



GOVERNANCE
AWARDS

2014

13-12-2014

EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION AWARD

Dr Shahid Iqbal Chaudhary, IAS

For ensuring security of life and socio-economic betterment
of people in remote areas in Jammu & Kashmir.

A 2009-batch IAS officer of the Jammu & Kashmir cadre, Dr Shahid Iqbal Chaudhary has done a remarkable job in the fields of education and elections in the remote and militancy-affected hilly areas of Reasi district in J&K. He has been instrumental in constructing 70-foot bridges and 85-odd schools in inaccessible areas where many cases of deaths were reported due to drowning while crossing channels and rivulets. Attendance in these schools also remained poor in cloudy weather as parents did not send children to schools, fearing immediate flooding of small rivulets with huge catchment areas.

His work has been a great confidence-booster for the poor and tribals. Within one year, the number of deaths reduced to near-zero from an average of 50 per year. An epitome of people's participation and functioning of democratic government, the work has helped improve accessibility for other government services to these areas besides being instrumental in tackling terrorism. Implemented in a very cost-effective manner, it has generated more than 3 lakh man(woman)days of work for the inhabitants of these remote areas, providing livelihoods to them besides creating vital assets for the community.

He has also taken up the construction of 527 school projects which were abandoned since 2006 in a record time of one year through community participation and convergence of schemes. He has also been credited with having carried out a mammoth exercise over 8 months for creating electoral awareness, enrolment and participation—resulting in increase in voter turnout to 81% from the previous 43%. The women's turnout increased from 34% to 79%, apart from 100% facilitated participation by differently abled, aged and infirm voters.

Dr Chaudhary is now posted as District Collector, Kathua.



THE
JURY

Prabhat Kumar
Former Cabinet
Secretary of India

Anil Razdan
Former Secretary,
Power

Vishnu Bhagwan
Former Chief
Secretary, Haryana

M B Kaushal
Former Secretary,
Internal Security