

## **Jammu-Kashmir Cross-LoC Civil Society Dialogue**

The Centre for Dialogue and Reconciliation has held a series of cross LoC civil society conferences since 2005. These conferences have aimed to provide a platform to the representatives of civil society and those with differing political viewpoints and political parties from all regions and communities on both sides of the LoC, to interact and explore ways of making a difference on the ground, while building a wider consensus on a range of issues related to the Kashmir conflict. These CDR conferences have provided useful suggestions and recommendations over the years and built civil society networks across the LoC. Thus widening and strengthening the peace constituency in the region on both sides of the LoC.

The positive impact of the LoC confidence building measures (CBMs) was felt on both sides of the LoC and people began to enjoy the fruits of prevailing peace. However, as recent events have shown, terror attacks in J & K and along the LoC have the power to derail the decade long ceasefire and weaken other cross-LoC CBMs introduced since 2005. It is thus important that civil society actors from both sides of the LoC be involved in a dialogue process to strengthen the constituency in favor of peace.