

National Centre for Good Governance

Good Governance Webinar Series – 8 dated January 27, 2021

LBSNAA – INSTITUTION BUILDING AND MEETING THE CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS OF IAS OFFICERS

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

It gives me immense pleasure to welcome Director LBSNAA Shri Sanjeev Chopra ji to the NCGG's Good Governance webinar series discussion 8, on **LBSNAA – Institution Building and Meeting the Capacity Building Needs of IAS Officers**. Shri Sanjeev Chopra ji brings vast administrative experience to the post of Director LBSNAA having served as Deputy Director (Senior) at the Academy. He is an eminent author, a captivating orator and a distinguished academician. Over the past 2 years of serving with him, I have witnessed the massive institution building efforts that he has undertaken at the LBSNAA and the total transformation of the capacity building programs of IAS officers marked by the common foundation course at the Statue of Unity, Kevadia on October 31 for the past 2 years. Further as a frequent visitor to the Academy, I always noticed his popularity amongst young IAS probationers as a Director who has been kind and compassionate to the needs of young civil servants and keenly associated with their development into competent officials.

The influence the LBSNAA has in transforming young individuals selected into the IAS into competent, disciplined officials representing the best values of the Steel Frame of Indian Administration is considerable. It is

the professionalism, the structure of courses, the exposure visits, the assignments that contribute to the transformation of young minds to Nation building and a career in the civil service. It is the LBSNAA that teaches IAS officers the foundational and non-negotiable values of commitment to the larger public good against all odds – yogah karmastu kaushalam (achievement is efficiency in action). The LBSNAA also teaches young officers leadership skills for neutral and unbiased decision making.

To quote Prof Rumki Basu.,

“the environment in which a future Indian Civil Servant will work will be characterized by the features of a globally competitive economy, global services, information technology and artificial intelligence. In such a milieu, he will be expected to be a professional, a result oriented and cost-effective bureaucrat with a great sense of timing and accountability. He will continue to perform routine law and order functions, dispense justice and work in the public interest. He will be executing development programs with the collaboration of private and voluntary sectors. He would continue to advise and aid the central and state governments to deliver and run effective public delivery systems. A civil servant in the new dispensation of developmental governance is expected to play the role of a facilitator, coordinator, advisor and motivator and not merely an executor of developmental programs.”

In a Nation of continental size, to implement programs of the magnitude of NREGA, Right to Education, Right to Information, Forest Rights Act, Food Security Act, Mid-Day Meal Scheme represents the largest management exercises in the world. To train officials to foster excellence

in service delivery, e-governance, process reforms, dealing with administrative challenges at the cutting-edge level has been the mandate of the LBSNAA.

With these opening remarks, I look forward to listening to Shri Sanjeev Chopra ji today. Once again, I thank him for accepting the invitation of the National Centre for Good Governance to participate in the webinar.

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