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INSTITUTE NEWS

Babu Jagjivan Ram Memorial National Conference on India's Defence in 21st Century: Issues and Challenges

Sponsored by Babu Jagjivan Ram National Foundation, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the captioned programme was organised by IIPA's Centre for Social Welfare Administration and Administration of Justice at Constitution Club, New Delhi on December 16. Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Union Minister for Labour and Employment, delivered the inaugural address. Shri Pallam Raju, Union Minister of State for Defence, gave the special address; and Dr. Yogendra Narain, former Union Defence Secretary, presided over the programme. Earlier, Dr. Rakesh Hooja, Director of IIPA; and Shri V.N. Dalmia, Executive President of Babu Jagjivan Ram National Foundation, spoke in the inaugural session. Two technical sessions were held on (i) "India's Defence and its Relations with Neighbouring Countries"; and (ii) "India's Defence, Technological Developments and



From L-R: Dr. Rakesh Hooja, Dr. Yogendra Narain, Shri Mallikarjun Kharge, Shri Pallam Raju and Shri V.N. Dalmia.

भारतीय लोक प्रशासन संस्थान
परिवार की ओर से आपको नववर्ष की शुभ कामनाएँ
*The Entire IIPA Fraternity Wishes
You A Happy and Prosperous New Year*

Future Plans". In the valedictory session, Dr. Hooja spoke on "Factors in Building up India's Defence Capabilities". Dr. Lokendra Malik and Dr. Kusum Lata coordinated it.

Conference on Training for Governance in the States for Heads of SATI

The Institute organised the second conference on the topic on November 15. Besides heads of state ATIs or their representatives and IIPA faculty, the programme was attended by officers of the Training Division and RTI Division of the DoPT including its Joint Secretary, Shri Rajeev Kapoor. At the onset Dr. Rakesh Hooja, Director of IIPA, shared his views about what a model state ATI should be like—its role, style of functioning, structure and relations with various state government departments and with DoPT. Along with Shri Rajeev Kapoor and Shri S.M. Vijayanand, Addl. Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala and Director General, Institute of Management, Thiruvanthapura, Dr. Hooja also chaired technical sessions at the conference. The conference was structured into four sessions: (i) Approaches to Training in the States; (ii) Desirable Components of Training Policies of State Governments; (iii) Training for e-Governance and Use of ICT in the states; and (iv) Training and Orientation for Better Implementation of the RTI Act in the States. Prof. Rajesh Singh and Dr. C. Sheela Reddy coordinated it.

Workshop on Challenges before Police Service in India: Problems and Prospects

Sponsored by the Bureau of Police Research and Development, the captioned programme was conducted at IIPA on December 8-9 for senior IPS officers drawn from various states and Union territories of the country. Dr. Rakesh Hooja, Director of IIPA, inaugurated the programme and spoke about various factors for improving police performance. Shri Vikram Srivastava, Director General, BPR&D, delivered the valedictory address. Apart from appraising the changing scenario of the security concerns, challenges and paradoxes related to policing and the attendant role of the police service in the theme, the programme was designed to: (i) discuss day-to-day challenges being faced by the police functionaries, along with the procedural and operational bottlenecks in the system; (ii) propose participatory solutions to delve inside the themes of terrorism, insurgency, human trafficking, community policing, etc; and (iii) discuss ways to modernise police forces in the Centre as well as in the states. Programme faculty comprised guest speakers and the programme coordinators, Dr. C. Sheela Reddy, Dr. Manan Dwivedi and Shri Saket Bihari.

Programme on Remodeling Municipal Taxes for Resource Generation

Sponsored by the Ministry of Urban Development, the programme was conducted at IIPA, for senior/middle level officers drawn from various urban bodies, from December 14-16. Besides focusing on efficient exploitation of the existing sources of revenue, the programme was designed to: (i) explore and tap

new sources of funds; (ii) bring improvements in the work practices, identification of leakages through better management and controls; and (iii) suggest measures to improve the financial position of the municipalities. Programme faculty comprised guest speakers and in-house faculty. Prof. Rakesh Gupta and Dr. V.N. Alok coordinated it.

National Seminar on Globalisation and Consumer Rights

The Centre for Consumer Studies, Indian Institute of Public Administration, New Delhi in collaboration with P.G Department of Social Science, F.M. University, Balasore, Orissa conducted a National Seminar on "Globalisation and Consumer Rights" on November 25-26 at Balasore. The Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India, sponsored the programme. Prof. Sukadev Nanda, former Vice-Chancellor of F.M. University, was the Chief Guest and he inaugurated the seminar. Prof. Sudhakar Panda was the Chief Speaker. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Suresh Misra; and the presidential address was delivered by Prof. K.B. Das, Vice-Chancellor of F.M. University. The valedictory address on the concluding day was delivered by Shri Jagadananda, Information Commissioner, Orissa. Shri S. C Mahatab, Senior Member of SCDRC, Orissa was the Guest of Honour. 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 globalisation and the consumer. About 28 papers

were presented by academicians and scholars from different States and around 70 participants attended the seminar. Prof. Suresh Misra and Dr. Mamta Pathania coordinated it.

Seminar on Globalisation and Consumer Rights

IIPA's Centre for Consumer Studies collaborated with Orissa Regional Branch in conducting the captioned programme on November 27 at SIRD, Bhubaneswar. The Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India, sponsored the seminar. The welcome address was delivered by Dr. Pratip Kumar Mishra, Secretary of the branch. Prof. Suresh Misra, made a presentation on "Consumer Protection and Consumer Welfare: An Overview". Dr. Mamta Pathania spoke on "Globalisation and Consumer Rights". Shri S. C. Hota, Chairman of the branch, delivered the presidential address. The main objective of the seminar was to discuss and deliberate on various issues related to globalisation and the consumer, create awareness regarding the consumer protection and rights of the consumers. Prof. Suresh Misra and Dr. Mamta Pathania coordinated it.

Know India Programme

IIPA organized a two-day Know India Programme for young persons of Indian origin on December 21-22, 2011. Sponsored by the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, Government of India, this programme comprised participants from ten countries who are spending three weeks in India. In the Inaugural address Dr. Rakesh Hooja, Director IIPA spoke on "an insight into contemporary India: Past, Present and Future", while Mr. Sarvajit Chakravorti, IPS, Deputy

Director General of Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), spoke on "ICWA and its contribution in promoting Indian culture and Indian Foreign Policy." Dr. Charru Malhotra and Prof. V.K. Sharma coordinated the programme.

Faculty News

- Dr. Rakesh Hooja, Director of IIPA, inaugurated an international training workshop on "Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction for Sustainable Development", organised by National Institute of Disaster Management jointly with Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction at NIDM on December 12. Participants drawn from six countries including India attended it.

- Prof. Vinod K Sharma was invited by the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM) as Chief Guest in the function of "International Day for Disabled People" on December 2. Prof. Sharma spoke on "Natural Disasters and Disability in India".

- Dr. Kusum Lata participated in an International Workshop on "Gender and Local Governance: Training Course for Local Government Trainers"

organised by MASHAV – Israel Agency for International Development Cooperation in cooperation with UN-HABITAT from November 20-December 5 at the Golda Meir Mount Carmel International Training Centre (MCTC), Haifa, Israel. Twentythree participants from all over the world coming from various government and non-government organisations attended it.

- Prof. P.K. Chaubey, Professor of Economics (i) chaired a session on "Growth and Governance: the Prognosis" in a seminar on "India: After Two Decades of Liberalisation" at Doon University on November 18-19. He made a presentation on "Rural-Urban Division of NDP" in the session on "Sectoral Shift in Indian Economy: Resilience" on November 18; Prof. Chaubey spoke as Guest of Honour in the inaugural function of the national seminar on "Financial Inclusion: Issues and Challenges" organised by the Department of Economics, Mizoram University on November 22. He also chaired technical session-I and presented a paper on "Economic Inclusion through Financial Inclusion"

in technical session-II; and (iii) he has been nominated by the Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council as Member of its Steering Review and Monitoring Committee (SRMC) for the study on "Correlation of Per Capita Income/ GDP growth and technology causes in different districts of select Indian states".

Appreciation for IIPA's Loyalty and Support

The Commonwealth Association for Public Administration and Management (CAPAM), headquartered at Ottawa in Canada, has sent IIPA a Certificate of Appreciation for IIPA's loyalty and support as an Institutional Member of CAPAM since 2004. In the letter enclosing the certificate, CAPAM has highlighted seven activities held all over the Commonwealth during the year ending October 2011 as its major accomplishments which include the training programme which IIPA had organised with CAPAM entitled "Your Leadership Journey: Unleashing Your Leadership Potential" for 25 senior civil servants from India.

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 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

Barcoded Library Tickets for Annual/ Associate/ Student/ Life/ Corporate Members

As per the Library Advisory Committee decision regarding the automation of Circulation Section in the Library, to operate the library in an fully automated environment in six months. The new barcoded tickets are compulsory for all the members of the library who have deposited the library security of Rupees one thousand and five hundred respectively.

The barcoded tickets are being prepared and the cost of preparing these tickets is Rupees twenty per ticket. Members desirous of receiving the same by post may remit Rs 65/ (including the postage charges). This cost is for the members who have deposited Rs 1000 as library security. Those members who have deposited the library security of Rs 500 may remit Rs 45 (including the postal charges) by means of a demand draft in favour of Director, IIPA payable at New Delhi or may collect it from the library on payment of Rupees twenty or forty in the accounts section for one or two tickets respectively

NEWS FROM THE BRANCHES

Bihar Regional Branch

The branch collaborated with the Department of Political Science, Nalanda College in organising a UGC-sponsored national seminar on "Role of Caste-based Census in the Indian Politics" on December 5-6. Dr. B.P. Shastri, Pro Vice-Chancellor of Magadh University, inaugurated the programme; and Dr. R.K. Dubey, Chairman of Bhojpuri Academy, Patna, presided. Prof. Sita Ram Singh of Magadh University gave the key-note address. Dr. Navanit Sinha, Secretary of the branch, also spoke on the topic.

Budaun Local Branch

Sponsored by the National Human Rights Commission, the branch organised a seminar on "Protection of Human Rights— Women Empowerment and Rural Development" on December 3. Shri N.K. Mittal, Dy. General Manager of PNB Bareilly Division, was the Chief Guest; and Shri P.D. Upadhaya was the Guest of Honour. Dr. Vandana Sharma was the main speaker and Dr. R.B. Mathur gave the keynote address and also convened the

programme. In his address, Shri Mittal stated that in the present materialistic age of consumerism the human values are deteriorating, hence it is imperative for the educated class and social activists to seriously consider the problem of retaining the human values. Shri Mathur stressed that the dignity of each man should be recognised without caste, creed and religion. Talking about the protection of human values, Dr. Vandana Sharma mentioned that the educational institutions and all other social and cultural organisations should try to inculcate the ethical values amongst students.

Burdwan Local Branch

The branch collaborated with the Department of Political Science, Raniganj Girls' College in organising a two-day state level seminar on "Women in Panchayats: The West Bengal Scenario" on November 29-30. It was sponsored by the UGC. The seminar was inaugurated by Prof. Mohit Bhattacharya, Chairman of the branch, who also later delivered the keynote address. Dr. Krishna Bardhan Ghosh, Principal of Raniganj Girls'

College, gave the welcome address on behalf of the college and Dr. Bijoy Chand, Secretary of the branch, delivered the welcome address on behalf of the branch. Other speakers at the inaugural session were Shri Anup Mitra, Chairman of Raniganj Municipality; and Smt. Rebu Murmu, Chairperson of Raniganj Panchayat Samiti. In the first academic session, eminent speakers comprised Prof. Jaytilak Guha Roy of IIPA, Prof. Nemai Pramanik of the Department of Political Science, Burdwan University, and Smt. Kabita Dutta, Member, Burdwan Zilla Parishad. Prof. Mohit Bhattacharya presided. The speakers on the second day comprised Dr. Prabhat Datta, Centenary Professor of Public Administration, Calcutta University, Prof. Apurva Kumar Mukhopadhyay of the Netaji Institute for Asian Studies, Kolkata and Smt. Alpana Ghosh, Member, Raniganj Panchayat Samiti.

Howrah Local Branch

The branch organised a seminar on "Corruption in Public Administration" on November 25. Dr. Sibranjan Chatterjee, Secretary of West Bengal Regional

Branch, was the Chief Guest; and Prof. Bimal Sankar Nanda of Charuchandra College was the Special Guest. Prof. Asish Ray, Secretary of the branch, gave the introductory address. Prof. Sachindra Nath Das presided over it.

Jammu and Kashmir Regional Branch

To commemorate the memory of Shri S.P. Sahni, who was a valuable asset to the branch, the branch organised the second S.P. Sahni Memorial Lecture on November 28. Shri M. Saleem Beg, former Director General of Tourism, Jammu and Kashmir, spoke on "Cultural Resources of Jammu and Kashmir—Mapping and Conservation". Dr. S.S. Bloeria, Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Jammu, was the Chief Guest; and Shri Farooq Ahmad Renzu, Director, Information, J&K; and Smt. Pre Sahni were the Guests of Honour. In his power point presentation, Shri Beg highlighted the need for conservation of cultural heritage of the state and made a mention of the efforts being made by INTACH. Dr. Ashok Bhan, Chairman of the branch, presided over the programme.

To perpetuate the memory of Shri Veeranna Aivalli, former Chief of Civil Aviation Security, the branch organised the annual Veeranna Aivalli Memorial Debate on "In the opinion of the House Moral Education should be made an integral part of School Curriculum. Twenty teams from various colleges/university departments participated in the debate in which the speakers expressed their views for and against the motion. The team from the MBS College of Engineering and Technology, Jammu, lifted the Veeranna Aivalli Memorial Running trophy and also the Winner's trophy. Bandey Zai-ul

Abdenn from the Department of Political Science, University of Jammu, bagged the first prize of Rs.2000 and a certificate while Rakshit Sharma from GGM Science College, Jammu and Amandeep Singh from MBS College of Engineering and Technology were adjudged as second and third and were handed out cash prizes of Rs. 1500 and Rs. 1000 respectively. Two consolation prizes of Rs. 500 each were also given to Anshul Gupta from MAM College, Jammu and Apoorva Jamwal from Govt. Women College, Jammu. Dr. Ashok Bhan, Chairman of the branch, in his address highlighted the contribution/achievements of Shri Veeranna Aivalli as a police officer and as a founder member of the branch.

Nagpur Local Branch

The branch, jointly with Indian Academy for Instructional Planning (IAIP), organised a panel discussion on "Mathematical and Computer-based Application for bettering District Development Process" at Micro Orange Technologies, Nagpur. The panelists included Prof. Kamal Singh, Vice-Chancellor of Amravati University; Shri A.S. Ukhalkar, Vice-Chairman of the branch; Dr. P. Lakshminarayanan, Secretary of the branch; and Dr. P.L. Kirkire, National Secretary of IAIP. The discussion was presided over by Er. Idris Sheikh, MD of Micro Orange Electronics, Nagpur. The participants were explained various applications and the importance in eliminating the corrupt practices which do not allow the beneficiaries of various good schemes of Central/state governments.

Odisha Regional Branch

The Centre for Human Rights of the branch jointly with the Odisha

Human Rights Commission observed the 63rd World Human Rights Day by organising a symposium on "Human Rights of Migrant Labour" on December 10. Presiding over the programme, Shri Sanjib Chandra Hota, Chairman of the branch, observed that the insensitivity, non-transparency and irresponsible system has aggravated the plight of the migrant labour. Prof. Bijoyini Mohanty focused on both the external and internal aspects of migration. Chief Speaker Shri Sarat Chandra Mishra, former DG of Police, Odisha, analysed the international trend in migration and focused on legal provisions which state should adhere to. Justice R.K. Patra, Chairman of Odisha State Human Rights Commission, stated that Article 21 of the Indian Constitution and subsequent interpretation of the Supreme Court has created to the protection of human rights.

Rajasthan Regional Branch

The branch jointly with Prakrat Bharti Academy and Management Development Academy, Jaipur organised a lecture-meeting on November 20, in which Prof. C.S. Barla, former Head and Professor of Economics, spoke on "Planning in Rajasthan with particular reference to Approach to the Twelfth Plan". While emphasising the role of planning in bringing about rapid socio-economic growth marked by stability, equity and sustainability, Dr. Barla pointed out that these broad objectives have generally remained a chimera due to lack of proper integration in planning both at the micro and macro levels. Prof. D.D. Narula, former Director of the Institute of Development Studies, in his presidential remarks highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of the approach paper to the 12th Plan.

Shri D.R. Mehta, former Chairman, SEBI, opined that health, hospitality and tourism sectors possess real potential and are waiting to be tapped. On November 23, the branch along with Prakrat Bharti Academy and Management Development Academy organised a lecture by Shri I C Srivastava, former Chairman, Board of Revenue, Ajmer, on the recently promulgated "The Rajasthan Guaranteed Delivery of Public Services Act 2011". He stated that the Act aims to usher in transparent, sensitive and accountable administration. Earlier, Prof. Ramesh K. Arora, Vice-Chairman of the branch, welcomed and thanked the participants.

The branch in its general body meeting, held on December 3, elected the following office-bearers for a two-year term: *Chairman*: Prof. Ramesh K. Arora; *Vice-Chairmen*: Shri H.L. Chauhan and Dr. Satish K. Batra; *Secretary*: Dr. Anil Mehta; *Joint Secretary*: Shri Rajendra Kumar Mathur; *Treasurer*: Dr. Meena Sogani; *Chairman Programmes Committee*: Dr. Gulab Singh Darda; *Secretary, Programmes Committee*: Dr. N.H. Gupta; *Members*: Shri I.C. Srivastava,

Dr. Asha Hingar, Dr. Mamta Bhatia, Prof. R.M. Khandelwal, Dr. N.H. Gupta, Dr. G.S. Darda, Dr. Purushottam Nagar, Shri K.K. Khanna and Shri Arvind Jain.

Salem Local Branch

The branch jointly with Salem Government Arts College for Women organised a seminar on "Panchayat Bodies in Rural Development since 1959" on October 18. In his keynote address Shri M.A.I. Celliah, former Addl. Director of Rural Development, observed that Panchayat Raj Institutions are a boon to rural development activities in our country and they play a key role in development of the rural areas and the poor. Dr. A. Mary Maggi, Principal of the College, presided while Shri R. Kumarasamy, Secretary of the branch, spoke on the objective of the seminar.

Tirupati Local Branch

The branch organized a lecture-meeting on December 6, in which Shri T.N.

Chaturvedi, Chairman of IIPA, spoke on "Towards Administrative Accountability". He stated that these days various expressions like responsiveness, responsibility, accountability and control are used to ensure the subservience of public servants. He observed that the direct involvement of public in the administrative process constitutes the major efforts to enforce administrative accountability. Dr. Agarala Eswara Reddy, Prof. K. Kamalanathan, Prof. D. Venkateswarlu, Prof. V. Chandramouleswara Rao also gave their remarks. Prof. A. Ranga Reddy, Chairman of the branch, presided over the programme.



Shri T.N. Chaturvedi delivers lecture at Tirupati.

NEWS FROM THE CENTRE

Senior Appointments in Ministries

Government of India has approved the following senior appointments / promotions / extensions: Shri Amitava Bhattacharya as Secretary, Union Public Service Commission, in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary • Shri Upendra Tripathy as Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat • Ms. Nivedita Shukla Verma, as Joint

Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat • Shri V.N. Gaur, Chief Executive Officer and Member Secretary, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to hold additional charge of the post of Chairperson, FSSAI for a period of three months from September 9, 2011 • Shri S.K. Sarkar, Additional Secretary, Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) to hold additional charge of the post of Establishment

Officer, DoPT for a period of three months from September 14, 2011 • Shri V.S. Singh as Adviser, Inter State Council Secretariat in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary • Shri Sudhir Vyas as Secretary (ER) in the Ministry of External Affairs • Shri R. Gopalakrishnan as Member Secretary, National Innovation Council, in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary for a period of two years • Shri U.K.

A book must be an ice-axe to break the seas frozen inside our soul — Franz Kafka

Bansal as Director General, Border Security Force from November 1, 2011 • Ms. Manjula Prasher as Secretary, Department of Posts, Chairperson, Postal Services Board and Director General, Postal Services • Shri A. Didar Singh as Adviser in the Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, on contract basis for a period of three months from November 1, 2011 • Shri Pradeep Kumar Chaudhery as Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion • Shri Sutanu Behuria as Secretary, National Disaster Management Authority, Ministry of Home Affairs • Shri Ajay Bhattacharya as Secretary, Department of Fertilizers • Shri R. Bhattacharya Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser, Department of Information Technology, for a period of six months beyond October 31, 2011 • Shri V.N. Rai as Director, SVP National Police Academy; Hyderabad till December 31, 2012 • Ms. Loretta Mary Vas as Secretary, Department of Pharmaceuticals • Shri Radha Krishna Mathur as Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises • Ms. Nandita Chatterjee as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment and Forests • Ms. Aajuly Chib Duggal as Additional Secretary; Department of Expenditure • Shri Ajay Shanker as Member Secretary, National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council on contract basis, for a

period of three years • Shri R.C. Mishra as Central Provident Fund Commissioner under the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary. Shri Mishra's central deputation tenure is also extended up to November 30, 2011 • Shri Subrahmanyam Vijay Kumar as Secretary, Department of Land Resources • Shri Vishwapati Trivedi as Secretary, Ministry of Mine • Shri Parvez Dewan as Secretary, Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs • Shri V.N. Gaur, Chief Executive Officer, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India to have an extension of Central deputation for the period beyond August 23, 2011 till February 29, 2012 • Dr Amitabh Rajan as Additional Secretary Department of Revenue • Shri N. Ravi Shankar as Administrator, Universal Services Obligation Fund, Department of Telecommunications in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary • Shri Madhusudan as Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce • Shri Rajive Kumar as Additional Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat, on in-situ basis by temporarily upgrading the post held by him • Shri Anil Swarup as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment from October 3, 2011 by temporarily upgrading the post held by him • Shri Bhanu Pratap Sharma as Establishment Officer and Additional Secretary, Department

of Personnel and Training • Shri N.K.. Nampoothiry, ILS as Special Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs • Ms. Neela Gangadharan as Secretary, Ministry of Women and Child Development • Shri Devender Kumar Sikri as Secretary, Department of Justice • Shri Amarendra Sinha as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

Working Group of Feminist Economists Set Up

The Planning Commission has set up a 22-member Working Group of Feminist Economists for the Twelfth Five Year Plan under the Chairpersonship of Dr. Syeda Hameed, Member of Planning Commission. Prof. Aasha Kapur Mehta of IIPA is one of the members. The terms of reference of the Working Group include: (i) to review all sectoral reports of Working Group and steering committees for the 12th Plan with respect to their gender content and make suggestions regarding gender issues, promoting gender equality, etc; (ii) to examine and make suggestions as to how the inclusive growth approach envisaged for the 12th Plan could be translated into sectoral plan with appropriate institutional arrangements and adequate financial allocation, so as to promote gender equality and growth with equality.

NEWS FROM STATES

Kerala

e-Grantz Scheme of Kerala

In order to make timely disbursement of educational assistance by way of payment of

fees, boarding charges and lumpsum grants to students. Government of Kerala came up with an initiative called e-Grantz. It is a web-based solution for the timely disbursement to

all the post matric students belonging to scheduled castes, scheduled tribes, other backward castes as well as economically weaker sections of the State. This facilitates the students

Credulity is the man's weakness, but the child's strength — Charles Lamb

to obtain assistance directly through their bank accounts using ATM facilities.

It provides provision of making online application, processing and sanction of educational assistance. For this, the concerned students have to file their application with community certificate issued by the Tahsildar, income certificate by the village officer, attested copies of qualifying certificates and application to open a bank account. This initiative

has the facility for online filing of applications and for checking status of filed applications followed by disbursements. The students can either submit directly or through Citizen Service Centres and watch the status without any running around.

Each beneficiary student has been given a unique identity number under this project, which enables the Department to track a student through his higher education till his placement. Apart from helping the

students, the project also keeps a tab on educational advancement of individual students.

The project benefited three lakh students across 3463 educational institutions across the State and has brought transparency and account ability in the system. It has also addressed the issues of delay in disbursement, misappropriation of funds and harassment, etc. The online application and receipt has done away with the middlemen in the system.

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Quotable Quotes

- *Weakness of character is the only defect which cannot be amended—*
Francois de La Rochefoucauld
- *Sometimes if you want to see a change for the better, you have to take things into your own hands —* Clint Eastwood
- *Most great people have attained their greatest success just one step beyond their greatest failure —* Napoleon Hill
- *Do not follow where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail —* Ralph Waldo Emerson
- *The interpretation of dreams is the royal road to knowledge of the unconscious activities of the mind —* Freud
- *A cynic is a person searching for an honest man, with a stolen lantern —* Edgar A. Sheaf

<p><i>Editor : RAKESH HOOJA</i> <i>Asstt. Editor : SUNIL DUTT</i></p>
