

Accounting Aid to Disaster Management



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In the midst of rivulets, rivers and hills....



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Controller General of Accounts Shri Jawahar Thakur released the first ever publication of the Civil Accounts Organisation 'Rahat Lekha-accounting aid to disaster management' on 27th September 2013 in Bhopal. The book has been published by the Institute of Government Accounts and Finance (INGAF). This book release ceremony was graced by Shri Dharmendra Singh Rathode, Additional Welfare Commissioner, Bhopal Gas Victims and other dignitaries.

The book has been written by Shri Supriya Nath, Faculty Member, INGAF. It has documented the Rahat Lekha initiative, which made hassle-free disbursements of the Ex-Gratia to lakhs of victims of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy and their family members by developing a new system with the application of information and computer technology. The book has brought out very clearly how an accounting organisation can bring in change by reengineering the business process to fulfil the aspirations of the people and can also take other

stakeholders along in this journey.

Shri Jawahar Thakur in his speech expressed the hope that Civil Accounts Organisation will come out with more such citizen-centric proactive initiatives. Shri Dharmendra Singh Rathode also underlined the importance of this software and thanked the Pay and Accounts Office, Bhopal Gas Victims for such an initiative which made the disbursement process hassle-free.

With this publication INGAF could make an end to the unfortunate sequence of non-documentation of remarkable initiatives and achievements of the Civil Accounts Organisation. It is expected that Rahat Lekha will not only benefit others with the information, but will also inspire further endeavours in the near future to more such achievements and contributions for further refinement of the initiative.

Jacques Le Goff, a French Historian, in his book 'History and Memory', has rightfully said, "History is composed of documents, because the document is what remains."



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Feedback

Dear Shri Thakur

I am very happy to receive August, 2013 (Vol. II, Issue III) of "Civil Accounts Newsletter". I compliment you and Editorial Team for the design, layout and content of the newsletter, which are of a very high order. I convey my best wishes for the forthcoming first Film festival on 'Good Governance' scheduled to be held on 21st - 22nd November, 2013 in New Delhi.

Sudhir Krishna

Secretary to the Government of India
Ministry of Urban Development

Dear Akhilesh and team

The August issue of the newsletter has been very well put together; covering a number of interesting articles. The article on Ladakh brought back memories of my trip to Ladakh in 2007. Keep up the good show!

Pran Konchady

IMF Regional PFM Advisor
Accra, Ghana

Dear Friends and Editorial Team Members

Thanks for sending the newsletter. I am really

feeling good to know the newsletter has much useful information in the financial management sector. The governance really can be measured through the quality of the public financial management. Accounting is just not monetary it is beyond that and covering whole aspects of good governance. So I appreciate the efforts of friends in INGAF for bringing this issue of newsletter.

I wish every success in days to come for bringing togetherness in this field of this region and others.

Suresh Pradhan

Joint FCG
O/o FCG Nepal

Civil account newsletter is the best platform to share experience and viewpoint in civil account organization. It is one of the most informative and well-crafted newsletter in present bureaucratic set up.

I congratulate CAO editorial team for it and wishes for upcoming issues!!!!

Parul Gupta

Asstt. Controller General of Accounts
O/o CGA

Regret

The Good Governance Film Festival called off

The Good Governance Film Festival scheduled for 21st and 22nd November, 2013 at Siri Fort Auditorium is being called off due to enforcement of austerity measures by Government of India. We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused to Head of the Academies/Institutions who had extended unequivocal support to the civil accounts organization by committing films and documentaries for the event.

from the editorial ROOM

It is sheer pleasure and matter of pride for us to share innovative and out of box initiatives being adopted by the Civil Accounts Organization. Documenting the better practices in governance is also considered one of the desired practices of public administration. But this art, unfortunately, is out of fashion these days. Civil Accounts Organization has taken first step in this direction and 'Rahat Lekha: accounting aid to disaster management' is the first outcome.

A major drive has been started to do capacity building in Internal Audit for the personnel of Civil Accounts organization. 'Certification in Government Internal Audit' (CGIA) programme was launched for five batches at four centres of INGAF. We are carrying a report on this ambitious initiative.

A workshop on Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System (CPSMS) was organized in Jammu and Kashmir during September 23-25, 2013 for the senior officers of State government. Nimisha Jha has filed a report on this.

ICAS (P) Richa Pandey currently undergoing On the Job Training (OJT) with Central Board of Excise & Customs has shared her experiences during her short stint with the PAO and its subordinate offices. Recently, a group of 20 college students along with the faculty members of Miranda House, University of Delhi, studying Political Science, visited INGAF campus in Delhi to understand and appreciate the

job of public finance managers in governance process.

A workshop on e-payment through GePG for treasury officers of Government of Mizoram was organized in Kolkata. A team of senior treasury officers attended the workshop and were of the view that the workshop was conducted in a professional manner and will have fruitful results in the State of Mizoram. INGAF also conducted its first outreach Induction Training Programme for Accountants in Bhopal. Accountants are the backbone of the organisation. The new recruited accountants were a bright lot of 28, who made the programme a big success. As part of the curriculum, they were taken to Pachmadhi for sessions on meditation, yoga and soft skills. One of the participants has shared the experience of this excursion trip.

Editorial team wishes you all a Happy and Prosperous Festival Season!

Contributors for this
issue of newsletter

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a new beginning in the heart of India



It was almost curtains for the first ever Induction Training Program for the Accountants as well as first ever full-fledged training program of any kind conducted by the INGAF in Bhopal, when in the evening of 12th September, 2013 the famous Sitarist Shri Subrato De seized the hearts of the trainees and those of all the distinguished guests present in the banquet hall of the Hotel Residency in Bhopal with the magical threads of notes captivated in the raga 'Malava Kaushik'.

The three weeks Induction Training Programme for the Accountants of Madhya Pradesh and Chhattishgarh was held in Bhopal from 26.8.2013 to 13.9.2013 marking the beginning of the new era in the history of the Central zone and also of INGAF Delhi, which now thrives to emphasize on reaching the trainees at their own place rather than calling them to Delhi for the training. This also scribbles the possibility of the central zone getting its own Regional Training Centre in Bhopal.

The three weeks training programme was inaugurated by the Registrar, Office of the Welfare Commissioner Bhopal Gas Victims, Shri Faheem Anwar ji. In his inaugural speech he emphasized on ethics in government service which was further enriched by Sh. Alok Kumar Dubey (RGIT) who was invited by the INGAF, New Delhi to deliver the inaugural lecture.

Trainees were exposed to an atmosphere different from the environment of monotonous accounts work of the office. Eminent speakers from New Delhi covered different aspects of the General Financial Rules, FRSR, Accounts and Internal Audit. Trainees enjoyed the diversity of topics.

One week of the training comprised of a field study trip to Panchmarhi. The trainees enjoyed the scenic beauty of the place away from the busy city life. After this field visit every trainee came to know each other personally, which in turn will help our organization with the mutual cooperation in government work and keeping positive attitude towards disposing their daily work with each other's help.

As the training reached its last week, it was felt that time just flew by and the end was too early. Trainees were enthralled by the sitar performance and for many it was the first time that they were witnessing a live sitar concert, which set their minds on the path to explore the musical heritage of India.

The valedictory session was chaired by Joint Director, INGAF, New Delhi who underlined the importance of this outreach induction training programme. In the final session participants displayed their skills via Presentations prepared by them on various topics allotted to them, and each of them was outstanding.

The conclusion was marked by the theme of symbiotic existence in every sphere of work, which in turn will optimize the work environment of our organization, as I remember reading somewhere that humans have only one transferable commodity at their disposal and that is knowledge. This training programme emphasized on that.

The participants from different offices came as individuals but went back as a team.

Keya Sarkar

Let 'Public' know the nuances of Public Administration

One of the limitations of modern public administration practices is that it involves 'public' at a trifling level and thus we find lacunae from design to delivery of the schemes and programmes meant for public. People at large remain ignorant about the business processes in government. To bridge this gap, INGAF has decided to invite students from schools and colleges to its campus and give them fair understanding of governance at large and public financial management in particular.

With this very objective, recently a group of 20 students along with the faculty members of Miranda House, University of Delhi, studying Political Science were invited to INGAF campus in Delhi. Akhilesh Jha, Joint Director, INGAF interacted with the students at length and gave them an overview of public financial management in India. He also briefed them about the origin of Civil Accounts organization and its functional responsibilities.

Since, INGAF is partnering with many NGOs for various academic interactions and project works;

Joint Director also shared his experience with one of the NGOs i.e. Jan Swasthya Sahyog (JSS), based in Chhattisgarh. They were sensitized on the role of NGOs playing pivotal role in re-structuring the society and also the role of Civil Accounts Organization in fortifying the accounting responsibilities of the government and strengthening of social sector schemes through IFMIS and bringing in transparency and accountability through Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System (CPSMS). The couple of hour's session was a learning experience not only for the students but also for the faculty of INGAF as well. The young students had many questions on governance issues and partnering with NGOs in programme delivery. They also showed interest in volunteering for NGOs. Many of the students aspired to join civil services after completing their graduation course.

Looking forward to many such fruitful interfaces were the parting words of the young girls of robust India!



Launch of CPSMS in Jammu and Kashmir

We were all set for the launch of CPSMS in the perplexed State of Jammu and Kashmir. Known for splendor and mystic charm, the state has the capacity to emulate and create conditions unexpected yet indistinguishable. Unmoved by the grim situation and the recent spate of sporadic violence across, we reached the destination with heaps of euphoria. The workshop scheduled from 23rd to 25th September 2013 was designed for all the departments of the J&K government for an overview of the Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System.

It would be worthwhile to mention that officers of CGA along with Planning and Development department of J&K Government had coordinated the workshop. Team from Office of CGA under the leadership of Mr. Sandeep Dash (OSD) along with Mrs. Medha Dalvi (Sr. Technical Advisor NIC), Mrs. Nimisha Jha (ACGA), Mrs. Parul Gupta (ACA) and two Sr. AO's Mr. PC Bhatt and Mr. Vishwanathan from Project Cell had taken up the exigent task.

Day one had officers at the level of Secretaries from departments like Health, Planning, Information Technology, Animal and Sheep Husbandry along with Directors and Financial Advisers from various departments of the State Government. An introduction to CPSMS followed by enormous discussions on the wide-ranging aspects

of the scheme, its genesis to its functionalities and modalities of operation. A brief on Direct Benefit Transfer was also presented its rollout with effect from January 2013 highlighting and delineating the process flow and its interface with CPSMS. The officials present were inquisitive to understand the scheme with enthralling questions and several diverse views were exchanged. Expenditure Filling and treasury Integration was also highlighted for officers of the Finance and Budget Divisions present there. Day two and Three had a series of hands on training for operational level staff of the state government who were exposed to all aspects of CPSMS training from Agency Registration of line agencies to DBT, Expenditure filling and Digital Signature enrollments.

The workshop was at Institute of Management and Public Administration (IMPA) at Srinagar was an experience itself. The institute which was created for in-service training to the State Government employees has also to undertake research and consultancy in areas of crucial importance to the administration of the State.

The experience was varied and engrossing. The place and its people are rich in their hospitality and culture. The mountainous topography and frequent snow fall which cuts away the valley from the mainland is no more a stumbling block seeing the drive to strive for the realization, catering to the needs of their citizens.

Nimisha Jha



Sensitization on e-payment for Government of Mizoram

A training programme-cum-workshop on “e-Payment through GePG” was conducted for Treasury Officials of Govt. of Mizoram at RTC, Kolkata in September, 2013. A team of 13 officials led by the Deputy Secretary (Finance), Govt. of Mizoram and consisting of Asstt. Director, Treasury Officer, etc. visited the RTC to participate in the programme. This was the second initiative by CGA Organisation to extend co-operation to the Govt. of Mizoram for imparting training on implementation of e-Payment system after the initial support in implementation of 'COMPACT'.

The participants were given a welcome address by the Sr. A.O of the RTC followed by the inauguration by Shri C. V. Prasad, Controller of Accounts (Mines) and his inspiring speech on the objective, utility and economy of the e-Payment System. Mr. Amit Bhole, Assistant Controller of Accounts also delivered a short speech about various aspects and different benefits available from the e-Payment System. The whole programme was demonstrated in a lucid and effective manner by the expert team of faculty members comprising Mr. Dipankar Sengupta, Sr. Technical Director from NIC, Shri P. Kochher & Shri S. Padmanabhan, A.Os from IT Division of the Office of CGA.

The Valedictory Session was addressed by Shri



Antony Lianzuala, Principal Chief Controller of Accounts (in-charge), C.B.D.T. and Director, INGAF (NER), Aizawl, whose presence gave a separate dimension to the programme. All the participants expressed their overwhelming appreciations through feed backs about the quality of lectures, hands-on sessions and overall conduct of the programme. The programme ended with the vote of thanks given by Shri Bandyopadhyay to all present for making it a grand success.

B.K. Bandyopadhyay



Beginning of a significant chapter...

Since the departmentalisation of the Accounts, the Civil Accounts Organisation has always tried to improve the quality of Internal Audit with the limited resources it had and has also relentlessly tried to conduct the internal audit of all the offices of the Civil Ministries, Autonomous Bodies, Grantee institutions and that of the Indian Missions abroad.

However, its main focus on preparation of accounts and modernising the same with the applications of Information Technology and the techniques of the Computer Science had prevented the organisation from diverting much of its attention and human resources in building a strong and robust Internal Audit Wing. Having completed the work of automation of the preparation and also that of the rendition of monthly and annual accounts, it went on to make the payment procedure hassle free and fully transparent. Once the payment system had been made electronically sound through the introduction of e-transfer facility, the organisation was involved in taking part in vital role of rolling out Central Plan Scheme Monitoring System and was also taking active part in helping the Central Government in rolling out Direct Benefit Transfer.

It was now time to evaluate the performance of the different schemes, their conformity to the guidelines of the schemes and more importantly the

effectiveness of the existing system in so far as its effectiveness in service delivery, citizen-centricity, transparency and public accountability. It was, also time to develop a strategic view of Internal Audit so that it can be moved out beyond the myopic confines of pointing out non-compliance to rules and regulations of regular nature through the age old traditional techniques of Regulatory Audit/ Compliance Audit.

We have been changing ourselves and our roles in Internal Audit as we started to involve ourselves in a wider role of performing risk based internal audit by having a deep insight into the system, analysing the same and finally suggesting course of action to ensure sustainable improvement in service delivery by developing appropriate internal control system and also by making meaningful recommendations on managing risks. Accordingly, it was felt that the scope and role of the Internal Audit has to be redefined along with restructuring of the Internal Audit wing with proper staffing and capacity building; better understanding of the synergy between the Auditors and the Auditees for enhanced public accountability and consequently better audit impact; the balanced reporting by the audit to contain a fair assessment of the performance and increasing interaction as well as coordination between the executive and the audit. The focus was



also on the timeliness of the audit in all respect from conducting audit at appropriate interval to preparation and submission of the report on time to be more effective; the quality of the report and the promptness in following it up.

We were apt in finding out the areas of weaknesses which need to be improved upon by overcoming the deficiencies so that its effectiveness can be enhanced. Having crossed the boundaries of the performance audit it has already emerged as a powerful tool for much talked about Administrative Reforms by thriving to conduct system audit and suggesting the scopes for further sustainable improvement through system analysis and system re-engineering.

With this end in view a Five Week Certification Course on Internal Audit has been designed for our officers and officials of Civil Accounts Organisation so as to tailor the module as per actual working environment in the Government Departments as well as giving due emphasis on the modern techniques of Internal Audit and that on the applications of the IT tools and computer technology in Internal Audit.

The programme has been planned to be conducted in three stages, that is, Theoretical sessions on Audit techniques including report writing skills along with the data analysis techniques; Field visit for preparation of Internal Audit report as a part of the project work and finally gap analysis of the reports submitted by the different groups for preparing the final internal audit report for submission of the same to the different Ministries and Departments in addition to the Internal Audit Wing of the office of the Controller General of Accounts.

The theoretical part of the training are being conducted through rigorous classroom sessions, periodical tests, group discussions, group/individual presentations, exposure to data analysis techniques using data mining software. Further, the participants are being exposed to modern theories and international standards of Internal audit in addition to discussion on different case studies along with their in-depth analysis. The participants are also exposed to different project works during their study in INGAF. They are given thorough knowledge on all the aspects of the modern day internal auditing ie the preparation of Internal Audit Charter and that of Internal Audit

Manual; Internal audit planning; setting objective and audit engagement; performing the audit through data analysis and the art of presenting the same in a perfect manner. It was heartening to see that the participants were thrilled to be able to prepare process flow chart independently and correctly; analyse database with the help of software; and write audit reports with clarity.

The ability of the participants was tested through a test on the basis of 100 multiple choice questions which included questions from different areas of the modern techniques of internal audit, Government rules and regulations in internal audit, Data analysis among other items. Once the classroom sessions and the test were over, the participants were divided into 6 groups to conduct internal audit independently in different offices of different Ministries and prepare audit reports on the basis of the documents verified and data analysed. The support extended by and enthusiasm shown by different Ministries and Departments are worth mentioning. This, in fact, brought out very clearly how serious our Civil Accounts Organisation is when it comes to developing robust internal audit wing.

It was, however, not only study and no play. The participants were inspired to take part in different management games and the energy and enthusiasm with which they took part in the games in the park would have made their children envious. Apart from the management games, INGAF instilled management films as part of the curriculum during the five week module. These films help participants in capturing and updating themselves with the real time situations. It is a known fact, films leave lasting impressions and have a greater impact on the mind-set of any individual. This initiative was appreciated by all the participants, as it acted as a breather to get some break from the classroom sessions.

During these five weeks it was heartening to watch that the corridors, lounges, laboratories, library of INGAF buzzing with group discussions, group work, projects, coffee table debate with the modern day concepts like risk management, internal control, INTOSAI standards, ISO31000, COSO, continuous monitoring etc. The atmosphere was indeed electric and academic of highest standard.

INGAF has written the first line of a new and significant chapter.

Supriya Nath

PAO of Diversity

Farakka is located on the bank of river Ganga in Murshidabad district of West Bengal. It is about 300 km north from Kolkata and famous for its 2245 metres long Farakka Barrage which is the largest in India. Communication between South-Eastern States and North-Eastern States by rail and road is developed since 1975.

Farakka is surrounded by the water of river Ganga, Feeder Canal and Navigation Canal. The Farakka Barrage offices have started functioning from early sixties i.e. from the inception of Farakka Barrage Project and the Accounts and Financial functions were under supervision of the Financial Adviser & Chief Accounting Officer and thereafter converted to P.A.O. in early nineties.

This is the only PAO where works related payments are made. PAO have to deal with officials involved in different designations which relates not only to the Ministry of Water Resources but also to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Urban Development, Shipping-Road Transport and Highway, Human Resource Development etc. Staff of this PAO gets the golden opportunity to augment



DDOs whose functions are different in respect to other. So this PAO makes itself a unique one for its involvement in varieties nature of works.

Although this PAO is facing acute paucity of Staff, mainly the number of Accountants / Senior Accountants, the foundation of the PAO, is now shouldered by thirteen Accts / Sr. Accts against the sanctioned strength of 32. The Supply of power is not only very irregular but also the low voltage problem troubled this office in properly functioning throughout the year, since the power is not supplied from National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) situated at Farakka. Besides, the problems of network, inadequate infrastructure and power backup are also worried to this PAO. Being located in remote area basic requirements to run this office is gradually hampered.

In spite of the above adversities and increase of workload day by day, the staff comprises of one Sr. AO, one PAO, Nine AAOs, Thirteen Accountants / Sr. Accountants, one Stenographer and Four MTS are being satisfactorily accomplished the work related to Monthly Accounts, NPS, E-Payment, E-Revision of pre-2006 and Pre-1990 Pension cases etc. with dedication and team spirit. All the staff of this office is grateful to our Sr. AO (Sri Biswanath Das) and PAO (Sri Dibyendu Biswas) for their utmost help which gives inspirations of working in such a remote place.



their knowledge in different fields of workings. This PAO makes payment of Salaries and other claims of 1100 (eleven hundred) officials, Maintenance cost of Farakka Barrage, roads, Motor cars, Machinery & Equipments, Expenditure involved in Anti-Erosion & river bank protection works and Administrative Expenditure of 17 nos.

Creating space for art and music

When trainings are designed at Institute of Government Accounts & Finance, scope for music, art and films are always created so that learning becomes easy and the trainees go back rejuvenated. All trainings at INGAF are padded up with diversified cultural events to keep the spirits/happy quotient high of the participants.

This year kicked off with an explosion of music, art and interfaces with eminent filmmakers, musicians and lyricists during the trainings and the bounty of cultural offerings continued till the year end for just about every taste.

Understanding the culture of a nation, people, or group—the arts, beliefs, customs, practices, values, and social behaviours—lies at the heart of INGAF. By incorporating such sessions/events the participant experiences first-hand diverse offerings of culture and artistic expression of a community. Education cannot happen just in a classroom setup—it must go beyond the walls of

the classroom. Watching a play performed live is quite a different experience than reading a play from a book, similarly through attendance at events, the participants broaden their horizons and gain unique insights into their own communities as well as a broader global perspective of our world's diverse cultures.

Here's a sampling of what prevailed during the preceding year thus enabling each one of us in whetting our appetite. Tabla Maestro Ustad Tari Khan and Shri Shailendra Mishra, Kathak dancer Shovana Narayan, Urdu Poet Farhat Shahzad, Vocalist Ustad Shafqat Ali Khan, Ghazal Maestro Dr. Roshan Bharti, Sitarist Shri Subroto De, Violinist Dr. Ranjan Srivastav and young Saranginawaz Ahsan Ali graced the 'Baradari' of INGAF by their enthralling performances. Young artist and alumnus of Delhi Fine Art College Jamaluddin Ansari has given a new look to the landscape of INGAF. We look forward to see the sustained patronage of artists' fraternity.





RIP: Indian Telegraph (1851-2013)

Telegrams have been an integral part of the functioning of government machinery. It was a favored form of communication as it indicated a sense of authenticity and urgency to the message. During the decade of 60s & 70s, government officials used the telegram service extensively for communicating information regarding tour programs of officers and extension of leave etc.

Telegrams were extensively used in the context of banking and accounting arrangements of Government of India. In connection with receipts and payments in government account by Public Sector Banks, the Focal Point branches used to furnish the daily memorandum in Annexure-7 to the link cell/SBI, GAD Mumbai through telex/telegram, if the net amount is Rs. One lakh and above. The link cell of the bank at Nagpur on receipt of daily advices/telegrams/telex from various Focal Point branches would decode them and report them through Daily Memo (Annexure - 7) to RBI, Central Accounts Section, Nagpur.

Even, the transactions effected by the banks in respect of the accredited Ministries/ Departments were accounted for by them in their books and the balances, in Departmentalized Ministries' Accounts reported to CAS, Nagpur through telegram/telex daily.

Telegrams gradually faded into oblivion with less people taking recourse to it. Telegrams were nudged out by technology –Facsimile, emails etc. Over the years India has witnessed high penetration of Internet, Broadband & Mobile subscribers.

After two years of indecision, the government finally made the decision to shut down its operations. Nearly 20,000 telegrams were sent on

Telegrams, known in Hindi as “taar” or wire, played an important role in the political history of India and the world. In 1857, British forces quashed a revolt with telegram exchanges playing a key role. Telegram played a crucial role in helping the British mobilize their forces when Indian troops rebelled in 1857. After the uprising was quelled, Lord Dalhousie, famously credited the telegram as having saved India for the British Empire. The telegraph service was also used by former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to send news to England of the invasion of Pakistan forces in Kashmir valley. One of the famous early messages was sent to Lord Dalhousie in Calcutta in April 1852 announcing the fall of Rangoon. Mahatma Gandhi relied heavily on telegrams to rally support & appeal for vital funds. The Wright Brothers announced their first successful flight in 1903 with the telegraphic message “Successful four flights Thursday morning”.

the last day bringing an end to a glorious era in Indian telecommunication. Finally I would like to end the column with the following message which I send on the last day of telegraph service to my family.

I convey my heartfelt condolence on the sad demise of telegraph service in India on 14th July 2013.

N.Satish Kumar

Scaling heights at Pachmarhi

First week of the training was all work and no play; we were looking forward to the Pachmarhi trip scheduled in the second week of the training. The group left for Pachmarhi on 2nd September early morning and reached the transit point by 5 a.m. The five hour long journey was exceptionally comfortable and beautiful; we enjoyed the scenic beauty throughout and reached Pachmarhi safely.

On reaching Pachmarhi our first destination was Pandavcaves, the caves built by five Pandava brothers of Mahabharatha, during their fourteen years of exile. Handikoh, Jata shankar, Gupt Mahadevs Temples, B-hill and B-falls and other spots were the next where we came close to marvelous beauty of nature and admired with awe. We were simply over whelmed with the scenic beauty of Pachmarhi which carried us to another world where nature rules the mind and nothing else matters. We reached Dhupgarh as our last destination in the Pachmarhi, the famous sunrise and sunset point, where we saw the sunset and felt the presence of almighty and prayed in the silence of nature.

During the three weeks of training one week which we spent in Pachmarhi remains the most memorable experience of our life. Apart from enjoying the serene nature we also enjoyed the company of our fellow participants with whom we have bonded for all times to come. Coming back from Pachmarhi, we made a promise to ourselves to return again whenever we get a chance. Mere words cannot describe the panoramic view of Pachmarhi, one has to see it to believe it. Thanks to INGAF (HQ) for giving us such a nice life time experience.

Ashish Jain



My OJT: - A life changing experience.

Time never stops. Its ever-changing flow shapes our lives, gives it a direction, and paves the way for our future. Same thing happened with us when we passed our UPSC exam. It initiated the process of becoming a civil servant. But to finally achieve it, we had to pass through a training process which molded and shaped us, and made us capable of shouldering our future duties and responsibilities in an effective manner.

OJT is the culmination point of the training period which helps us connect our classroom learning to our real working environment. It is a unique experience where you have to behave both like a learner and learned.

Our OJT started in last days of July. We had just returned from our LEH attachment, bubbling with joy and happiness and then we received our OJT orders. It aroused mixed feeling in us. We were happy that our two years training period had finally come to an end and anxious as new vista was opening in front of us.

With the well wishes and advices of our seniors at INGAF and at our respective departments, we started this new phase. I moved to Jaipur for my allocation to PAO (CBEC), Jaipur. I was happy as I was going to my home state and worried as to I am going to face the new responsibilities. Fortunately my training came to my rescue. We had 20-days attachment with CBEC during our training during which we were introduced to revenue accounting, its main principles, rules, and various tools used for its implementation. So REVACT and COMPACT were not new to me due to my extensive training at INGAF.

During my training stint at INGAF, interactions with my seniors and people from different walks of life helped me in interacting with officers of other departments and my staff with confidence. My reception at PAO (CBEC), Jaipur was very warm and welcoming. My staff was receptive to the new ideas and concepts which I had imbibed during my

training and helped me in understanding the functioning of the office in a better way. The knowledge of CAM, GAR and GFR came in handy for my understanding of day to day office work.

I am fortunate that I had my training at INGAF where I had learnt the basic concepts and ever-changing dynamics of my service. The guidance of



my seniors at INGAF, especially Director, Joint Director and Deputy Director and the protection, advices of my seniors at CBEC especially CCA and Pr. CCA helped me sail smoothly during this period. I feel highly obliged by the support they provided me during this period and I want to thank them all for making me learn not only about my service but also the important lessons for my life. The OJT period in continuum of my training at INGAF has definitely added a new dimension to my career.

Richa Pandey

In the midst of rivulets, rivers and hills....

Jalpaiguri

Nestled in beautiful and serene tea-gardens and forests, Jalpaiguri district is situated in the northern part of West Bengal having international borders with Bhutan and Bangladesh in the North and South respectively. The entire topography is crisscrossed with rivulets, rivers and hills. The district is the gateway to the entire North-Eastern States and Bhutan with a unique cultural harmony. Visit to the district was part of three weeks Induction Training Program conducted by INGAF for Account Officers. Our stay was arranged in a resort surrounded by lush green tea gardens and a beautiful lake with large area under cultivation adopting the method of organic farming.

Located at a distance of 15 km from the resort, we visited Jalpesh temple, dedicated to Lord Shiva, reigning deity of the region. The temple was built by the last successor of King Baghadatta, during around 800 AD. Another 15 km from the temple is the Teesta Barrage, one of the largest irrigation project not only in West Bengal but in the entire region. This project creates one of the largest irrigation potential and hydro power in 6 Northern Districts of West Bengal. Our boating experience in Teesta was amazing. On our return, we spent the evening relaxing, enjoying the sunset and mixing it with old melodious songs.

The next day, we headed towards Chalsa, a small town situated at the foothills of the Himalayas, surrounded by tea gardens, rivers and forest area. During the journey, we were awestruck by the magnificent view of the Kanchenjunga Range. While going towards Gorumara National Park, we saw elephants crossing the road and disappearing in the dense forest of Chapramari Wildlife Sanctuary. In an hour we reached the Gorumara National Park, where we were shifted into the open jeeps. The journey through the dense forest in an open jeep was really enjoyable. We got a chance to experience the forest in its natural form where we could hear the birds chirping. It was a breath-taking experience to see elephants at a close range just meters away from us. We headed back towards our resort after capturing the sweet memories of this experience in our hearts.

Mirik nested in the serene hills of Darjeeling was our next destination. The centre of attraction being Sumendu Lake, surrounded by a garden on one side and pine trees on the other, linked together by an arching footbridge appropriately called Rainbow Bridge. We took a round of a 3km long road encircling the beautiful lake on horses.

We ended our trip with a visit to a tea factory, where we understood the whole process of tea making starting from drying till packaging. The trip was not only rejuvenating and pleasurable but also created in us a strong bonding and camaraderie. We came back to Delhi with a lot of good memories for lifetime.

P. S. Jhangra

CGA inaugurates Certified Government Internal Audit Program

Come September and the Civil Accounts Organisation was on its way to taking a highly professional and reformative step towards building an army of skilled and technically sound Internal Auditors to match the growing need for improving the quality and effectiveness of Internal Audit.

On 16th September, 2013, the 'Takshashila' classroom of INGAF, New Delhi reverberated to the tune of 'Vandemataram' as Shri Jawahar Thakur, Controller General of Accounts, lit the lamp of knowledge to inaugurate the first ever 5 week Certification Course on Internal Audit to be conducted by the Institute of Government Accounts and Finance (INGAF) in association with the Sama Audit System and Softwares Private Limited. The program was simultaneously conducted in all the Regional Training Centres of the INGAF in Kolkata, Chennai and Mumbai. In his inaugural speech, Shri Jawahar Thakur mentioned the challenges the Internal Auditors had to face. While expressing his happiness over the fact that such a program on internal audit could be designed



and conducted by the INGAF, he also stressed that at least 1000 officers and officials should undergo this training in the first phase.

Joint Director, INGAF stressed on the importance and necessity of building an army of Internal Auditors who shall be skilled and technically sound so as to bring about a visible change in the field. He specially thanked Shri Jawahar Thakur, Controller General of Accounts for his initiative in approving the programme.

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