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INSTITUTE NEWS

Programme on Tools and Techniques of Plan Preparation and Plan Implementation

Sponsored by the Ministry of Urban Development, the captioned programme was conducted at IIPA by its Centre for Urban Studies, for senior/middle level officers drawn from various urban bodies, from November 14-18. Besides discussing the latest tools and techniques of plan preparation and implementation post-74th Constitutional Amendment Act, the programme was designed to: (i) discuss the importance of norms, standards, development promotion rules and building bye-laws for planned development; (ii) discuss the legal framework for plan preparation process; (iii) discuss the plan implementation mechanism with due consideration to resource generation for the same; (iv) identify and learn from good practices so as to replicate them; (v) encourage networking of the participants from the respective organisation in knowledge sharing and opportunity to utilise the knowledge; and (vi) exchange of views of the participants on the subject with experts and faculty. The faculty comprised guest speakers and in-house faculty. Dr. Kusum Lata coordinated it.

Programme for Scientists and Technologists

Sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology, the programme was conducted at IIPA from November 14. It is scheduled to conclude on February 3. Apart from evaluating the symbiotic relationship between science, technology and development, the programme was designed to facilitate the participants to: (i) comprehend the significance of emerging socio-political, cultural and economic issues in management of science and technology; (ii) examine the nature of relationship between the state, civil society and market

and their emerging roles in facilitating good governance; (iii) appreciate the contemporary challenges confronting scientists and administrators in handling environmental and sustainable development issues; (iv) apply some of the good practices used in other organisations in implementation of S&T Policy; (v) prepare S&T projects for funding by the concerned departments; (vi) acquire necessary behavioural skills for solving problems and overcoming difficult situations in work place; (vii) comprehend administrative rules and procedures required for dealing with related ministries, departments and organisations more effectively; (viii) apply the basic concepts of financial and budgetary management; (ix) appreciate the relevance of legal framework pertaining to S&T; (x) apply ICT-enabled processes of governance for improving public service delivery systems; (xi) evaluate the role of technology in urban development; and (xii) envision the future role of scientists and technologists and their role in adaptation to climate change. The faculty comprised guest speakers and the programme coordinators, Prof. Bharati Sharma and Dr. Sujit Kumar Pruseth.

The Inter School Competition on Consumer Awareness

IIPA's Centre for Consumer Studies collaborated with the Gen-X Consumer Club of Air Force School in organising the captioned programme at Air Force School, New Delhi on October 19. It was sponsored by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. The competition included three events: (i) poster making; (ii) group song on consumer awareness; and (iii) power point presentation. Dr. P.D. Shenoy, former Labour Secretary, was the Chief Guest. Thirteen leading

public schools of Delhi participated in the event. Apart from first, second and third positions for the three events there was a running trophy for the overall best performance which was bagged by Birla Vidya Niketan School, New Delhi. Prof. Suresh Misra handed out the awards. Dr. Mamta Pathania coordinated it.

Workshop on Consumer Protection and Consumer Welfare

The Institute teamed up with Puducherry Local Branch in organising the Consumer Protection Act Silver Jubilee Celebration Workshop on "Consumer Protection and Consumer Welfare" at Puducherry from September 30-October 1. It was sponsored by the Department of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. Thiru P. Mathew Samuel, Special Secretary, Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Government of Puducherry, inaugurated the programme with an address. Shri V. Narayanaswamy, Union Minister of State for Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensioners, delivered the valedictory address.



Shri V. Narayanaswamy delivers the valedictory address

The main objectives of the workshop were to: (i) enhance the knowledge and skill of the participants in the area of consumer protection and consumer welfare; (ii) make them understand the need and importance

of consumer protection and welfare and the role of various stakeholders; (iii) explain the various provisions of the Consumer Protection Act and other legislations having a bearing on consumer protection; and (iv) discuss the legal dimensions of consumer protection in different service sectors such as housing, medical, banking, insurance, etc. The faculty comprised guest speakers and in-house faculty. About 75 participants attended the programme. Prof. Suresh Misra and Dr. Mamta Pathania coordinated it.

National Seminar on Globalization, Market and Consumer Protection

The Centre for Consumer Studies, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi in collaboration with Department of Political Science, Kumaun University, Nanital conducted a National Seminar on "Globalization, Market and Consumer Protection" from November 1-2, 2011 at Nanital. The Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India, sponsored the Seminar. Prof. Girijesh Pant, V.C, Doon University, Dehradun

inaugurated the Seminar and delivered the Keynote Address. The Presidential Address was delivered by Prof. Lata Joshi, Officiating Vice Chancellor, Kumaun University. The Valedictory Address on the concluding day was delivered by Prof. R. R. Jha, Director, Canadian Studies, Development Programme, BHU,

Varanasi. The main objective of the Seminar was to create awareness regarding the consumer protection and rights of the consumers and provide a platform to academicians, policy makers, NGO's and other

stakeholders to deliberate on various issues related to globalization, market and the consumer. About 35 papers were presented by academicians and scholars from different States and around 75 participants attended the seminar. Prof. Suresh Misra, Dr. Sapna Chadah and Dr. Mamta Pathania coordinated the Seminar.

Course on Public Administration

Sponsored by the Central Public Works Department, the course was conducted at IIPA, for trainee assistant executive engineers of CPWD, from November 21-25. Besides enabling the participants to understand the various concepts of organisational behaviour, the course was designed to enable them to develop essential behavioural skills, such as motivation, leadership, team building, presentation and time management for enhanced performance. The faculty comprised guest speakers and the course coordinator, Prof. Rajesh Singh.

Faculty News

- Dr. Rakesh Hooja, Director of IIPA, visited Kathmandu to participate in South Asia Forum on Federalism from November 2-4. On November 2, he made a presentation on "Inter-governmental Relations: Indian Case Study" and was a panelist at the session on "Political Dimensions of Inter-governmental Relations". On the concluding day, Dr. Hooja chaired the session on "International Perspectives of Fiscal Federalism". He also spoke during the sessions on: (i) Mapping the Federation, (ii) Political Parties in Federal System, and (iii) South Asian Overview of Fiscal Federalism. Participants drawn from 11 countries attended it with large delegations from Pakistan and Nepal. While in Kathmandu, Dr. Hooja met Shri Jayan Parsad, Indian Ambassador to Nepal and senior officers of the embassy and discussed about organising further

training programmes for Nepalese officers at IIPA with sponsorship of the Indian Embassy.

At the request of the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India and the United Nations Development Programme, Director, IIPA Dr. Rakesh Hooja chaired plenary session I on 'Competency-Based Human Resource Management Precept and Practice' at the National Conference on Human Resource Management: Towards Competency-based Performance, Management for the Civil Service organized at Delhi on 28-29 November, 2011. The National Conference was organized as part of the recently commenced GOI-UNDP Project on Pathway to an Inclusive Indian Administration (PIIA). The National Conference was inaugurated by Shri V. Narayanasamy Hon'ble Minister of State Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions & Prime Minister's office, Ms. Alka Sirohi, Secretary (Personnel), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions & Mr. Patrice Coeur-Bizot, UNDP Resident Representative and UN Resident Coordinator. Besides representatives from Central Ministries and State Governments the Conference had expert resource persons for seven foreign countries.

- Prof. Vinod Sharma chaired one session in the 'National Round Table on Climate Change and Disaster Management' on November 26, 2011 organized by NIDM and India Water Partnership.

Prof. Vinod Sharma gave an invited lecture 'Global Warming and its Impact on Natural Disasters' in the seminar 'Disaster Risk Reduction as an important route to Poverty Alleviation' organized by Vivekanand Int. Foundation and National Disaster Management Authority on November 24, 2011. Hon'ble Dr. Abdul Kalam (Former President of India) was the

Chief Guest.

- Dr. V.N. Alok, Associate Professor of Public Finance, participated in the South Asia Forum on Federalism in Kathmandu, Nepal during November 2-4, 2011. He made presentations on "Fiscal Federalism: International Comparative Overview and Indian Case Study." He also moderated the session on "Political Dimension of Inter-governmental Relations: International Perspective." The Forum of Federations, Canada organized and the foreign office of the Federal Republic of Germany sponsored the event.

- A 35-member Ecuadorian delegation headed by Mr. Juan Carlos Paez, Dean of Environmental Studies Department of Escuela Politecnica Javeriana of the Republic of Ecuador visited IIPA on November 28, 2011 for interaction with the eminent scholars of IIPA regarding the auspicious aim to exchange points of view and share the experiences and knowledge on various affairs such as environmental sciences and studies and/or agricultural revolution, atomic energy, organic agriculture, administration issues and sustainable development, etc.

Prof. Vinod K. Sharma, Professor in Disaster Management, interacted with the group and spoke on "Environmental Policy and Education in India".

- Dr. Kusum Lata attended a training programme on "Decentralised Waste Water Treatment" organised by the Centre for Science and Environment (CSE) from September 6-9 at their main office in Tughlakabad Institutional Area, New Delhi. The training programme was a part of various activities of CSE to conduct capacity building as Centre of Excellence in sustainable water management of the Ministry of Urban

Development. She also attended the training programme on "Rain Water Harvesting" organised by the Centre for Science and Environment from October 18-21. The training programme was part of the reforms process under JnNURM focusing on how municipalities can augment their water availability by using public spaces to recharge their ground water and to bring in the required laws to enable individuals to undertake RWH.

- Prof. Aasha Kapur Mehta, Professor of Economics: (i) made two presentations at a two-day national consultation at Planning Commission on "Pooling Our Knowledge on Gender and Planning" on September 6-7 at Yojana Bhawan. Her presentation on September 6 was on sector-specific issues pertaining to health from a gender lens; and on September 7 on data needs and constraints; (ii) she spoke on "Access to Social Opportunities with a focus on Health" in a session on "Inequitable Access to Social Opportunities and Compounded Disadvantages for Women in South Asia" at Lady Shri Ram College on November 3; (iii) she spoke on the "Responsiveness of Planning to Gender" at a National Consultation organised by CBGA on the 12th Five Year Plan at India Habitat Centre on November 3; and (iv) Prof Aasha was Chairperson of the Sub-group constituted by Planning Commission on "Gender Mainstreaming and Effective Accountability Mechanisms", wherein she presented the Report of the Sub-group constituted by the Planning Commission at a workshop of the Working Group on Women's Agency and Empowerment at Vigyan Bhawan on September 27.

Staff News

Dr. Usha Mujoo Munshi, Librarian, has been nominated as Co-Chairman

of the Expert Committee, constituted by the Department of Information Technology, for creating digital preservation standards and policy.

New Member of Academic Committee

Ms. Upma Srivastava, Joint Secretary, Department of Personnel

and Training, has been nominated as Member of the Academic Committee of IIPA.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

“The next elections for the members of the Executive Council shall be due in the year 2012 for the period of 2012 to 2016. For this purpose the Electoral Roll of eligible members for the elections 2012-2016 is to be revised and updated.

As per last decision of the Executive Council of 2003, the membership and voting rights of a IIPA Member shall be kept in abeyance if he/she have not submitted prescribed format containing the particulars of his/her membership. Accordingly a list of such members whose membership is in abeyance has been sent to all Regional and Local branches requesting them to pursue the matter with such defaulting members. Such members may restore their membership and voting rights for the elections of the Executive Council 2012, if they submit the prescribed format duly filled in up to 31st January, 2012 failing which their names will not appear in the Electoral Roll for the elections of the Executive Council to be held in 2012. A list of such members and prescribed format can be accessed on the IIPA website www.iipa.org.in

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

Karnataka Regional Branch Capacity Building Imperative for NeGP

The Indian Institute of Public Administration, Karnataka Regional Branch and Centre for ICT & e-Governance, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi jointly organized a one day Workshop on ‘Capacity Building Imperative for NeGP’ on 11th November 2011 at the I.A.S. Officers’ Association, No.1, Infantry Road, Bangalore.

There were in all 32 participants from different Departments of Karnataka Government who are implementing e-Governance in a big way.

The faculty comprised Prof. Rakesh Gupta, IIPA, New Delhi, Shri S.R. Das, IIPA, New Delhi, Shri Sunil Dutt, IIPA, New Delhi. Effective presentations were made by the faculties.

Shri Ravindran, CEO, Centre for e-Governance, GoK made an effective presentation of the comprehensive work done under e-Governance by the Government of Karnataka.

Shri S. Ramanathan, IAS(Retd.), Chairman, IIPA, KRB presided over the forenoon session of the Workshop.

The afternoon session was marked by effective interaction of each of the participants with the faculty and among themselves. The afternoon session was moderated by Dr.D. Srinivasan, IAS (Retd.), Vice-Chairman, IIPA, KRB.

Dharwad Local Branch

The branch teamed up with the Department of Political Science, Karnataka University, in organising a conference on “Role of Panchayat Bodies in Rural Development since 1959” on October 15. As Chief Guest, Dr. Hussain Khan, Dean of Social Science, stressed the need for

considering the behavioural aspect of a caste in formulating the public policy. Dr. Harish Ramaswamy, Chairman of the branch, emphasised the participative democracy in local bodies. Dr. M.G. Khan, Chairman of Department of Political Science, presided over the programme.

Delhi Regional Branch

To commemorate 122nd Birthday Anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the branch organised a lecture-meeting on November 22, in which Shri A.P. Saxena, former UN Chief, Technical Advisor and Country Project Manager- Indonesia, spoke on “Governance as a Value—The Nehru View”. Shri T.N. Chaturvedi, Chairman of IIPA, presided over the programme.

Haryana Regional Branch

The branch collaborated with the Haryana Institute of Rural Development in organising a seminar

on “Role of Panchayat Bodies in Rural Development since 1959” on October 15.

Shri Jagannath Pahadia, Governor of Haryana, was the Chief Guest accompanied by Lady Governor Smt. Shanti Devi Pahadia. The proceedings of the Seminar were by and large conducted in Hindi. Dr. G. Prasanna Kumar, Vice-Chairman of the branch, gave the welcome address. Dr. V.N. Alok presented theme paper highlighting the conceptual frame work and role of panchayat bodies even prior to its role under British rule. Shri M.C. Gupta, Chairman of the branch in his presidential address stated that the line of demarcation between the villages and town has blurred. It is high time that integrated developmental schemes are formulated for villages and towns without any discrimination. Shri Roshan Lal, Financial Commissioner and Secretary, made out a strong case for a change in the mind-set of the elected representatives as well as officials of panchayati raj institutions on the one hand and the officers of the line departments on the other. Shri Dhamaveer Singh, Chief Parliamentary Secretary, Haryana Vidhan Sabha, and in-charge of Panchayat and Development, Government of Haryana, recommended that the panchayati raj institution must focus on eradication of social evils and malaise like female foeticide, increasing trend of drug and alcohol addiction apart from development of the rural areas. Shri Jagannath Pahadia emphasised that in the wake of stress on decentralisation in the country the policies and projects should be conceptualised keeping in view the needs and priorities of the concerned areas to ensure that the targeted beneficiaries, including the most marginalised sections of the

society, reaped fruits of development. A sarpanch of a village suggested that the Secretary relating to overseeing the functioning of a gram sabha, including its meetings, should be assigned duties of minimum number of village as possible. A large number of bureaucrats, members of local bodies, heads of the institutions in the field of rural development, members of the branch, faculty of HIRD, print and electronic media persons attended the programme. Shri H.R. Bangia, Secretary of the branch, coordinated it.

The branch in its annual general meeting, held on October 15, elected the following office-bearers for the year 2011-2014 (up to March 31, 2014): Chairman: Shri M.C. Gupta; Vice-Chairmen: Shri Sankar Sen and Dr. Prasanna Kumar; Secretary: Shri H.R. Bangia; Treasurer: Shri V.S. Chauhan; Joint Secretaries: Shri Ashok Kumar Arya and Shri Ravi Shankar Singh; Members: Dr. Ramesh Kumar and Shri O.P. Wadhwa.

Howrah Local Branch

The branch organised a conference on “Role of Panchayat Bodies in Rural Development since 1959” on September 23. Prof. Asish Ray, Secretary of the branch, gave the inaugural address, wherein he stated that panchayati raj, based on democratic decentralisation of powers, implemented with skill, honesty and will, alone hold the key to the foundation of real democracy. In his key-note address, Prof. Ashim Ghosh pointed that inspite of huge fund allotted to panchayats, they have failed to deliver the desired results. Prof. Amitava Datta as Special Guest mentioned that panchayat raj institutions have not been fully successful in the field of protecting

the interests of the poor people. Prof. Shankar Sanyal, Vice-Chairman of the branch, presided over the programme.

Jammu and Kashmir Regional Branch

The branch organised a lecture-meeting on October 25, in which Dr. S.S. Bloeria, Vice-Chancellor of Jammu University, spoke on “India and Afghanistan”. He discussed at length India’s historical relations with Afghanistan, policy of India towards Afghanistan, broad overview of India’s interest in geo-political context and India’s investment in various projects in Afghanistan. Dr. Ashok Bhan, Chairman of the branch, presided over the programme.

Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh Regional Branch

The branch organised a seminar on “Non-conventional Energy and Madhya Pradesh” on November 13. The main speakers were Shri Shambhu Ratan Awasthi, former General Manager of BHEL; and Shri Surendar Bajpai, MP Urja Vikas Nigam. Shri Bajpai gave an account of the situation in Madhya Pradesh regarding non conventional energy. Shri Awasthi explained the scenario from all India perspective including the pitfalls that are thwarting the progress in this regard and the progress that has been made. Shri C. S. Chadhha, former MD, Urja Vikas Nigam, also addressed the gathering.

Mysore Local Branch

The branch organized a conference on “Role of Panchayat Bodies in Rural Development” on October 22. Shri H. Vishwanath, MP, inaugurated the programme; and Dr. Shrivaran, Vice-President of Zilla Panchayat, presided. Prof. M. Umamathy, Chairman of the

branch, presented a summary of the theme paper for discussion. Dr. J. Somashekar, Secretary of the branch, welcomed the audience; and Shri S. Sudarshan, Director, V-LEAD proposed the vote of thanks. In the first session, Prof. N. Shivanna of the Institute for Socio and Economic Change, spoke on "Panchayat Bodies: Structure and Reforms". Prof. V.K. Nataraj, former Director of the Institute of Development Studies, Chennai and Mysore, presided. In the second session on "The Financial Position of Panchayat Bodies", Prof. Abdul Aziz, former Member of First Finance Commission of Karnataka, spoke. Dr. B.S. Sreekantaradhya, Professor of Public Finance, presided. In the concluding session, Shri H.S. Ashokanand, former Director of Abdul Nazir Saab State Institute of Rural Development, Mysore spoke on "The Role of Panchayat Bodies in Rural Development". Prof. Chambi Puranik, former Dean of Karnataka State Open University, presided.

Odisha Regional Branch

The branch organised a seminar on "Parliamentary Federal Model in India—Issues and Challenges" on October 27. Shri Sanjib Chandra Hota, Chairman of the branch, presided and introduced the subject. He highlighted many of the original intentions of the Constitution makers having not stood the test of time in our democratic set-up. Earlier, the branch organized a workshop on "Role of Panchayat Bodies in Rural Development since 1959" on September 17. Shri P.K. Jena, Commissioner-cum-Secretary of Panchayati Raj Department, Government of Odisha, inaugurated the workshop and spoke on the key

issues in reference to Odisha. Shri S. Sundarrajan, former Development Commissioner, gave the valedictory address.

Orissa Regional Branch

Seminar on Governance and Sustainable Environment

Indian Institute of Public Administration, Orissa Regional Branch organized a seminar in collaboration with Department of Political Science, Ravenshaw University, at its campus at Cuttack on January 25, 2011. The seminar was attended by the members of IIPA, faculty members, students of various departments of the Ravenshaw University including Political Science. Shri Sanjib Chandra Hota, IAS (Retd.) Chairman of the Orissa Branch of IIPA presided over the seminar. Dr. Luna Samanta, Prof. of Zoology, Department of the University and Shri Sudhir Patnaik an eminent media and Environment activist were the speakers of the occasion. Talking on environment protection and government initiative, Shri Netrananda Roy, Treasurer of IIPA introduced the role of IIPA to the audience and Dr. Asima Sahu, Reader, Political Science of Ravenshaw University introduced members on the dais to the audience. Prof. Niranjana Barik, HOD of Political Science Department of Ravenshaw University introduced the theme. Shri B.B. Mishra, Vice Chairman of IIPA, Orissa Regional Branch spoke on various aspects of governance, its development and characteristics and other areas of concern of the governance which have to be reformed for good governance. Shri Sanjib Chandra Hota, in his Presidential address said that India

has good democracy but a soft state and cost. He also told about sustainability in the fields of social and political environment besides the natural environment. This was followed by a lively discussion by the students, faculty members, members of IIPA with the speakers. The seminar came to an end by a formal vote of thanks by Dr. Pratip Kumar Mishra, Hony. Secretary, IIPA, Orissa Regional Branch, Bhubaneswar.

Seminar on Media and Social Responsibility

The Orissa Branch of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, organized a seminar on Media and Social Responsibility. Addressing the members and invitees, Prof. Tapati Basu, Prof. of Journalism, Kolkata University highlighted the role of media in a changing society. Basing on case studies she reflected both the positive and negative effects of print and electronic media on the society. However freedom of the press is more in western democracies than India. She also said that social responsibility of the media is seen in the new wave cinema, TV serials and private channels. Media has been proactive in recent times and adjusting with the changing times. Shri Amit Niogi, sub-editor of Samaya, Oriya daily newspaper and guest faculty in journalism at Utkal and Ravenshaw University presented a theoretical foundation to social responsibility. It is easier to blame than accept the positive role of media. It is undoubtedly the most powerful channel of communication between the people and the government and it has to effectively pursue its self-regulatory mechanism

The cautious seldom make mistakes — Confucius

while providing information. He pleaded for democratization of the media and spread the message of development. Presenting the theme Dr. Chitra Kanungo said that in the age of information, media has a serial significance and social responsibility for which it has earned the distinction as the fourth estate in democracy. Government and media have to understand their social responsibility in a changing social order. As media is a public service it has to regulate itself within the accepted norms of a society. In his presidential address the Chairman of the branch, Shri Sanjib Chandra Hota said that there cannot be any comparison of the social responsibility of the media in a democratic polity like India and the theocratic countries like Iran and Pakistan and autocratic China. What is required good journalism reflecting the issues and problems of the people in remote areas. He emphasised that the media has to be professional in handling the information that becomes a news. He said overdose of 24/7 news is an overdose of repetitive news, tainting social responsibility. Members raised issues regarding the role of media and its effectiveness in addressing social responsibility in the interactive session. Dr. Bijoyini Mohanty and Dr. Pratip Mishra introduced the Guest and Dr. Swarnamayee Tripathy offered the formal vote of thanks.

Seminar on Psychology of Militant Jihandi

The Orissa Branch of the Indian Institute of Public Administration, Orissa Regional Branch organized a seminar on Psychology of Militant Jihadi" on July 29, 2011 at

Bhubaneswar. Dr. Chitra Kanungo formally introduced the Guest Speaker. Presenting the theme Shri S.N. Tiwari, Retired D.G. Police Intelligence Orissa defined Jihadi as a "Holy war against infidels." Citing from the Quran he said Jihad means to uplift the Muslim society in a peaceful manner. Basing his deliberation on a research, Dr. Sudhanshu Sarangi highlighted his personal interaction with the terrorist lodged in Tihar Jail about the psycho-social factors that attract them to become a jihadi. In his power point presentation he gave a detailed analysis as to the root cause of people jumping to militancy and terror tactics being: (i) individualistic, (ii) socialistic, (iii) ideological. His perception is that terrorists are not schizophrenic nor paranoid, they are normal people, but due to illiteracy, poverty, social conservatism and as a revenge for social inequality, they are opting militancy as panacea for all ills. The merger of terrorist groups having common objective has escalated it in the Afg-Pak region. This was followed by an active interaction between the members and the speaker on various issues and clarifications were sought. Presiding over the meeting, Chairman Shri S.C. Hota thanked Dr. Sarangi for an indepth analysis on the subject and said the not only Jehadi terrorism but various types of terror activities are seen all over the world. Dr. Pratip Kumar Mishra, Honorary Secretary, offered a formal vote of thanks.

Seminar on Corruption as a Road Block to Good Governance

The Orissa Regional Branch of IIPA organized a seminar on "Corruption as a Road Block to

Good Governance". Presenting the theme Shri Bipin Bihari Mishra said the collective action of civil society, government and people will help reduce corruption and enhance the initiative of the government for inclusive growth. Shri Gopal Chandra Nanda former D.G. Police and Director Vigilance, Government of Orissa, focused on the canons of good governance and how corruption in the key agencies of the government hinder the development initiatives taken by the Central, state and local governments. Prof. S.N. Mishra of Political Science faculty suggested that delivery system should be effective and corruption free so that benefits of government policies and programmes should reach the people. Corruption comes as a challenge to good governance. Presiding over the meeting Chairman, Shri S.C. Hota said leakages of public money and spending jacks up the cost of projects mend for the poor and this is mainly due to corruption. Dr. Pratip Kumar Mishra, Hony. Secretary and Shri Damodar Pradhani, Treasurer along with 50 participants participated in the discussion.

Salem Local Branch

The branch jointly with Government Arts College for Women organised a seminar on "Role of Panchayat Bodies in Rural Development since 1959" on October 18. Dr. A. Mary Maggi, Principal of the College, presided; and Shri R. Kumarasamy, Secretary of the branch, spoke on the objective of the seminar. Shri M.A.I. Cellaiah, former Addl. Director of Rural Development, as Guest Speaker, provided valuable points on the role of panchayats.

Nothing astonishes men so much as common sense and plain dealing — Ralph Waldo Emerson

NEWS FROM THE CENTRE

India Improves on Bribery Index

When it comes to companies bribing public officials when doing business overseas, India's score has improved the most in a global index, according to Transparency International. Nevertheless, India still ranks near the bottom of the global Bribe Payers Index, as there was a high likelihood of Indian companies paying bribes abroad. In a list of 28 countries, India has been ranked 19th, while China and Russia fared the worst, at 27th and 28th positions,

respectively. The index was based on a survey of 3,000 business executives from developed and developing countries. The countries were evaluated on a scale of 0-10 points, with the maximum 10 points corresponding to the view that companies from that country never indulged in bribery abroad and a zero score being equivalent to these companies having always paid bribes. India's score improved to 7.5 points, up by 0.7 points since the last survey in 2008. This was the maximum

improvement for any country, but India still remains near the bottom of the table. India's score was below the global average of 7.8 points. In this year's list, the Netherlands and Switzerland have ranked together on top with 8.8 points each – indicating that companies from these countries were least likely to pay a bribe while doing business abroad. Russia, on the other hand, was ranked the worst with a score of 6.1 points, while China was a notch higher with 6.5 points.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

INDRAPRASTHA ESTATE, RING ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 002

Tel : 011-23702400 Fax : 011-23702440 Email : iipaitc@nda.vsnl.net.in

Website : www.iipa.ernet.in

Quotable Quotes

- *Curiosity is one of the permanent and certain characteristics of a vigorous mind* — Samuel Johnson
- *Death is nothing; but to live defeated and inglorious is to die daily* — Napoleon Bonaparte
- *Alimony is like buying oats for a dead horse* — Arthur 'Bugs' Baer
- *Nothing is more humiliating than to see idiots succeed in enterprises we have failed in* — Flaubert
- *Imagination is more important than knowledge* — Albert Einstein
- *Tenderness and kindness are not signs of weakness and despair, but manifestations of strength and resolution* — Kahlil Gibran

Editor : RAKESH HOOJA

Asstt. Editor : SUNIL DUTT

Publications brought out in 2010-2011

1. **Stimulating Revenue Base of Urban Local Bodies** by K.K. Pandey,
2. **Training for Governance in the States** by Rakesh Hooja, Rajesh Singh and V.K. Sharma
3. **Case Method** by Sushma Yadav and V. Shanmugasundaram
4. **India Chronic Poverty Report Ed.** Aasha Kapur Mehta, Andrew Shepherd, Shashanka Bhide, Amita Shah and Anand Kumar
5. **Consumer Empowerment** by Urvashi Pande and Manjari Acharya,
6. **Transparent Governance in South Asia (*Background papers and proceedings of the regional workshop on "Towards more Open and Transparent Governance in South Asia"*)** Editorial Team: Shekhar Singh, Prashant Sharma, Vikram K. Chand, Stephanie de Chassy, Marcos Mendiburu, Venkatesh Nayak, Pranab Banerji, Usha Mujoo Munshi and Sunil Dutt
7. **Training of Public Servants at State Level** (IIPA Discussion Papers Series No. 1) by Rakesh Hooja
8. **Natural Disaster Management in India—New Initiatives** (IIPA Discussion Papers Series No. 2) by Vinod K. Sharma
9. **Law of Torts, Medical Negligence and Consumer Protection** by Rajiv Kumar Khare
10. **Babu Jagjivan Ram and Inclusive Society in India Ed.** By Lokendra Malik and Kusum Lata
11. **Ecology of Public Administration (*Fiftieth Anniversary Edition*)**—F.W. Riggs. Introduction by Rakesh Hooja and Ramesh Kumar Tiwari
12. खाद्य सुरक्षा एवं उपभोक्ता : विविध आयाम सुरेश मिश्रा, वीरेन्द्र नाह्य मिश्रा
13. हिन्दी: सरकारी, हमारी और बेचारी पुष्पेश पंत
14. आधुनिकता, परम्परा और नैतिकता रामाश्रय राय
15. राष्ट्र भाषा के प्रति अन्याय कब तक स्वामी अग्निवेश
16. अपना राज्य और अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतन्त्रता प्रभाष जोशी
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