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VIDEESH SEWA



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Editor's Desk



डीन
सुषमा स्वराज विदेश सेवा संस्थान
विदेश मंत्रालय
Dean
Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service
Ministry of External Affairs

During the first Quarter of 2024, we received several foreign dignitaries. Dr. Anwar Mohammad Gargash, Diplomatic Advisor to the President of UAE delivered the second edition of SSIFS' 'Distinguished Lecture Series' in February 2024. Secretary of State of Republic of Poland, Mr. Wladyslaw Tcofil Bartoszewski visited the SSIFS in February 2024 and we organised an interactive session for a group of trainee diplomats from the Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy of the UAE.

The Foreign Vertical of SSIFS organised the 4th Edition of Disarmament and International Security Affairs Fellowship. Eminent Speakers from India and abroad addressed the Fellows including the UN Under Secretary-General & High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu.

The Induction Training Programme for 2023 batch of IFS Officer Trainees and two Bhutanese diplomats resumed in the New Year with addresses by eminent guest speakers and senior officers of the Ministry of External Affairs. The IFS OTs paid the traditional 'Courtesy Calls' on the External Affairs Minister and Raksha Mantri. They were attached to the Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas and the Election Commission of India and witnessed the 'Raisina Dialogue'. The IFS OTs proceeded to the allocated States and Aspirational Districts on a week-long attachment.

For the first time, the Institute organised a Special Course for the 75th Batch of IRS (C&CE) Officer Trainees who were undergoing their Induction Training at NACIN (National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes & Narcotics).

The Institute hosted three sessions in January and February for the Know India Programme (KIP) conducted by MEA and DE Division. Training programmes were organized for 198 MEA Staff (in-person) and 168 (in virtual format).

New Delhi
July 2024

[Gaddam Dharmendra]

Highlights

Training for Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Officers Induction Training Programme for IFS Officer Trainees of 2023 Batch and Diplomats from Bhutan

January 2023 saw the resumption of the Induction Training Programme (ITP) of the thirty-six IFS Officer Trainees (OTs) of the 2023 Batch and two Bhutanese diplomats after a brief winter break. The officers visited Dhamma Sota Sohna (Vipassana centre – Delhi NCR) where Shri Ram Nath Kovind, former President of India, addressed them and stressed upon the importance of wellness in our daily lives. The classroom sessions inter alia covered foreign policy, national security, 3Ts of Trade, Technology & Tourism development partnerships and connectivity initiatives, along with sessions on science & technology, cyber security, health diplomacy etc.

The OTs called on Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar on 16 January 2024. EAM dwelt upon experiences of life as a diplomat and expectations that the nation has from the OTs in the era of Amrit Kaal.

The OTs had a day's attachment with the Ministry of Defence, which included a call on Shri Rajnath Singh, Minister of Defence and a field visit to the Brahmos Hqrs. The Director General of Military Operations (DGMO), Lt. Gen. Pratik Sharma shared valuable insights on 'leadership' with the officers.



Call on EAM



Call on Raksha Mantri



Address by DGMO



Visit to BrahMos HQrs, Delhi

During their visit to the Election Commission of India, the Chief Election Commissioner Shri Rajiv Kumar addressed the OTs about the EC's role

and functions, including collaboration with other Election Management Bodies.



Interaction with Chief Election Commissioner

There were also brief attachments with the International Solar Alliance (ISA), ISRO, HAL, PHD Chambers of Commerce and ICCR. The officers attended the 3-day Raisina Dialogue from 21-23

February 2024. They were attached to Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and ICAR for energy and agricultural diplomacy modules respectively.



Briefing session organized by MoPNG (ONGC Videsh)

A two-day module on economic & commercial diplomacy at the Department of Commerce provided a broad overview of India's trade policy, perspective on FTAs, WTO, global trade and role of commerce in

India's development. Commerce Secretary, Shri Sunil Barthwal addressed the officers during the module. The OTs went on Bharat Darshan in the last week of March.



Module on Economic & Commercial Diplomacy organized by Department of Commerce

Training Programmes for other Civil Service Officers

Training of IRS Officers on Foreign Policy Module

A three-day Foreign Policy module for the 75th Batch of IRS (C&CE) Officer Trainees was organized from 11-13 March 2024 at SSIFS. It was jointly inaugurated

by Shri Gaddam Dharmendra, Dean(SSIFS) and Shri Ramesh Chander, ADG, NACIN. 45 Officer Trainees participated in the programme.



Group photo



Inaugural session

Second Edition of Distinguished Lecture Series

SSIFS's Second Distinguished Lecture featuring Dr. Anwar Mohammed Gargash, Diplomatic Advisor to the President of the UAE was held on 23rd February 2024 at the Sushma Swaraj Bhawan. Dr Gargash's address covered the emerging geo-strategic

developments in West Asia. Hon'ble EAM, Dr. S. Jaishankar delivered the opening remarks at the event which was attended by an audience of around 300.



4th Atal Bihari Vajpayee Memorial Lecture

The 4th Atal Bihari Vajpayee Annual Memorial Lecture, organized by SSIFS, was delivered by Shri Anand Mahindra, Chairman, Mahindra Group on 10th March, 2024 at the Sushma Swaraj Bhawan. Shri Mahindra's address was on the role of industry in building a resilient and resurgent India. Hon'ble EAM, Dr. S. Jaishankar graced the occasion with his

presence. The event was attended by an audience of over 300 comprising officers from the Ministry of External Affairs, senior officers from other GoI Ministries and Departments, resident Heads of Missions, members of academia, think tanks and media, chambers of commerce etc.



Training Programmes for Foreign Diplomats

4th Annual Disarmament & International Security Affairs Fellowship

The 4th Annual Disarmament & International Security Affairs Fellowship was organized from 22 January - 09 February 2024. SSIFS organises the Fellowship in line with India's commitment to promote arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation education under UNGA Resolution 71/57 "United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education" and focuses on 'Disarmament Education' in UNSG's Disarmament Agenda 'to Secure our World and our Future'. SSIFS collaborates with the Disarmament International Security Affairs Division of the Ministry of External Affairs to organize the Fellowship. This year twenty-four young diplomats representing different countries cutting across geographies participated in the Fellowship.

The 4th D&ISA Fellowship was inaugurated on 22 January 2024 with Inaugural Remarks by Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu, UN Under Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

through a Video recorded message. Amb D.B. Venkatesh Varma, India's former PR to Conference on Disarmament, Geneva delivered the Keynote Address.

The 3-week programme featured talks, presentations and field visits on a range of subjects by eminent speakers from India and abroad from the disarmament affairs sphere.

The 4th D&ISA Fellows undertook visits to facilities of Department of Atomic Energy of India and Indian Space Research Organisation. The Fellows called on Hon'ble External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar. The participants witnessed the Republic Day parade and visited the Election Commission of India, International Solar Alliance Secretariat, National Institute of Solar Energy etc.

Foreign Secretary, Shri Vijay Mohan Kwatra presided over the Valedictory Ceremony at Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan on 09 February 2024.



Group Photo



Keynote address by Amb. D.B. Venkatesh Varma



Inaugural remarks by UN Under Secretary-General & High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Ms. Izumi Nakamitsu



Address by Amb. Flavio S. Damico, Chair of Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR)



Address by Amb. Jose Javier De La Gasca, Chair, UNSCR 1540 Committee



Address by Amb. György Molnár, Head of Wassenaar Secretariat



Interaction with EAM



Republic Day Parade



Visit to Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Mumbai



Visit to ISRO, Bengaluru



Visit to Agra



Valedictory Ceremony



Valedictory Ceremony

Know India Programme

SSIFS organized the Orientation Sessions for the 71st, 72nd and 74th Know India Programme (KIP) for Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) at SSIFS on 01 & 15 January and 12 February respectively in collaboration with Diaspora Engagement Division. 113 Persons of Indian Origin from twenty six countries participated in these three KIPs.

KIP is a flagship initiative for Diaspora engagement which familiarizes Indian Origin Youth (18-30 years) with their Indian roots and provides an understanding of contemporary India through a 25 day orientation programme organized by DE Division. The familiarization programme at SSIFS included modules on Civilizational Heritage of India and India's Foreign Policy.



Group Photo of 71st KIP



Group Photo of 72nd KIP



Group Photo of 74th KIP

Training Programmes for MEA Officials

Posting-related Training Programmes

- Accounts Training Programme and 89th IMAS (Integrated Mission and Accounting System) Training Programme was conducted at SSIFS from 03-10 January 2024. 30 MEA Officials of the rank of Section Officer/Private Secretaries and below attended the programme.
- IVFRT (Immigration, Visa and Foreigners' Registration and Tracking) Training was conducted at SSIFS from 16-18 January 2024. 60 MEA Officials of the rank of Section Officer/Private Secretaries and below attended the programme.
- A Promotion-related Training Programme for Assistant Section Officers and Senior Secretariat Assistants was conducted in hybrid mode in two batches from 19-23 February 2024 and 26 February - 01 March 2024 respectively. 70 officials attended in-person at SSIFS and 168 officials joined from Missions and Posts abroad in virtual format.
- Accounts Training Programme and 90th IMAS (Integrated Mission and Accounting System) hands-on Training Programme was conducted at SSIFS from 04-22 March 2024. 38 MEA Officials of the rank of Section Officer/Private Secretaries and below attended the programme.

Visitors to SSIFS

Visit of Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy of the UAE

Dean (SSIFS) received a delegation from the Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy (AGDA) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on 19 February 2024. Dr. N.

Janardhan, Director of AGDA led the delegation comprising of trainee diplomats on their Mission Attachment programme to India.



Dean, SSIFS received H.E. Mr. Władysław Teofil Bartoszewski, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland and accompanied delegation at SSIFS on 21 February 2024.

H.E. Mr. Kuong Koy, Ambassador of the Republic of Cambodia to India met Joint Secretary (SSIFS), Smt. Anita Shukla on 20 March 2024 in connection with the Special Course for diplomats from Cambodia.



Pledge



In observance of the Swacchata Pakhwada, Shri Mridu Pawan Das, Joint Secretary (SSIFS), administered the Swacchata pledge to the officers and staff of SSIFS on 17 January, 2024.

New Postings

SSIFS welcomes:

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Kartik	ASO
2.	Shri Kuldeep	MTS

SSIFS bid farewell to

Sl. No.	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Hitashi Lomash	Faculty
2.	Shri Ravi Kumar	MTS



About Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service

The Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) 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. SSIFS 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.

SSIFS 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 Shri Gaddam Dharmendra. SSIFS primarily has an extensive guest faculty drawn from experts in the field of academics and research, media, public life, industry and trade, senior serving and retired diplomats and other government officials.

Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service

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