

Item No. 49.5 Address of the President of the IIPA

Shri Bhairon Singh Shekhawat, Vice President of India and President of the Institute in his address underlined the need to adopt the right policies and improve the system of governance for achieving the vision of transforming India into a developed nation by 2020.

Going back in history, Shri Shekhawat mentioned that in the year 1952 it was realized that the country has to be reinvented and the administration has to be reoriented to ensure a development-oriented administration which is tuned to perform under a democratic system of governance and hence the IIPA was set up to fulfil these expectations and objectives. He observed that during the past fifty years, the Institute has been successfully performing its role and accomplishing the tasks; and hoped that it shall continue to do so with even greater vigour in the future. Further, this Golden Jubilee Year is an occasion for introspection and review.

He said that he is always very keen and interested in the activities of this Institute and its role in ensuring improved and efficient management of public programmes.

Talking about good governance, Shri Shekhawat said that he believes that IIPA should take lead in redefining its role and define new initiatives towards improved governance in the area of public administration. In the era of globalization, our administration still has to meet the national aspirations and has to effectively address issues like poverty, inequality and deprivation. In fact, the administration has to be even more proactive and effective in the discharge of responsibilities towards the poor and the disadvantaged. Better governance of public programme is definitely no less important if the last man has to be served.

Emphasizing the imperative need for reforms, Shri Shekhawat observed that the symptoms of crisis of governance are today manifested in all spheres of public life. He felt that good governance encompasses and envelops all segments that have a direct bearing on the common man and his welfare, aspirations and needs. A comprehensive agenda for improved governance alone will bring all round development of the Society.

According to Shri Shekhawat, by adopting the Antyodaya approach our administration can become more pro-active and effective in the discharge of responsibilities towards the poor and disadvantaged.

Discussing on increased public participation in the development programmes Shri Shekhawat called for increased public participation in development programmes and empowerment of vulnerable sections including women and enhancement of people's confidence in the system of governance.

Mentioning about IIPA as a premier institute of the country in the area of public administration Shri Shekhawat advised that IIPA should be made as a Centre of excellence, like IITs in the area of technical education and IIMs in the area of Business Management. He said that management of public programmes in fact, is much more difficult, complex and full of public sensitivity, as compared to managing business. Therefore, IIPA has special importance in our system. It has a unique role in helping government in better management of public programmes and projects and to develop particularly those meant for the welfare of the poorer and the deprived sections. He hoped that as a

catalyst and promoter of improved governance in the area of public administration, IIPA would be fully enabled and supported by the Government in fulfilling this critical role.

Concluding his address, Shri Shekhawat wished that IIPA will achieve greater heights of success and glory in the future.