

MINUTES OF THE 19TH MEETING OF THE PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF MID CAREER TRAINING PROGRAMME HELD AT 3.00 PM ON FEBRUARY 25, 2014 AT LBSNAA, MUSSOORIE

The following were present:

1. Sh. Padamvir Singh, Director LBSNAA – *in chair*
2. Sh. Kush Verma, Director General NCGG (earlier NIAR) – *special invitee*
3. Sh. Rohit Brandon, Principal Secretary & DG RIPA, Rajasthan
4. Sh. Alok Kumar, Joint Secretary DoPT (Training Division) – *through video conferencing*
5. Dr. Rathin Roy, Director NIPFP
6. Sh. Sanjeev Chopra, Joint Director LBSNAA
7. Sh. Tejveer Singh, Joint Director LBSNAA

After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

1. **Agenda Item No 1 – Confirmation of minutes of 18th meeting of the PMC dated October 17, 2013** – Confirmed.
2. **Agenda Item No 2 – Review of Phase V Round 7, 2013** – The Committee took note of the significantly improved feedback in the last round, in both the foreign and domestic components. It underscored the general selection of the faculty in the foreign component as also the practice of formulating one-day modules in association with an anchor faculty. It, however, advised that the guest faculty receiving a feedback of less than 75% should not be re-invited.
3. **Agenda Item No 3 – Review of Proposed Design of Phase V Round 8, 2014** – The Committee accorded its in-principle approval to the proposed design of Phase V for both the foreign component in USA as well as the domestic component at the Academy. The suggestion of Dr. Rathin Roy to invite Dr. Kaushik Basu, Mr. Antonio Patrioti Permanent Representative of Brazil to the UN in New York, and Prof. Paul Smoke as guest faculty in the foreign component were taken note of. The Committee also approved the list of proposed anchor faculty while incorporating the name of Dr. Rathin Roy for the module on Public Finance. The suggestions with respect to inviting eminent media persons, viz. Siddharth Vardarajan, Shekhar Gupta or Sankarshan Thakur, and speakers such as Dileep Simeon and Ajai Shukla (on national security) were also taken note of.
4. **Agenda Item No 4 – Discussion on Phase IV Round 9, 2014** - The Committee accorded its in-principle approval for the general design of the coming Phase IV course. It approved the suggested twin elective streams, i.e. Economic Policy and Social Policy, proposed to be run concurrently in Weeks 6 and 7. The Committee advised the Academy to determine their components and curricula through a focus group discussion. On the Foreign Study Tour, the Committee while approving the

visit to Canada (organized in collaboration with IPAC), advised the Academy to also explore the possibility of sending half the group to France in association with Sciences PO. It was decided that the Director would write to his counterpart at Sciences Po to send a programme outline along with tentative costs estimates for around 50 participants, while drawing upon best academic and practitioner faculty from LSE, European Commission, et al. In parallel, the Academy would also obtain feedback from MDI Gurgaon that had been sending participants in its MPP course to the same institute in France. On evaluation, it was decided that participants would be asked to write a policy paper (in groups of 2) clearly demonstrating the use of the concepts taught during the Policy Module on public policy problems listed out by the Academy. The paper should capture both the economic and social policy dimensions of the problem which could then be converted into the format of a Cabinet Note. Next, the Committee recommended sharing the evaluation with the participants as a group. Lastly, the Committee took note of Dr. Rathin Roy's suggestion on borrowing from NIPFP a template of the letter used to invite guest faculty and to obtain an outline of the pedagogical methods proposed to be used in their session.

- 5. Agenda Item No 5 – Presentation of Impact Evaluation Report of MCT Programme by NIAR** – Sh. Kush Verma, Director General NCGG (earlier NIAR) presented some of the salient highlights of the impact evaluation study (for the first cycle from 2007 to 2009) carried out by NIAR. It was observed that a truly effective and comprehensive impact evaluation of any training programme (incorporating a 360 degree feedback) may prove very expensive and may not provide any special value to the outcomes of future rounds. It was felt that in view of the same it may not be expedient to undertake an impact evaluation of the second cycle (2010-12).

Before concluding, the members placed on record their deep appreciation for the chairperson Sh. Padamvir Singh who would be retiring on February 28, 2014. They also requested the Ministry to consider utilizing his experience and services in the PMC in future.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.