

# ASSAM ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE

e-NEWSLETTER September, 2017



## Visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi



### *In this Issue*

- 1 Visit of Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi
- 2 COMMIT: Training through blended learning.
- 3 Workshop on Human Trafficking
- 3 Mizoram Civil Service (Probationers) Orientation Course
- 4 Training on Finance
- 4 e-Prastuti
- 4 DTS & DOT
- 4 Human Rights, Peace & Conflict Management
- 5 Divisional Conclave: Taking SDGs to the Districts
- 5 Finalizing Strategy Paper and Action Plan for Departments
- 6 Plantation of Fruit Orchard
- 6 Presentations by Eminent Speakers
- 7 My Page : Accountability for Effective Governance

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Guwahati on 1st August, 2017 to conduct a review of the damage caused by floods in Assam and other north-eastern states. The review meeting was held in the Assam Administrative Staff College. Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of State, DONER, accompanied the Prime Minister.

Shri Banwarilal Purohit, Hon'ble Governor of Assam, Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Assam, his Cabinet

colleagues and other senior officers, including Shri VK Pipersenia, IAS, Chief Secretary, Assam attended the meeting.

During his day-long visit, the Prime Minister held separate meetings with Hon'ble MPs and MLAs of Assam, and Shri Pema Khandu, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Arunachal Pradesh and Shri TR Zeliang, Hon'ble Chief Minister, Nagaland.

## COMMIT: Training through blended learning

The Assam Administrative Staff College is implementing the COMMIT programme of the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), Government of India. COMMIT stands for "Comprehensive Online Modified Modules for Induction Training" and was digitally launched on 29th June 2017 by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Hon'ble Union Minister of State, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, India at New Delhi. The states of Assam, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, Telangana and Haryana were selected for the pilot project under the programme.



The COMMIT programme is strategically aligned and will supplement the ongoing 12-day Induction Training Programme (ITP) being implemented by DoPT for newly recruited frontline state government functionaries. Under COMMIT, induction training would be provided for professional

and personal development to all frontline state government functionaries recruited in the last 5 years belonging to Group B and Group C categories of employees. The objective is to improve public service delivery and promote good-governance and citizen centricity of administration.



The COMMIT programme is 28 hours of blended training with 20 hours of e-learning and 8 hours of face-to-face training. It will allow officers and faculty to take advantage of much of the flexibility and convenience of an online course while retaining the benefits of the face-to-face classroom experience. Through COMMIT, approximately 85,000 officers will be covered in the pilot phase. The advantages of such a programme will be providing opportunities to more officials who have had limited or no training to build the requisite skills, knowledge and attitude; require limited classroom space; and offer the advantages of online learning combined with the social and instructional interaction.

In Assam, the target group for training under the COMMIT programme are the frontline Grade II and Grade III employees of the state government recruited after 1st January, 2011. The programme was launched in the state on 21st July, 2017 with officials from various departments working in Kamrup (Metro) district attending the first face-to-face training at the Assam Administrative Staff College. Sri Anjan Chakravarty, IAS, Director of Training, Assam Administrative Staff College

inaugurated the programme. 8 rounds of face-to-face training covering 583 officials in Kamrup(Metro) district has been conducted in Assam Administrative Staff College upto now. About 9,000 employees covering all districts of the state are expected to be imparted training through the COMMIT programme within 31st March, 2018.

## Workshop on Human Trafficking

A day long workshop on the theme “Role of Public Servants in Prevention & Rehabilitation of Victims of Human Trafficking” was held on 17th June, 2017 with participants from the Departments of Police, Labour, Health & Family Welfare, Social Welfare, Railways, Skill and Entrepreneurship and representatives of NGOs.



Smti. T Y Das, IAS, then Additional Chief Secretary, Home & Political Department, inaugurated the workshop in presence of Sri Mukesh Sahai, IPS, DGP, Assam, Prof. R C Barpatragohain, Dean, Faculty of Law, Gauhati University, Prof. (Dr.) J S Patil, Vice-Chancellor, National Law University & Judicial Academy, Assam, and Sri R R Das, Director(i/c), Law Research Institute, Gauhati High Court.

SS Meenakshi Sundaram, IAS, Director, Social Welfare, delivered a presentation on the human trafficking scenario in the state. Presentations from other departments included Police (CID), Labour, Health & Family Welfare & Social Welfare.

The participants were divided into four groups and each group allotted a topic for group discussion and presentation. Prof. L C Singhi, IAS(Retd.), Visiting Faculty, Centre for Law, Justice & Human Rights played an active role in the workshop.

## Mizoram Civil Service (Probationers) Orientation Course

A three weeks course for 8 Mizoram Civil Service (Probationers), 2017 batch, was held from 10th to 29th July, 2017.

Inaugurating the course, Shri Anjan Chakravarty, IAS, Director, Assam Administrative Staff College welcomed the young officers and spoke briefly on public service for the benefit of the people of their state, the need to develop mutual trust and to work diligently as per laid down rules and regulations.

Apart from classroom sessions, the trainees gathered first-hand experience of the developmental works carried out in the field. They were taken on field visits to block development office, revenue circle office, the Bamboo Technology Park, etc. Further, in order to acquaint them with the arts and culture of Assam, they were taken to the Sankardev Kalashetra, and a river cruise on the Brahmaputra.

In the valedictory session the trainees were presented with the traditional *phulam gamosa* and *xorai*.



## Training on Finance

A training course on “Accounts, Financial Rules & Public Procurement for Police – DDOs, DSPs, SPs” was held from 19th to 21st, June, 2017 with participation of a total of 30 officers, both APS and IPS of Assam - Meghalya cadres.



The topics dwelt on were relevant to procurement of goods and services in the police department and covered the gamut of activities involved in a transparent and efficient implementation of procurement plan in consonance with budgetary timelines. The module included financial rules & regulations, various modes and methodology of procurement, CVC guidelines and specific legal issues related to procurement, GST, and public finance management system, etc. The training sessions were interactive and could generate highly spirited participation of the offices.

## e-Prastuti

The second refresher training on “e-Prastuti-Standardization of Government Websites” was conducted from 3rd to 5th August, 2017. Members of Web Development Cell, NIC Guwahati and designated Master Trainers of e-Prastuti were the resource persons for the training. The e-Prastuti refresher training was attended by 62 participants from various departments.

## DTS & DoT



A set of national level trainer development courses on “Direct Trainer Skills” (DTS) & “Design of Training” (DoT) were conducted w.e.f. 5th to 9th June, 2017 & 12th to 16th June, 2017. The courses were sponsored by Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India.

## Human Rights, Peace & Conflict Management



A training course on “Human Rights, Peace and Conflict Management” was held from 19th to 21st July, 2017. Well-known writer and journalist, Sanjoy Hazarika who is presently Director, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative was present as one of the resource persons. He took two sessions namely “Roots and nature of conflict in Assam” and “A question of balance: Accommodating aspirations and ethnic mobilization” during the training programme which was highly appreciated as being resourceful, informative and thought-provoking by the participants.

## Divisional Conclave: Taking SDGs to the Districts



In order to disseminate understanding of Sustainable Development Goals to district officials, as well as its implementation, the office of the Divisional Commissioner, Lower Assam Division (LAD) in collaboration with Transformation & Development Department, office of Deputy Commissioner, Kamrup (Metro) and Centre for SDGs, Assam Administrative Staff College, organized a one day conclave on 1st June, 2017. The conclave focused on engaging district level officials in understanding the progress made in the departmental level in terms of SDGs and how their work is directly correlated to the SDGs. Shri Ahmed Hussain, IAS, Divisional Commissioner, LAD, welcomed the participants and senior officers and spoke about the pioneering work being done in Assam for promoting the SDGs and how localization of these goals is a priority for the state.

## Finalizing Strategy Paper and Action Plan for Departments

A series of conclaves were held over a period of several weeks for finalizing the Strategy Paper and Action Plan of various departments for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Lead departments for achieving the SDGs, along with their supporting departments, and in collaboration

Centre for SDGs, Assam Administrative Staff College organized the conclaves. The inaugural sessions were addressed by Shri VK Pipersenia, IAS, Chief Secretary, Assam as well as Shri Anurag Goel, IAS(Retd), Advisor & Mentor to Assam Administrative Staff College and Dr Shiladitya Chatterjee, IAS (Retd), Advisor to Centre for SDGs. Officers from various departments, experts from international organizations such as UNDP, UNICEF, and officials from other partner institutes also participated in the conclaves. The conclaves have been designed so as to enable detailed group discussions among participants, group exercises, and a final group presentation on a thematic topic. The inputs from the conclaves will assist in formulating the final departmental and state action plan .



1. 8th June, 2017 : SDG Goal 1 (No Poverty) and SDG Goal 2 (Zero Hunger)
2. 16th & 17th June, 2017 : SDG Goal 4 (Quality Education)
3. 14th & 15th July, 2017 : SDG Goal 12 (Sustainable Consumption And Production) SDG Goal 13 (Climate Action ) SDG Goal 14 (Conservation of Water Resources) SDG Goal 15 (Life On Land)
4. 5th August, 2017 : SDG Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy ), SDG Goal 8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) and

SDG Goal 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure).

5. 9th August, 2017 : SDG Goal 11 ( Sustainable Cities and Communities ).

## PLANTATION OF FRUIT ORCHARD

The Assam Administrative Staff College campus is home to a large number of tree species. The different tree species, especially the fruit bearing one, has been a source of attraction for both local and migratory birds.

Recognizing the potential for making the campus a bird-rich zone, it was decided to develop a fruit orchard in campus. The expectation was that with the increase in the varieties and abundance of their food there will be an increase in the diversity and number of birds visiting or nesting in the campus. The Environment and Forest Department actively supported this endeavour.

The plantation programme for the fruit orchard was inaugurated by Smt. Pramila Rani Brahma, Hon'ble Minister, Environment and Forests on 8th May, 2017 in the presence of senior officials of the state government, several leading citizens of the



city, and residents of Officers Colony and Assam Administrative Staff College campus. As part of the programme the Hon'ble Minister, invited guests and all other members of the gathering planted tree saplings.

The fruits trees planted are *Kola Jamun* (Indian Blackberry), *Boga-Jamun* (*Syzygium jambos*), *Aam* (Mango), *Komola* (orange), *Modhuri* (guava), *Atlas*, *Jolphai* (Olive), *Hilikha* (Haritaki), *Bhumura*, *Ow-tenga* (Elephant-apple), *Amlokhi* (Indian Gooseberry), *Momaru Tamul* and *Bokul*. In addition, forage and flower-bearing trees like *Mahaneem*, *Nahar*, *Ashok*, *Arjun*, *Agaru*, *Debadaru*, *Kamini Kanchan* and *putanjoba* were also planted for attracting the birds to build nests in the campus.

## PRESENTATIONS BY EMINENT SPEAKERS

The Assam Administrative Staff College continues with the evening talks/presentations by eminent speakers on issues and concerns which have relevance for human resource development and governance. These talks, in addition to being interesting and informative, also seek to provide insights to address various issues.

- ◆ 2nd June, 2017 : Shri Ranjan Chatterjee, IAS(Retd) ,Expert Member,National Green Tribunal, delivered a talk on “**Environmental Jurisprudence and North-East India.**”
- ◆ 21st July, 2017 : Shri Sanjoy Hazarika, Director, Commonwealth Human Rights Initiative spoke on “**Strangers, Migrants and Neighbours – redefining the idea of India.**”

# MY PAGE

## ACCOUNTABILITY for EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE

The three most essential aspects of good governance are stated to be transparency, accountability and responsiveness of the administration in order to bring effectiveness in governance. It may be pertinent to point out that Section 4 of “The Assam Right to Public Services Act, 2012” has notified 55 Public Services of 14 departments to be delivered in a time bound manner. There is provision for imposition of penalty against the official if he or she fails to provide time bound services to the citizens. A Citizen’s Charter provide the information to the citizens in timely delivery of services. A number of paraphernalia has to be provided for the citizens in the offices. This will include a call centre, a customer care centre, help desk and people’s support system. Presently to bring more transparency the Management Information System (database) has been developed by all the offices of the state. This has certainly raised the bar of effective governance in the state. Further “The Right to Information Act , 2005” has been able to reduce corruption in most of the government offices.

In a report of the Committee on Fiscal Reforms (COFR) it has been emphasized that “the entire content and image of government can be changed and modernized once e-governance is introduced in the right earnest. This should be assigned a high priority and measures should be initiated as possible. The benefits of e governance are claimed to be less corruption and increased transparency, greater convenience, revenue growth and cost reduction”.

The people friendly services in the DC offices include setting up of the Common Facilitation Centre where the citizens are already availing such services. E- Governance has been introduced in the right earnest in all the districts of the state. A new culture in all the DC offices has created a people friendly administration. The computerization of the Revenue records for example has become essential for the state of Assam and most of the records have been

computerized at the initiative of the Revenue Department of the state. This has created a positive impact among the *pattadars* as they can now avail copies of *Chithas* (field index) and *Jamabandis* (Land Registers or Record of Rights) from the Revenue Offices in smooth manner .

It has been observed frequently that people seeking access to better health care or livelihood facilities are required to pay frequent visits to multiple government offices located at different parts of the district headquarters. However, in recent years the states have harnessed information technology to make it easier for the citizens to interact with the authorities. Karnataka, for example has made available land records for some 20 million farmers by placing them online under its *Bhoomi* Initiative. Similarly in case of Assam also under the same system has come into vogue with introduction of *Dharitri* Initiative that won a number of national awards.

It is important to point out that capacity building of all levels of an organization is perceived as the most important approach to achieve success in quality of services provided to customer’s satisfaction. For such capacity building frequent training and orientation programmes should be organized for all the employees of the state government to improve the competence and commitment. This will accelerate the process of enhancing work culture and thereby lead to overall economic development of the state. In the words of novelist VS Naipaul ‘a million mutinies’ are taking place almost on a daily basis and its needs ‘a million negotiations’ in order to ensure that the government, market and civil society work together for the poor.

Mahmood Hassan, ACS

Readers are invited to submit articles not exceeding 800 words for the column My Page on the theme “ Public service for the common good” or “ Gender parity for a better society” to [newsletter.aasc@gmail.com](mailto:newsletter.aasc@gmail.com) which will be published in the subsequent newsletter.

## PHOTO GALLERY



## ASSAM ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF COLLEGE

Jawaharnagar, Khanapara, Guwahati-781022, Assam  
Phone No. : +91 361-2363325 / Fax No. : +91 361-2362361  
Email : [director@asc.gov.in](mailto:director@asc.gov.in) / [asc1960@yahoo.com](mailto:asc1960@yahoo.com)  
[www.asc.gov.in](http://www.asc.gov.in)