural ceremony to address this expansive audience.

## **Induction programme at IIPA of 30 lateral entrants of Gol at the level of Joint Secretary / Director and Deputy Secretary during their 15-day**

### March 22, 2022

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh said that the Narendra Modi government has streamlined the lateral entry appointments to induct best of the best talent for a particular task, coupled with expertise.

Dr Jitendra Singh recalled that lateral appointments were made even by the earlier governments and some of the most famous lateral appointments include that of the former Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh as Chief Economic

Advisor in 1972. However, the Modi Govt has sought to institutionalise the process by routing it through UPSC and fixing a criteria for selection which is objective, transparent and purely merit cum experience based.

Interacting with the 30 lateral entrants into the Government of India at the level of Joint Secretary / Director and Deputy Secretary during their 15-day induction program at the Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi, the Minister said that the ultimate goal of the lateral entry mechanism is to select best of the best from a wider pool of choice as various flagship schemes started by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi require new skill set and expertise. He noted that this is happening at a crucial time when Prime Minister Modi is leading India to be a frontline nation in the world.

Dr. Jitendra Singh, who is also the Chairman of IIPA Executive Council, suggested to the inductees that accountability, transparency and citizen-centric approach should be the hallmark of their stint with the Government of India.

The Union Minister opined that the gap between the corporate and the government sector is narrowing rapidly and that enhanced skills are needed in new work approach system of today.

Dr. Jitendra Singh said that since India's stature in the world is on a rise, the entrants can make best use of this great opportunity to contribute to the nation building. He said that the efforts of today can make India a world leader in next 25 years, when the country celebrates 100 years of its independence.

30 lateral entrants include three Joint Secretaries, 18 Directors and nine Deputy Secretaries, representing 21 Ministries / Departments of the Government of India.

Shri SN Tripathi, DG, IIPA, Shri Amitabh Ranjan, Registrar, IIPA and Smt. Rashmi Chowdhary, Additional Secretary, DoPT were among several other dignitaries present at the event.

### Shortage of IAS Officers

**March 23, 2022**

The Government has increased the annual intake of IAS officers to 180 through Civil Services Examination (CSE) till CSE-2021. The Government has also constituted a Committee for recommending the intake of Direct Recruit IAS officers every year through CSE from CSE-2022 to CSE-2030. As far as IPS is concerned, intake of IPS (RR officers) through CSE (Civil Services Examination) has been increased from 150 to 200 w.e.f. CSE-2020. Further, filling up of vacancies through induction from State Services is a continuous process and Selection Committee Meetings are held by the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) with the State Governments.

The details of strength of IAS officers of various cadres,

represented as Total Authorized Strength, which comprises of Senior Duty Posts (SDP), Central Deputation Reserve (40% of SDP), State Deputation Reserve (25% of SDP), Training Reserve (3.5% of SDP), Leave Reserve & Junior Reserve (16.5% of SDP) and those in-position as on 01.01.2021 are as following:

The Cadre Rules of all three All India Services viz IAS, IPS and IFoS contain provisions governing the central deputation of AIS officers. However, State Governments have not been sponsoring adequate number of officers for central deputation. Accordingly, in terms of the provisions contained in Section 3 of All India Services Act, 1951, comments have been sought from States/UTs on a proposal to amend Rule 6(1) of respective cadre rules.

This information was given by Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Dr. Jitendra Singh in a written reply in Lok Sabha.

### CHILD CARE LEAVE (CCL)

**March 23, 2022**

Female Government servants appointed to the Civil Services and posts in connection with the affairs of the Union are eligible for Child Care Leave (CCL) under Rule 43-C of the Central Civil Services (Leave) Rules, 1972 as following:

- (i) For a maximum period of seven hundred and thirty days during entire service for taking care of two eldest surviving children upto the age of 18 years.
- (ii) No age limit in case of disabled child.
- (iii) For not more than three spells in a calendar year.
- (iv) In case of a single female Government servant, grant of CCL in three spells in a calendar year shall be extended to six spells in a calendar year.

As per Rule 43-C (3) CCL shall not ordinarily be granted during the probation period except in case of certain extreme situations where the leave sanctioning authority is satisfied about the need of CCL to the probationer, provided the period for which such leave is sanctioned is minimal.

In terms of Rule 43-C of CCS (Leave) Rules, 1972, CCL cannot be demanded as a matter of right and under no circumstances can any employee proceed on CCL without prior approval.

This information was given by Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Dr. Jitendra Singh in a written reply in Lok Sabha today.





## Restoration of Old Pension Scheme

**March 24, 2022**

The National Pension System (NPS) was introduced for Central Government employees w.e.f. 01.01.2004 vide Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) Notification No. 5/7/2003-ECB & PR dated 22.12.2003 for all new recruits joining the Central Government service (except armed forces) from 01.01.2004.

On introduction of the National Pension System, the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 were amended. Accordingly, the benefits of old pension scheme under the Central Civil Services (Pension) Rules, 1972 are not admissible to the Central Government civil servants appointed on or after 01.01.2004, under the amended rules. There is no proposal to re-introduce old pension scheme to Central Government civil employees joined on or after 01.01.2004 under consideration of Government of India.

NPS is now regulated under PFRDA Act, 2013 and regulations framed there under by PFRDA and Department of Financial Services. As per information furnished by Department of Financial Services:

The returns being market linked is a basic design feature of the National Pension System (NPS), however, pension being a long term product also enables the investments to grow with decent returns, despite short term volatility. Further, the prudential guidelines stipulated by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), the skills of the professional Fund Managers chosen through a rigorous process, and choice of asset allocation across various asset classes (Equity, Corporate Bond, Government Securities) enable the subscriber's accumulations to grow over the long term, riding over the short term volatility.

To safeguard the interest of the subscribers against any possible erosion of the pension wealth in times of an economic downturn, the exposure of equity/ equity linked

instruments have been limited to only 15 % in the default scheme, which is made available to the Government subscribers in a default mode. Equity exposure exceeding this limit of 15% is only available for the subscribers who choose to exercise individual investment choice while moving out of the default scheme. Further, risk averse subscribers can also choose to invest their entire contribution (100%) in Government bonds. This information was given by Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Dr. Jitendra Singh in a written reply in Rajya Sabha.

## Redressal of Public Grievances

**March 24 2022**

The Government has created a grievance redressal platform namely Centralised Public Grievances Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS) accessible at <https://pgportal.gov.in>. Any citizen can lodge his/her grievances pertaining to the Central Ministries/ Departments /State Governments / Union Territories (UTs) through this platform. Every Ministry / Department in Government of India and State Government/UT have access to this system and grievances are resolved by the concerned Ministries/ Departments/ States/ UTs. A total of 81000 grievances officers and 792 Appellate/Sub Appellate authorities have been mapped in the CPGRAMS. A timeframe of 45 days has been prescribed to dispose of a grievance. In case redressal is not possible within the prescribed time-frame an interim reply shall be given to the citizen. About 1,17,06,366 Grievances have been disposed of in CPGRAMS from 01.01.2015 to 28.02.2022.

This information was given by Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Dr. Jitendra Singh in a written reply in Rajya Sabha today.

## National Recruitment Agency

**March 24, 2022**

In the Budget for the year 2020-21, an announcement was made that the National Recruitment Agency (NRA) would be set up as an independent, professional and specialist organization for conduct of a computer-based online Common Eligibility Test (CET) for recruitment to Non-Gazetted posts.

It has been envisaged that the CET would screen /shortlist candidates for certain categories of posts in Central Government for which recruitment is carried out through the Staff Selection Commission (SSC), Railway Recruitment Boards (RRBs) and Institute of Banking Personnel Selection (IBPS). Based on the screening done at CET score level, final selection for recruitment shall be made through separate specialized tests/examinations, to be conducted by the respective recruitment agencies.

An Expert Advisory Committee has since been setup by NRA to recommend, inter-alia, the common Syllabus and scheme for the CET.

The officers/officials posted in NRA include Chairman, Secretary-cum-Controller of Examinations, Director and Deputy Secretary etc.

This information was given by Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions and Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office, Dr. Jitendra Singh in a written reply in Rajya Sabha. ■

Compiled by –  
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