

VIDESH SEWA



Foreign Service Institute

विदेश सेवा संस्थान, भारत सरकार
Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India

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Editor's Desk



डीन, विदेश सेवा संस्थान
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Foreign Service Institute (FSI) remained focused on training programmes and upgrading of pedagogy regarding the twin verticals for training of Indian diplomats/personnel and foreign diplomats. In addition, the third quarterly issue of FSI's newsletter 'Videsh Sewa' looks at the infrastructure improvement at FSI in recent times as well as FSI at the international forum for deans and directors of diplomatic academies.

Training of Indian diplomats centered around the Mid-Career Training Programme (MCTP-I) for Under Secretary/Deputy Secretary-level officers covering modules at FSI, IIM Ahmedabad and State attachment. The training of non-representational grade officers continued in parallel throughout the quarter. On the foreign training side, special training programmes included courses for diplomats from Central Asian countries, Maldives, the League of Arab States (the first one exclusively for Secretariat of a regional organisation), CARICOM, Iraq, Palestine and Libya.

On the infrastructure front, FSI has operationalised the renovated all-season swimming pool after completion of required formalities. The infrastructure upgradation has covered construction of conference hall 2, renovation of Block D quarters, upgradation of VIP lounge with exhibition space, LED lighting, replacement of false ceilings of foyer, gym, yoga room, etc.

FSI had become a member of the International Forum on Diplomatic Training (IFDT) since 2018. The 46th edition of IFDT in September 2019 in Geneva was utilised to showcase FSI innovations, particularly concerning training of foreign diplomats, viz. (i) Disarmament and International Security Affairs Fellowship as the first thematic training programme, which has been institutionalised on an annual basis; (ii) the joint training programme by India and China for Afghanistan diplomats held last year is being repeated again this year; and (iii) FSI's 'Familiarisation Programmes' for resident foreign Ambassadors in Delhi, which have to-date covered GRULAC, Africa and Asia (Arab, Central Asia and Caucasian countries).

India's offer to host IFDT Conference in 2022 has been accepted and the mega event will be held in India for the first time to coincide with India@75.

New Delhi
October 2019


(J.S. Mukul)

Highlights

Training for Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Officers

The Mid Career Training Programme-I (MCTP) for 34 Under Secretary/Deputy Secretary level IFS Officers was organized at the Foreign Service Institute (FSI) from 16-24 September 2019 in 4 phases namely; foreign policy, domestic policy, state attachment and management.



Training for Foreign Diplomats

- The 2nd Special Course for diplomats from Maldives was organized at FSI from 24 June to 6 July 2019. 8 young diplomats from Maldives participated in the Course. The Course was inaugurated by Amb. J.S. Mukul, Dean (FSI) on 23 June by hosting the welcome dinner. H.E. Ms. Aishath Mohamed Didi, Ambassador of Maldives to India was also present. The Valedictory Function was organized on 5 July 2019 which was attended by Ms. Aminath Shabeena, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of Maldives in New Delhi.



- Under the aegis of 1st India-Central Asia Dialogue at the level of Foreign Ministers held at Samarkand, Uzbekistan in January 2019, FSI conducted the 1st Special Course for diplomats from Central Asia at FSI from 24 June to 6 July 2019. 29 young diplomats from 5 Central Asian Countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) participated in the Course.



- The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from the League of Arab States (LAS) was held at FSI from 22-29 July 2019. 16 young diplomats from LAS participated in the Course. This was the first Course conducted by FSI exclusively for diplomats from the secretariat of an organisation. The Special Course was inaugurated by Amb. J.S. Mukul, Dean (FSI) on 22 July 2019.



- Taking forward the close ties between India and the Caribbean countries, the 2nd Special Course for Diplomats from the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) was organised by FSI from 12 to 23 August 2019. 23 diplomats from 10 countries of the CARICOM (Antigua & Barbuda, Belize, Guyana, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts & Nevis, St. Vincent & Grenadines and Suriname) participated in the Course. The Course was inaugurated by Dean (FSI) on 12 August while the valedictory function was held on 23 August 2019.



- The 3rd Special Course for Diplomats from Iraq was held at FSI from 26 August to 7 September 2019. 30 diplomats from Iraq participated in the Course. The Special Course was inaugurated at FSI on 26 August 2019. A welcome reception for the diplomats from Iraq was hosted on 25 August with participation of the Ambassador of Iraq to India.



- The 2nd Special Course for Diplomats from Palestine was conducted at FSI on 2-14 September 2019. 15 diplomats from Palestine attended the Course. The Course was inaugurated by Dean (FSI) on 2 September and the valedictory function was held on 13 September 2019.



- The 1st Special Course for Diplomats from Libya was organized at FSI on 6-20 September 2019. 15 young diplomats from Libya participated in the Course.





Palestinian diplomats called on Amb. T.S. Tirumurti, Secretary (ER), MEA

Familiarization Programmes

- The 3rd Familiarisation Programme for Resident Heads of Mission (HOMs) from Arab, North African, Central Asian and Caucasian countries was organized on 19-23 August 2019 at FSI. 18 Resident HOMs/Charge d'Affaires attended the Programme. The Programme was inaugurated by Amb. T.S. Tirumurti, Secretary (Economic Relations) on 19 August 2019.
- A 20-member media delegation from Maldives visited India on a familiarization programme on 3-10 July 2019. As part of the programme, the delegation visited FSI on 4 July 2019. The presentation was followed by a Q & A session.



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 three-week orientation programme organised by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The programme aims to promote awareness of Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Overseas Citizens of India (OCIs) about life in India and the advancements made by the country in different spheres like science & technology, economy, industry and commerce, communication and information, education, and connects the Indian diaspora youth with Indian roots, culture and heritage. In 2016, the scheme was revamped to increase duration from 21 to 25 days, with a ten day visit to one or two States in India. Preference is given to PIOs from Girmitya countries. Under the programme, Indian-origin youth submit their applications for participation to the Indian Missions/Posts abroad. A maximum of 40 Indian diaspora youth are selected for each programme and are provided full hospitality in India.



40 participants of 54th KIP from 9 countries visited FSI on 2 August 2019 and 42 participants of 55th KIP from 14 countries visited FSI on 24 September 2019 for a one-day familiarisation programme. The familiarisation programme at FSI included modules on diversity of India, foreign policy and political system.

Workshop/Training Courses for MEA officials

Foreign Service Institute (FSI) organized a planned demonstration workshop on Online Right to Information Act (RTI) which was conducted by Dr. N K Kumaresan Raja, Associate Professor Department of Politics & International Studies, Pondicherry University, on 9 July 2019 at Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan. The target group for the training was the CPIOs, FAAs, and designated Nodal Officers in MEA. The workshop attracted positive response. Shri Yashwardhan Sinha, Information Commissioner inaugurated the programme. Dean (FSI) and Director (ADP) participated.

The 73rd Integrated Missions Accounting System (IMAS) training programme was organized for 95 MEA officials at FSI from 18 June to 15 July 2019.

A training programme on Immigration, Visa and Foreigner's Registration & Tracking (IVFRT) was organized for 106 MEA officials at FSI from 29 July to 2 August 2019.

A Typing Test for ASOs was organised for 10 MEA officials at FSI on 16 August 2019.

A training programme on Accounts Module was conducted for 62 MEA officials at FSI on 19-20 August 2019.

The 74th IMAS training programme was organized for 63 MEA officials at FSI from 21 August to 13 September 2019.

A half-day Session titled "Online RTI for Practitioners" for MEA officials was organized on 21 August 2019 at FSI. The Session was attended by around 20 participants.



Swachhhta Pakhwada

Amb. J.S. Mukul Dean (FSI) along with all members of FSI participated in a cleanliness drive at FSI on 27 September to celebrate Swachhhta Pakhwada. All members of FSI also took a pledge to keep their offices and surroundings neat and clean.



Visitors to FSI



H.E. Mr. Ariel Andrade Galindo, Ambassador of El Salvador visited FSI on 12 July to discuss cooperation between India and Central American countries in the area of training.



Mr. Ahmed H.M. Gebreel, Cd'A of Libya visited Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs on 12 July to discuss the 1st Special Course for Libyan diplomats.



Sadhu Ganmuni Das Swami Ji of Akshardham visited FSI on 15 July. Foreign diplomats attending training programmes at FSI visit Akshardham on study tour.



7 Malaysian diplomats, pursuing Diploma in Diplomacy from the Institute of Diplomacy and Foreign Relations (IDFR), accompanied by their Director and Assistant Director visited FSI on 29 July 2019.



Mrs. Vera Jerabkova, Director of the Diplomatic Academy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Czech Republic visited FSI on 1 August 2019. She was accompanied by H. E. Mr. Milan Hovorka, Ambassador of Czech Republic to India.



A 7-member delegation from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Malawi visited FSI on 20 August 2019. Amb J.S. Mukul, Dean (FSI) briefed the delegation on the activities of FSI, especially training programmes conducted by FSI for foreign diplomats as a part of India's development partnership in the spirit of South-South Cooperation.



Amb. J.S. Mukul, Dean (FSI) received Prof. Carlos Correa, Executive Director of South Centre, Geneva on 22 August 2019 at FSI. This was the second visit to FSI by Prof. Correa, after assumption of charge as Executive Director of South Centre.



H.E. Dr. Nomvuyi Nokwe, IORA, Secretary General, Prof. V.N. Atri, Chair for Indian Ocean Studies, Ms. Daniella, Programme Officer visited FSI on 22 August 2019.



H.E. Mr. Asein Isaev, Ambassador of Kyrgyz Republic visited FSI on 30 August. He discussed cooperation between FSI and Kyrgyz Diplomatic Academy with Dean (FSI)

Dean (FSI)'s Visits



Amb. J.S Mukul, Dean (FSI) visited Dhaka, Bangladesh on 4-5 August 2019 at the invitation of the Principal of Bangladesh Foreign Service Academy (FSA), Amb. Khundoker. Amb. Mukul also met the Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh, H.E. Mr. Shahidul Haque and addressed the young diplomats of Bangladesh on the relevance of economic diplomacy with a special reference to G20.

Amb. J.S Mukul, Dean (FSI) attended the annual meeting of the International Forum on Diplomatic Training (IFDT) held in Geneva, Switzerland on 18-21 September 2019. Established in 1971, IFDT is an informal gathering of Deans and Directors of Diplomatic Academies and Institutes of International Relations. FSI is a member of IFDT since 2018. The annual meeting is devoted primarily to the discussion and exchange of information about recent trends in diplomacy and experiences gained in training for diplomatic and international careers. At the 46th session of IFDT, Dean (FSI) showcased the new initiatives of FSI related to training of foreign diplomats.

Field Visits



Visit to Taj Mahal by Central Asian and Maldivian diplomats



Visit to Agra Fort by Central Asian and Maldivian diplomats



Visit to Fatehpur Sikri by Central Asian and Maldivian diplomats



Visit to Taj Mahal by Palestinian diplomats



Visit to Election Commission by Palestinian and Libyan diplomats



Visit to Fatehpur Sikri by Palestinian & Libyan diplomats



Visit to Rashtrapati Bhawan by
Palestinian diplomats



Visit to Fatehpur Sikri
by CARICOM
diplomats



Visit to Rashtrapati Bhawan
by Iraqi diplomats



Visit to Fatehpur Sikri by League of
Arab State diplomats



Visit to Qutub Minar
by Iraqi diplomats



Visit to Taj Mahal by League
of Arab State diplomats



Visit to Akshardham by
Iraqi diplomats

Activities



Diplomats from Libya and Palestine
participated in Yoga Session



Diplomats from CARICOM countries
participated in Yoga Session

Welcome Dinners Hosted for Foreign Diplomats



Valedictory Functions

Valedictory Function
for Iraqi diplomats



Valedictory Function for Maldivian diplomats



Country presentation by
CARICOM diplomats

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.	Institute of Diplomacy and International Studies	Zambia	21 August 2019
2.	Institute of Foreign Affairs	Lao People's Democratic Republic	6 September 2019

Country presentation by
Palestinian diplomats

Valedictory function of 3rd Familiarization
Programme for Resident HoMs

Valedictory function for
Palestinian diplomats



Valedictory function for CARICOM diplomats.

FSI bid farewell to:

Sl	Name	Designation
1.	Shri Dalip Singh Bist	Under Secretary
2.	Shri Ram Dutt	Assistant Section Officer

Infrastructure of FSI



Reception Area



FSI is located on a 6-acre plot in Old JNU Campus in South Delhi. The Institution block is the basic training hub of FSI. It contains the administrative offices, the conference halls, the lecture halls, the computer lab, the library and the auditorium. Training is primarily conducted in the two conference halls, second of which was inaugurated in 2018. The auditorium has a seating capacity of around 180 and is the venue of most cultural and official events organized by FSI. The library has a collection of approx. 15000 books. The computer lab has 30 terminals.

The residential complex has five blocks. A block is the Dean's residence with B block consisting of two residences for the Joint Secretaries. C block consists of 8 flats for the other officers of FSI. D block with 30 flats is the family accommodation hostel for IFS OTs and E block with 11 flats is used by the FSI staff and essential services. The hostel has accommodation for 40 IFS OTs and there are five guest rooms. In addition to a health club, FSI has sports facilities such as a swimming pool, two tennis courts, two badminton courts etc.



Conference Hall



Auditorium



VIP Lounge



Computer Lab



Executive Dining Room (EDR)



Swimming Pool



Yoga Room



Health Club



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, primarily 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.

Foreign Service Institute

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