

INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE AND COOPERATION

The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) deals with matters relating to international exchange and cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance, which includes, among other things, organizing programmes and visits of Indian delegations to foreign countries and visits of foreign delegations to India as part of projects / bilateral measures in furtherance of activities included in the Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) / Agreements signed between India and other countries (bilateral or multilateral).

The aim of international exchange and cooperation component is to share information, best practices and personnel across national governments. Presently bilateral MoUs in the areas of Public Administration and Governance have been signed with Portugal, United Kingdom, Singapore, Australia, The Gambia, France, Cambodia and trilateral MoU with Brazil and South Africa (IBSA).

The following activities were held during the year 2023-24:

India – Singapore Cooperation

The MoU for cooperation in the field of 'Personnel Management and Public Administration' was signed by the Department with the Public Service Division (PSD) of the Republic of Singapore on 1st June, 2018.

The areas of cooperation under the MoU include (i) Workforce, Workplace and Jobs; (ii) Public Service Delivery; (iii) Human Resource Management; (iv) Public Sector Reform; (v) Leadership/Talent Development; and (vi) E-Governance / Digital Government.

The first bilateral meeting under the aegis of the MoU was held on 6th July, 2021. The Second bilateral meeting on "Personnel Management and Public Administration" was held on 29th September, 2022 in New Delhi under the aegis of MoU. The bilateral meeting was led by Shri V. Srinivas, Secretary, DARPG from Indian side and Mr. Loh Khum Yean, Permanent Secretary, PSD, Singapore from Singapore side. Both sides identified areas of collaboration which include Capacity Building, participation in the ASEAN Benchmarking Study on e-Governance and future reforms to explore in governance.

Mr. Loh Khum Yean, Permanent Secretary, PSD also addressed inaugural session of National Good Governance webinar jointly with Secretary (DARPG) on the theme 'Public Service Delivery held on 30th September, 2022 which was attended by more than 850 participants from all over India.

MoU between India and Singapore in the field of Personnel Management and Public Administration was signed on 6th July, 2023 in New Delhi. The MoU was signed by Shri V.Srinivas, Secretary DARPG on behalf of DARPG and Mr. Simon Wong, High Commissioner of Republic of Singapore to India on behalf of PSD Singapore. Representatives of PSD, Singapore attended the signing in ceremony virtually. The MoU was extended for a period of five years from 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2028.



A Virtual conference was held by JS (IE&C) on 22.8.23 with PSD Singapore in connection with visit of PM Awardees.

A bilateral introductory meeting between Shri V. Srinivas, Secretary, DARPG and Ms. Tan Gee Keow, Permanent Secretary, PSD, Singapore was successfully held on 30th January, 2024 through video conferencing. The meeting was attended by senior officers of PSD, Singapore and DARPG. During the VC India and Singapore committed

themselves to strengthen cooperation in the field of Personnel Management and Public Administration.



India Australia Cooperation

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance Reforms was signed by the Department with the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) during Indo-Australia Virtual Summit held on 4th June, 2020 between the Prime Ministers of both the sides.

The areas of cooperation under the MoU include (i) Promoting transparency and accountability in delivery of public services; (ii) Building effective service delivery in the public service; (iii) Recruitment and promotion in the public service; (iv) Developing a framework for values and competencies; (v) Training and capacity building of the public service; (vi) Public Sector Management and Reform; (vii) Public Grievance Redress Mechanism; (viii) Facilitating short-term foreign training programmes for officers of Government of India or Australia; and (ix) Promoting and utilizing potential of retired government servants.

As part of implementation of MoU, both sides jointly organized a webinar on 'Ethics in Governance' on 06.04.2023. The webinar was organized jointly by DARPG and Australian Public Service Commission. The webinar was co-chaired by Shri Amar Nath, Additional Secretary, DARPG and Mr. Mark Colwell, Director, Australian Public Service Commission.

A Webinar on 'Best Innovation Practices in Governance' was held on 8th August, 2023. The webinar was organized jointly by DARPG and Australian Public Service Commission (APSC) under the aegis of the MoU signed by DARPG with the Australian Public Service Commission (APSC). Presentation on 'New Age Learning Centre' was made by Mr. Sunny Singh, DC, Changlang, Arunachal Pradesh for the Indian side and Presentation on 'The Survey of Trust in Australian Public Services' was made by Bradley Carron-Arthur, Director Trust and Transparency, for the Australian side.

India - Gambia Cooperation

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Department and the Public Service Commission, Office of the President, The Gambia was signed on 08th July, 2021 on 'Refurbishing Personnel Administration and Governance Reforms' for a period of three (03) years. The said MoU has been further extended for another five (05) years during the signing in ceremony held on 18th June, 2024 in New Delhi.

The First meeting of India-Gambia Joint Working Group (JWG), formed under the MoU, was held virtually between the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances and the Public Service Commission (PSC) of The Gambia on 22nd November, 2021.

The India-Gambia 2nd Joint Working Group meeting to implement the bilateral MOU on Personnel Administration and Governance was held under chairmanship of Secretary DARPG V. Srinivas and Chairman Public Service Commission of Gambia Mr. Lamin Samateh by video conference on 21.08.2023. Mr. Lamin Samateh said that the MoU which was signed on 8th July, 2021 for three years and is valid till 7th July, 2024 has worked well and the possibility to extend it for 5 years could be explored on the same terms and conditions. H.E. Mr. Mustapha Jawara, High commissioner of The Gambia to India said that the officers from the Gambia have benefited from the capacity building programs held earlier and welcomed the extension of MoU for further 5 years beyond 2024

The 3rd Joint Working Group meeting between DARPG and Public Service Commission of The Republic of The Gambia under the aegis of the MoU signed on 08.07.2021 was held on **09.11.2023** through VC. The meeting was attended by officials of DARPG, NCGG, O/o the Public Service Commission of The Gambia E/I Dakar and MEA. In the concluding remarks both sides agreed to contemplate the extension of MoU for five (05) years

beyond 7th July, 2024 and take forward the cooperation in the identified areas.



India - France Cooperation

The Department of Administrative Reforms, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India and M/o Public Sector Transformation & the Civil Service of the French Republic signed the Letter of Intent on 02nd November, 2023 for Cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Administrative Reforms for three years. The Letter of Intent was signed by Shri V. Srinivas, Secretary, on behalf of the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances and H.E. Mr. Thierry Mathou, Ambassador of France to India at a ceremonial function in New Delhi on behalf of the Ministry of Public Sector Transformation and the Civil Service of French Republic.

The areas of cooperation under the MoU include (i) promote co-operation in the field of Civil Service (ii) Human Resource Management; (iii) Public Administration and Administrative Reforms.



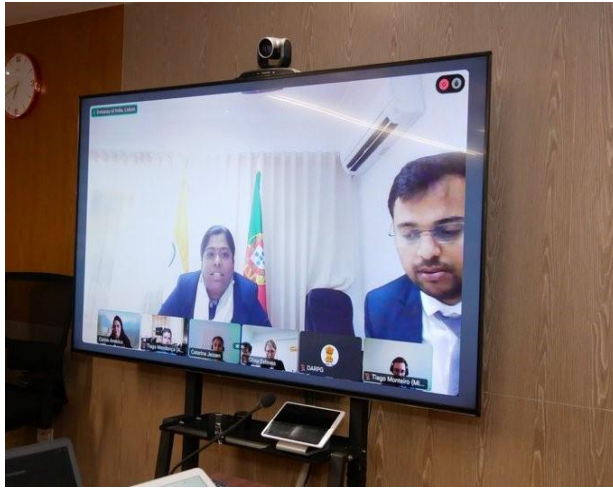
Ambassador of France to India delivered an address on 'Administrative Reforms In France' in the DARPG's 'National Webinar in Good Governance' on 28.11.2023 and was attended by District Collectors of States/ UT's.

India-Portugal Cooperation

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between DARPG and the Ministry of the Presidency and of Administrative Modernization of the Portuguese Republic was signed on 24th June, 2017 on Co-operation in the field of Public Administration and Governance Reforms.

The First Meeting of Senior Consultative Body was held in Lisbon, Portugal on 8-9 May, 2018.

The Second meeting of the Senior Consultative Body between the DARPG and the Administrative Modernization Agency of Portugal co-chaired by Shri V. Srinivas, Secretary, DARPG and Ms. Silvia Esteves, Head of International Relations, AMA, was successfully held on 12th December, 2023 through VC. From the Indian side, Shri V. Srinivas Secretary DARPG, and Shri Puneet Yadav Joint Secretary DARPG presented the New Paradigms in Governance in India from 2019-2024. From the Portuguese side, Ms. Silvia Esteves, Head of International Relations at AMA, and Ms. Carina Americo Head of AMA Academy presented the <http://ePortugal.gov> and AMA academic programs in digital transformation.



India Brazil Co-operation

A Brazilian delegation consisting of Mr. Gaetini and Mrs. Chaves along with Ms. Carolina Oliveira, representative of the Embassy of Brazil in India, had a meeting with Shri V. Srinivas, Secretary (DARPG) on 15th February, 2024 at Sardar Patel Bhavan, New Delhi.

ASSOCIATION WITH MULTILATERAL ORGANIZATIONS IN THE FIELD OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

India - Cambodia Cooperation

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between The Ministry of Civil Service of the Kingdom of Cambodia and the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions of the Republic of India on Co-operation in the field of Human Resource Development in the Civil Services was signed on 22nd April, 2024 for a period of five (05) years. Areas of Co-

operation of the said MoU are as under:-

1. Policy planning and implementation of innovation in human resource development including training and Capacity Building Programs;
2. Senior Level Civil Servants of Cambodia, preferably, having at least 10 years work experience in the field of Public Administration to be trained under the Capacity Building Programmes of National Centre for Good Governance, an autonomous organisation of the Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, during the duration of the MoU;
3. Information systems for public personnel administration;
4. Engage and support policy research and development on human resource in the field of civil service;
5. Ethics, conduct, and discipline in the civil service;
6. Such other areas of cooperation as may be jointly decided upon by the Participants.

Cooperation with International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS)

A two-member delegation consisting of Shri Puneet Yadav, Joint Secretary, DARPG and Shri Sardendu Kumar Pandey, Director, DARPG, attended Extraordinary General Assembly meeting of IIAS Council of Administration, held at Brussels, Belgium on 4th October, 2023. Extraordinary General Assembly discussed the adoption of the new text of statutes of the association in the background of the Belgian Law of 23rd March 2019 as against the existing statutes, Amended in 2017, under the Belgian law of 27 June 1921. The Indian Delegation participated in the meeting and supported the new text of statutes. A meeting was also held with IIAS officers regarding finalizing the details of IIAS Conference 2025 to be organized in India. The Indian delegation was also joined by Shri Debasish Prusty, Deputy Chief of Mission (DCM), Embassy of India, Brussels.

Capacity Building in the field of Public Administration and Governance

In order to understand the framework for public service reforms and its implications on service delivery and also to gain insight about e-governance initiatives and approaches in other countries, the Department organizes exposure visits for short term duration (one week) in specific areas of interests in Institutes of international repute for PM Awardees and e-Governance Awardees and also AR Secretaries of States/UTs, Nodal officers of Ministries/Departments of Government of India based on their performances in handling the Public Grievances on CPGRAMS, etc.

Due to travel restrictions imposed worldwide after the outbreak of Covid-19, no such training programme could be organized by the Department during the last 5 years.

**DETAILS OF TRAINING PROGRAMME ORGANIZED DURING 2013-14 TO 2018-19
(TO BE HYPERLINKED).**

(JULY 2024)