

**MINUTES OF THE 13TH MEETING OF PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD
AT LBSNAA, MUSSOORIE ON AUGUST 23, 2012**

The following members were present:

1. Sh. Padamvir Singh, Director, LBSNAA, Mussoorie – in Chair
2. Sh. Prajapati Trivedi, Secretary, Performance Management and Chairman Chemical Weapons, Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi
(through video conferencing)
3. Sh. K.T. Chacko, Director, IIFT, New Delhi
4. Sh. S.C. Panda, AS & FA (Home & Personnel), New Delhi
5. Dr. H.P. Dikshit, Director General, School of Good Governance & Policy analysis, Bhopal
6. Shri Alok Kumar, JS (Trg.), Training Division, Department of Personnel & Training, New Delhi
7. Shri Sanjeev Chopra, Joint Director, LBSNAA, Mussoorie

In addition, the following officers assisted the Committee:

1. Dr. Gyanendra Badgaiyan, Professor of Economics, LBSNAA, Mussoorie
2. Smt. Ranjana Chopra, Deputy Director (Senior), LBSNAA, Mussoorie
3. Sh. Tejveer Singh, Deputy Director (Senior), LBSNAA, Mussoorie
4. Smt. Jaspreet Talwar, Deputy Director (Senior), LBSNAA, Mussoorie

Agenda Item No. 1:

- The minutes of the 12th meeting of the PMC were confirmed.
- On the Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 12th meeting Mr. Prajapati Trivedi desired that the policy papers and cabinet notes written by the participants should be put on the website of the Academy since it is not very easy to access the e-learning portal of the Academy.
- He also suggested that Communities of Practice may be introduced for various subjects relevant to administrators.
- On the issue of faculty members accompanying participants on Foreign Study Tours, the members were of the opinion that DoPT should be more liberal in this regard since it leads to building capacity of Academy faculty. Shri Prajapati Trivedi mentioned that besides Academy faculty, atleast one PMC member should also accompany the participants on the Foreign Study Tour with specific terms of reference for the visit. The other members approved of the proposal but with the rider that such inclusion should not be at the cost of Academy faculty and the period of visit should be upto 7 days.
- On the issue of conducting the Indo-Korea and Indo-Singapore conference/symposium, Prof. Dikshit suggested that it should be put in the training calendar for the coming year so that there is proper follow up on it. He further suggested that two groups should be constituted for organizing the event-technical

and organizational. The members agreed to the proposal and were of the view that the proposed conferences should be focused on two or three areas of importance.

- The Committee also took note of the action taken on the other decisions of the previous meeting/s.

Agenda Item No. 2:

Shri Padamvir Singh, Director and Shri Sanjeev Chopra, Joint Director, presented the design of the Phase V (Round 6) to be conducted from October 1, 2012 to November 2, 2012. The members were satisfied with the programme design and the choice of speakers and sessions. They however made the following suggestions:

1. Speakers may be asked to send a synopsis of their sessions before hand so that the same could be circulated to the participants as readings.
2. A system to summarize lectures should be put into place ,through nomination of moderators or rapporteurs from within the participants.
3. Updated time-table should be sent to the participants before beginning of the Course.

Agenda Item No. 3.

The PMC members took note of the feedback given by the participants of the Round 7 Phase-IV and placed on record their appreciation for the outstanding performance of the in-house faculty. They congratulated the Course Team for a very successful completion of the Phase IV programme.

The members were of the view that the next round of Phase IV should more or less follow the same design as the Round 7. Prof Dikshit volunteered to suggest the names of some resource persons who could take sessions on "innovations in the government sector". It was felt that such sessions be included in all MCT Courses.

Agenda Item No. 4

- Ms Ranjana Chopra , Course Coordinator of the just completed Round 6 of the Phase III programme, presented the end of course report. The members had earlier in the day attended the feedback session with participants of Phase III. The PMC members took note of the participants' feedback and congratulated the Course team on a very successful completion and setting a new benchmark in terms of an end-of-course feedback of 94%.They were of the view that the Course design of Phase III should be followed in the next cycle of the MCT Programmes without any major change.
- On the issue of logistics, Sh Prajapati Trivedi suggested that the Academy should prepare a set of FAQ's and put them on the website so that participants were clear regarding the facilities available.
- The PMC members also commended the Director for the change in work culture in the Academy which is manifested in the camaraderie among the faculty, which was noticed and commented upon by the participants.

Agenda Item No. 5:

On the issue of enhancement of delegated financial powers of the Director, the members recommended that the delegated financial powers of the Director should be enhanced from Rs 1.00 crore to Rs 2.00 crore for technical consultancy fee payable to foreign institutions under MCTP. The proposal may be accordingly mooted to DoPT.

Agenda Item No. 6:

- The PMC members decided that the next cycle of PMC should also be of 3 years from 2013-15.
- The programme should continue to be funded under the Non-Plan Head as it provides greater flexibility.
- The foreign exposure visits in each of three Phases (Phase-III, Phase-IV & Phase-V) should continue but the Academy could explore other countries and institutions for tie ups.
- The SFC memorandum for the third cycle should be prepared for 125 participants in each Phase.
- The members felt that the MCT programmes being conducted by the Academy should be benchmarked against the best Executive Education Programmes in public policy being conducted by institutions world-wide. DoPT may conduct a workshop to lay down a roadmap on how such benchmarking can be done.

Agenda Item No. 7

- a) The PMC members discussed the issue raised by DoPT on reduction of the duration of the MCT programmes & unanimously agreed that:
- the size of the batches should continue to be 100 plus in order to be financially viable, facilitate cross learning and to ensure that officers in the relevant batches are covered in a period of 3 years.
 - the duration should continue to be eight weeks for Phase-III & Phase-IV and five weeks for Phase-V. This is the minimum time required if the courses are to be purposeful with some academic rigour.
 - Since the present scheme of MCT is working very well, it is too early for course correction & to revisit the scheme. JS (DoPT) felt that once the result of Impact Evaluation Study is in place, we may revisit the duration of MCT Programmes.
- b) On the inclusion of soft skills in the MCT programmes suggested by JS (DoPT) in his DO letter to the Director, all members were agreeable that the inputs should be enhanced. It was proposed that the Training Division, DoPT may facilitate conduct of a ToT programme on the subject of soft skills, particularly strategic leadership, for the Academy faculty in the month of January, 2013.

- Further, it was agreed that in the MCT Programmes, the participants should be asked to bring three major problems of their respective States for discussion in the Academy and to find possible solutions for the same in course of the training programme.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair