

VIDESH SEWA



Foreign Service Institute

विदेश मंत्रालय, भारत सरकार
Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India



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Editor's Desk



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The last quarter of 2019 was an exceptionally productive period for FSI. The training of Indian diplomats/personnel, inter alia, included Joint Secretaries in Mid-Career Training Programme (MCTP-III) and Director-level officers in MCTP-II. The year-end saw the arrival of IFS Officer Trainees of the 2019 batch for their Induction Training Programme.

The foreigners training gathered momentum with an unprecedented 15 courses for foreign diplomats during the quarter. These included the flagship 68th Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) and annual ASEM-ASEAN and Bangladesh courses. The period also included the second India-China Joint Programme for Afghan Diplomats. In addition, the very first special courses for diplomats from Mongolia, Maldives, Dominican Republic, Benin, Cameroon, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Namibia and Malawi were organised. Overall, as compared to 9 and 16 training courses for foreign diplomats during 2017 and 2018 respectively, the year 2019 ended with a record 36 training courses for foreign diplomats involving more than 750 diplomats.

Two firsts for FSI during the quarter were:

- (i) Familiarisation programme for MEA beat journalists in association with External Publicity Division; and
- (ii) Training programme for performing artistes of Indian Cultural Centres abroad in cooperation with ICCR.

A highlight was the very special in-house conversation between Hon'ble Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India and Dr. Henry Kissinger, former US Secretary of State for MEA officers, organised by FSI in collaboration with the Americas Division, at Pravasi Bharatiya Kendra.

We wish all the alumni of FSI and readers of Videsh Sewa a very happy New Year 2020.

New Delhi
January 2020


[J.S. Mukul]

Highlights

Training for IFS Officers

Induction Training Programme of IFS Officer Trainees and Diplomats from Bhutan

The Induction Training Programme (ITP) for 30 Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Officer Trainees (OTs) and 2 diplomats from Bhutan commenced on 09 December 2019 at FSI. The OTs and Bhutanese diplomats called on Dr. S. Jaishankar, Hon'ble External Affairs Minister (EAM), Shri V. Muraleedharan, Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs (MoS) and Shri Vijay Gokhale, Foreign Secretary (FS). The orientation module of the ITP concluded in end-December 2019.



The first day of IFS OTs at FSI



IFS OTs call on Hon'ble EAM



IFS OTs call on Hon'ble MoS for External Affairs



IFS OTs call on FS

Mid Career Training Programme-II

The Mid Career Training Programme-II (MCTP-II) for 22 Director-level IFS Officers was organized by Foreign Service Institute (FSI) from 9 September-4 October 2019 in 5 phases: Foreign Policy module held at FSI; Diplomacy module held at Fletcher School, Tufts University, USA; Management module held at IIM, Ahmedabad; cyber security module held at Gujarat Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar; and state attachment in the allotted state.



Mid Career Training Programme-III

The Mid Career Training Programme-III (MCTP-III) for 22 Joint Secretary-level IFS Officers was organized by FSI from 29 October – 12 November 2019 in 3 phases: Foreign Policy module held at FSI; Management module held at Indian School of Business, Hyderabad; and state attachment in the allotted state.



Special Course on Foreign Policy for Indian Media

A Special Course on Foreign Policy for Indian Media covering the MEA beat was organized at FSI from 16-22 October 2019. The training programme for Indian Media was attended by 36 media persons. The programme was inaugurated by Foreign Secretary and the media persons were addressed by Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs.



Training Programme for Performing Arts Teachers of Indian Cultural Centres abroad

A one-week training programme was conducted for 29 Performing Arts Teachers from 18-22 November 2019 at FSI. The Performing Arts Teachers have been recruited by Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) for posting at Indian Cultural Centres abroad.



Training for Foreign Diplomats

- ▶ The 68th Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) was organized by FSI from 16 September - 11 October 2019. 56 diplomats from 55 countries participated in the Course. The Course included training modules on various topics including India's foreign policy, key international issues, multilateral diplomacy and diplomatic skills. The participants got an exposure to modern India's economic and technological developments. The diplomats also undertook study tours to Agra and Jaipur to experience the rich cultural heritage of India. The 1st PCFD was started in the year 1992 and is the flagship Course of FSI for foreign diplomats. It affirms the commitment of India to its friendly countries in sharing the knowledge and expertise in the field of diplomats' training.



- ▶ The 13th Special Course for diplomats from ASEAN Member States was organized at FSI from 14-26 October 2019. 11 young diplomats from ASEAN Member States participated in the Course.



- ▶ The 5th Special Course for diplomats from ASEM Member States was conducted at FSI from 14-21 October 2019. 20 young diplomats from ASEM Member States participated in the Course. For the first time diplomats from Greece, Liechtenstein and Portugal participated in a FSI training programme.



- ▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Mongolia was conducted at FSI from 28 October – 9 November 2019. 25 participants including several former Ambassadors of Mongolia participated in the Course.

- ▶ The 3rd Special Course for Diplomats from Maldives was organised at FSI from 28 October – 9 November 2019. 5 diplomats from Maldives participated in the Course.



- ▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Dominican Republic was organised at FSI from 28 October – 9 November 2019. 8 diplomats from Dominican Republic participated in the Course.



- ▶ The 2nd India-China Joint Capacity Building Programme for Afghan Diplomats was organised at FSI from 11-23 November 2019. Amb J.S. Mukul, Dean (FSI) welcomed & addressed the participants along with H.E. Mr. Sun Weidong, Ambassador of China to India and Mr. Tahir Qadir, Charges d'Affaires, Afghan Embassy, New Delhi.



- ▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Republic of Benin was conducted at FSI from 25 November - 7 December 2019. 7 participants from Benin participated in the Course.

- ▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Cameroon was conducted at FSI from 25 November - 7 December 2019. 10 participants from Cameroon participated in the Course.





▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) was conducted at FSI from 25 November - 7 December 2019. 11 diplomats from DRC participated in the Course.

▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Gabon was conducted at FSI from 25 November - 7 December 2019. 13 diplomats from Gabon participated in the Course.



▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Côte d'Ivoire was conducted at FSI from 25 November - 7 December 2019. 10 diplomats from Côte d'Ivoire participated in the Course.

▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Kenya was conducted at FSI from 25 November - 7 December 2019. 10 diplomats from Kenya participated in the Course.



▶ The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Namibia & Malawi was conducted at FSI from 1 - 13 December 2019. 21 diplomats from Namibia and one from Malawi participated in the Course.

▶ The 4th Special Course for Diplomats from Bangladesh was conducted at FSI from 9-22 December 2019. 24 young diplomats attended the Course. The Rector and the Director General of the Foreign Service Academy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Dhaka also accompanied the young diplomats.



Bangladeshi diplomats called on Hon'ble Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu



Bangladeshi diplomats called on Shri Vijay Gokhale, Foreign Secretary.

Other Programmes

Know India Programme (KIP)

Know India Programme (KIP) is a flagship initiative for diaspora engagement which familiarises Indian-origin youth (18-30 years) with their Indian roots and contemporary India, through a 25 days orientation programme organised by MEA. 3 KIP groups underwent a one-day familiarisation programme at FSI in October-December 2019.



Participants of the 56th KIP visited FSI on 17 October 2019.



Participants of the 57th KIP visited FSI on 6 November 2019.



Participants of the 58th KIP visited FSI on 2 December 2019.

Workshop/Training for MEA Officials

- ▶ A training programme on Immigration, Visa and Foreigner's Registration & Tracking (IVFRT) was organised for 77 MEA officials at FSI from 5 - 8 November 2019.
- ▶ An English Stenography test for 13 Personal Assistants and Stenographers was organised at FSI on 21 November 2019.
- ▶ The Accounts Training Programme for 88 MEA officials was organised at FSI on 28 & 29 November 2019.
- ▶ The 75th Integrated Missions Accounting System (IMAS) training programme was organised for 88 MEA officials at FSI from 28 November - 27 December 2019.



Dean (FSI) welcoming participants of Accounts Training Programme



Accounts Training session in progress



Participants of IMAS undergoing hands-on training



Shri Rahul B. Gajbhiye, Private Secretary in FSI secured 1st position in Hindi Essay Competition organised by RBB, I&T Division of MEA.

Interactive Session between EAM and Dr. Kissinger

An interactive session 'Diplomacy in the 21st Century: A Conversation between Hon'ble External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and former U.S. Secretary of State Dr. Henry Kissinger' was conducted by FSI in collaboration with Americas Division, MEA on 21 October 2019 at Pravasi Bhartiya Kendra (PBK), New Delhi. Over 200 Indian diplomats working at MEA Headquarters attended the event.



Dean (FSI)'s Visits

At the invitation of Indian School of Business, Mohali, Dean (FSI) attended the Young Thinkers' Conference and participated in a panel discussion on "Para Diplomacy: Decentralized Dimension of Foreign Policy" on 17 October 2019.



Dean (FSI) interacted with IFS OTs of 2019 Batch at LBSNAA, Mussoorie on 14 November 2019.



Visitors to FSI

Cuban Delegation headed by Mr. Ernesto Antonio Davis, Director General of Policy Planning of Cuba and H.E. Mr. Oscar Israel Martinez Cordoves, Ambassador of Cuba to India called on Dean (FSI) to discuss issues of mutual cooperation and training related matters on 30 September 2019.



H. E. Mr. Gonchig Ganbold, Ambassador of Mongolia to India called on Dean (FSI) on 30 September 2019 to discuss further increase mutual understanding and strengthen India-Mongolia relations.



Dr. Niklas Swanström, Director of the Institute for Security and Development Policy of Sweden called on Dean (FSI) on 3 October 2019 to discuss the issues of mutual interest.



Mr. Ahmed H.M. Gebreel, Chargé d'affaires, Embassy of Libya called on Dean (FSI) on 16 October and conveyed his gratitude for the 1st Special Course for Libyan Diplomats conducted by FSI.



H.E. Mr. Agis Loizou, High Commissioner of Cyprus to India called on Dean (FSI) to discuss issues of mutual cooperation & training-related matters on 7 November 2019.



Dean (FSI) received Dr. Xu Jian, President, Chinese Foreign Affairs University (CFAU) and Dr. Wu Xiaoping, Director, CFAU and discussed steps to strengthen cooperation between the two sides on 11 November 2019.



H. E. Dr. Ron Malka, Ambassador of Israel to India called on Amb. J.S. Mukul, Dean (FSI) to discuss issues of mutual cooperation & training related matters on 19 November 2019.



Amb. Galma Mukhe Boru, Director, Foreign Service Academy, Government of Kenya led a Kenyan delegation to FSI on 29 November 2019. Dean (FSI) gave a detailed briefing on FSI's activities and training programmes.



Mr. Sony Leong CBE, Chief Executive, Civil Service College in London called on Dean (FSI) on 20 December 2019 to discuss cooperation between the two institutions.



H. E. Ms. Tizita Mulugeta, Ambassador of Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to India called on Dean (FSI) on 23 December 2019 to discuss cooperation in the area of training between India and Ethiopia.



Activities



Diplomats from ASEAN countries participated in Yoga Session

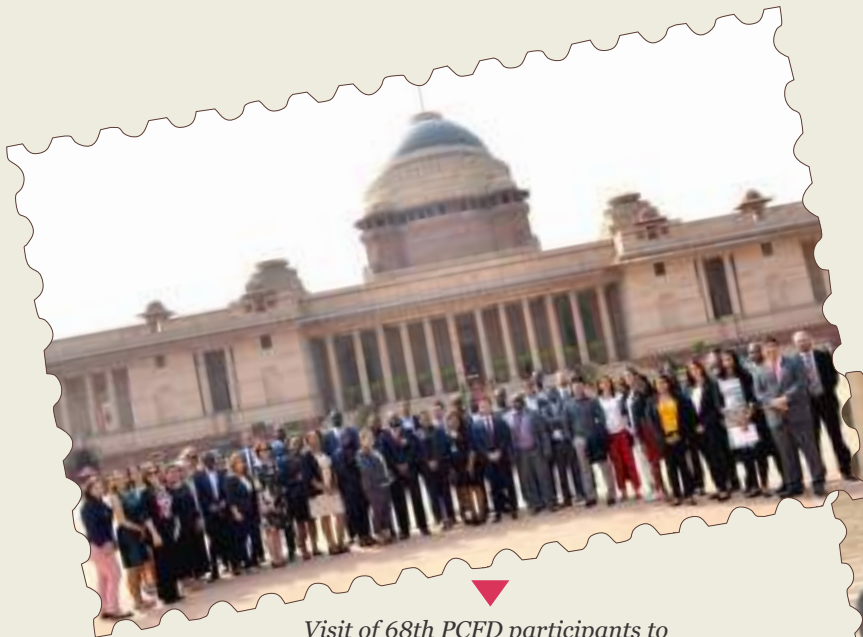


Participants of 68th PCFD participated in a Yoga session



Diplomats from Central & West Africa Francophone countries participated in Yoga Session

Field Visits



Visit of 68th PCFD participants to Rashtrapati Bhawan



Visit of participants of 2nd India-China Joint Capacity Building Programme for Afghan Diplomats to Rashtrapati Bhawan.



Visit of participants of 4th Special Course for Bangladeshi Diplomats to Rashtrapati Bhawan



Visit of participants of the Central & West Africa Francophone countries to Rashtrapati Bhawan.



Visit of 68th PCFD participants to Lotus Temple, Delhi



Visit of 68th PCFD participants to Taj Mahal, Agra



Visit of 68th PCFD participants to Jama Masjid, Delhi



Visit of Mongolian, Maldivian and Dominican Republic participants to Taj Mahal, Agra



Visit of 68th PCFD participants to Fatehpur Sikri, Agra



Participants of Central & West Africa Francophone countries visited Qutab Minar, Delhi.



Visit of 68th PCFD participants to Jaipur.



Visit of ASEAN and ASEM Member States' participants to Akshardham, Delhi



Visit of participants of Central & West Africa Francophone countries to Bangla Sahib Gurudwara, New Delhi.



Visit of 68th PCFD participants to National Museum, New Delhi



Visit of Mongolian, Maldivian and Dominican Republic diplomats to Fatehpur Sikri, Agra.



Visit of participants of Central & West Africa Francophone countries to International Solar Alliance (ISA), Gurugram, Haryana.



Visit of 68th PCFD participants to Hero MotoCrop, Gurugram.

Valedictory Functions



The Valedictory Function of 68th Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats was at FSI on 11 October 2019. The Course was attended by 55 Diplomats from 54 countries.



The Valedictory session of 5th Special Course for ASEM (Asia-Europe Meeting) Diplomats held on 18 October 2019.



The Valedictory Session of 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Dominican Republic, Mongolia and 3rd Special Course for Diplomats from Maldives held on 8 November 2019.



The Valedictory session of 13th Special Course for Diplomats from ASEAN region held on 25 October 2019.



The Valedictory Session of 2nd India-China Joint Capacity Building Programme for Diplomats from Afghanistan on 22 November 2019.



The Valedictory session of 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Namibia and Malawi held on 13 December 2019.



The Valedictory session of 4th Special Course for Diplomats from Bangladesh held on 20 December 2019.

Welcome Dinners for Foreign Diplomats



Dean (FSI) hosted welcome dinners for:

- 1. participants of 68th PCFD on 15 September 2019.*
- 2. participants of 13th Special Course for ASEAN Diplomats and 5th Special Course for ASEM Diplomats on 13 October 2019.*
- 3. participants of the 1st Special Course for Mongolian and Dominican Republic Diplomats and 3rd Special Course for Maldivian Diplomats on 28 October 2019.*
- 4. participants of the 2nd India–China Joint Capacity Building Programme for Afghan Diplomats in New Delhi on 10 November 2019.*
- 5. participants of 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Benin, Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Côte d'Ivoire and Kenya in New Delhi on 24 November 2019.*
- 6. participants of 1st Special Course for Namibia & Malawi in New Delhi on 30 November 2019.*
- 7. participants of 4th Special Course for Bangladeshi Diplomats in New Delhi on 15 December 2019.*

FSI Outreach

As a part of its outreach programme, FSI has signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with its following counterparts during this quarter.

| Sl. No. | Name of Institution | Country | Date |
|---------|---|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Devawongse Varopakarn Institute of Foreign Affairs | Thailand | 10 October 2019 |
| 2. | Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Cooperation | Sierra Leone | 13 October 2019 |
| 3. | Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies | Saudi Arabia | 29 October 2019 |
| 4. | Foreign Service Academy | Kenya | 3 December 2019 |



Signing of MoU with Thailand



Signing of MoU with Kenya

New Postings

FSI bid farewell to:

| Sl. No. | Name | Designation |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Dr. Virander Paul | Joint Secretary |
| 2. | Shri Anil Raturi | Section Officer |
| 3. | Shri K.C. Meena | Librarian |
| 4. | Shri Bijender Singh | JSA |

FSI welcomes:

| Sl. No. | Name | Designation |
|---------|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Shri Pradeep L. | Section Officer |
| 2. | Shri Vivek Garg | ASO |
| 3. | Shri Brijesh | JSA |
| 4. | Shri Daulat Bisht | MTS |

A Glimpse of Cultural Extravaganza at the Foreign Service Institute



A cultural programme was organised during the valedictory function of 68th PCFD on 11 October 2019. Participating diplomats also put up a couple of performances.



About Foreign Service Institute

The Foreign Service Institute (FSI) was established in 1986 by the Government of India primarily to cater to the professional training needs of the Indian Foreign Service and the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. FSI has diversified its activities to include Courses for foreign diplomats in its efforts to build bridges of friendship and cooperation with countries around the world and Courses of interest to staff and officers at all levels of the Ministry of External Affairs as well as other Civil Services. The Institute is located at Baba Gangnath Marg, Old JNU Campus, New Delhi.

FSI is headed by the Dean, a senior Foreign Service officer of the rank of Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs. The current Dean is Amb J.S. Mukul. FSI has an extensive guest faculty drawn from experts in the field of academics and research, the media, public life, industry and trade, senior serving and retired diplomats and other government officials.

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