

KASHMIR: THE WAY FORWARD

The conference is an attempt to initiate a conversation on the uncertain political & security situation in the state of Jammu & Kashmir at present. Over the last few years, as a new militancy has put Kashmir back in the national and international headlines, the situation requires creative policy measures to bring back peace and normalcy to an otherwise turbulent territory. However, the polarised discourse on both sides of the divide has left very little room for a solution-oriented and forward looking conversation on Kashmir.

The day long program aims to bring together academics, journalists, security analysts and politicians to discuss the current political, security and economic situation of the state, and the way forward. The conference will highlight the challenges posed by rising militancy and radicalisation, the political instability after the fall of BJP and PDP alliance, and the drifting economic and governance structures in the state. The sessions will facilitate discussion among various speakers and stakeholders with divergent perspectives, affiliated with key intuitions and organisations that influence policy formulation and implementation vis-à-vis Jammu and Kashmir.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

December 27, 2018

Conference Hall, Observer Research Foundation, 20, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area,
New Delhi - 110002

10:00- 10:20	Registration
	(Audience to be seated by 10:20)
10:20 - 10:30	Opening remarks by Sushant Sareen (Senior Fellow, ORF)
10:30 - 11:30	<p>Panel 1 – Governance Deficit and Economic Challenges</p> <p><i>Bad governance and conflict have complicated the lives of the ordinary citizen of the state. How can the state usher in economic and governance reforms?</i></p> <p>Dipankar Sengupta (Professor, Jammu University) Mr Sanjay Puri (former Chariman, CII J&K State Council and Managing Director, PBI Pvt Ltd) Sanjeev Ahluwalia (Advisor, ORF)</p> <p>Moderator: Gautam Chikermane (Vice President, ORF)</p>
11:30 - 12:00	<p>Recalibrating the politics</p> <p>In conversation with Muzzaffar Hussain Baig (Patron, Peoples’ Democratic Party and Member of Parliament)</p>
12:00 – 12:15	<p>Expert Speak</p> <p>Intervention by Prof. Harsh Pant (Director, Studies & Head Strategic Studies Programme, ORF)</p> <p>Jammu and Kashmir in international relations, its importance in the global strategic calculus and geopolitics.</p>

12:15 - 13: 30	<p>Panel 2 - New Militancy, Old Strategy?</p> <p><i>The new militancy has posed new security challenges on the ground. Is the Army and Police employing novel counter-methods? How does the lack of a coherent policy at the level of central government affect the security matrix?</i></p> <p>Lt. General retd. Deependra Singh Hooda (Former Northern Army commander) Kuldeep Khoda (Former Director General of JK Police) Praveen Swami (Security analyst and Editor, Firstpost) Vijaita Singh (Journalist, The Hindu)</p> <p>Moderator: Vikram Sood (Advisor, ORF)</p>
13:30 - 14:15	LUNCH
14:30 - 16:00	<p>Panel 3 - Contours of a discredited politics</p> <p><i>With the fall of the BJP-PDP government and the consequent flux, the political system of the state is destabilized and discredited. Will the political parties be able to inspire a new confidence among the masses? Or is the state in need of a new dictum?</i></p> <p>Barkha Dutt (Columnist, Washington Post and Contributing Editor, The Week) David Devadas (Journalist and author of The Generation of Rage in Kashmir) Siddiq Wahid (Academic and Political analyst) Rekha Chowdhary (Academic and author of multiple books on Kashmir)</p> <p>Moderator: Manoj Joshi (Distinguished Fellow, ORF)</p>
16:00 – 16:30	<p>Recalibrating the politics</p> <p>In conversation with Sajad Lone (Chairman Peoples’ Conference and former Cabinet Minister, Jammu and Kashmir)</p>
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