

MINUTES OF THE 29th MEETING OF THE PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF MID CAREER TRAINING PROGRAMME HELD AT 4.00 PM ON JULY 1, 2016 AT LBSNAA, MUSSOORIE

The following were present:

1. Sh. Rajeev Kapoor, Director LBSNAA – *in chair*
2. Sh. PK Das, Joint Secretary, Training Division, DoPT (*through VC*)
3. Sh. Tejveer Singh, Joint Director LBSNAA
4. Sh. Nitesh Mishra, representative of AS&FA (*through VC*)

At the outset, the Director welcomed all the members present and stated that the meeting had been called at a short notice to take a view on the Foreign Study Tour for the ongoing Phase IV course of the Mid-Career Training Programme.

After discussion, the following decisions were taken:

1. Agenda Item No 1 – Confirmation of minutes of the 28th meeting of the PMC dated June 20, 2016 – Confirmed.

2. Agenda Item No 2 – Discussion on Foreign Study Tour as part of Phase IV course from June 27 to July 22, 2016 – The Committee discussed the agenda note wherein it had been stated that in its last meeting, the Committee had approved the selection of London School of Economics & Political Science (UK) as partner institution from the two offers solicited, the other being Crawford School of Public Policy, ANU, Canberra which had expressed its inability to host the course. The offer of LSE had been approved at a cost of 85,000 GBP or around 125,000 USD.

However, due to the sudden and inexplicable withdrawal of LSE as a partner institution, the Academy had immediately sought offers from IPAC (Canada), which had hosted Phase IV groups in the past since 2011, and LKY School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore, where DoPT has been sponsoring candidates under DFFT. The cost of the respective offers was 169,500 USD (IPAC) and 87,500 USD (LKY), as mentioned in the agenda note.

Taking into account the course design as well as the significant price differential and the fact that LKY School of Public Policy is one of the world's top rated schools in Public Policy, the committee approved the selection of LKY School as partner institution for the Foreign Study Tour of the Phase IV course. It was also noted that

given the short time available, the visit to Singapore would be administratively also expedient, i.e. there would be no visa requirement on official passports in Singapore and the travel cost (and time) would also be considerably lesser than in the case of Canada.

3. Agenda Item No 3 – Other item/s taken up for discussion – No other item was taken up for discussion.

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