

SPECIAL FOUNDATION COURSE 2024
@ DR. MCR HRD INSTITUTE OF
TELANGANA, HYDERABAD

OCTOBER 2024



Guftagöö

Monthly Newsletter Volume I





**Director General
Dr. Shashank Goel, IAS**

Dr. Shashank Goel, IAS, Ex-officio Chief Secretary and Director General of the Dr. MCR HRD Institute of Telangana, on 23rd September 2024, addressed the officers participating in the Special Foundation Course 2024. He spoke to 226 officers from 17 different services, recognizing them as the unsung heroes of India's growth. Dr. Goel emphasized that civil servants have a role that extends beyond their official duties, positioning them as torchbearers of change.

He encouraged the officers to adopt a dynamic approach to implementing necessary reforms, rooted in honesty, integrity, and hard work. According to him, fostering a mindset open to innovation, continual learning, and adaptability is essential, as rigid leadership styles are ill-suited for today's challenges. The contemporary world requires inclusive, agile, and responsive policy-making.

Dr. Goel highlighted the impact of rapid advancements in technology, including artificial intelligence, the Internet of Things, and Big Data, on industries, economies, and societies. He stressed the importance of maintaining a human-centric approach in civil services to ensure effective governance. He also pointed out the challenge of enhancing digital literacy and bridging the digital divide.

Effective communication, he noted, is crucial for building trust in policy implementation. Furthermore, he underscored the significance of the Special Foundation Course in developing both technical and interpersonal skills among the officers, featuring modules led by experts and a variety of co-curricular activities aimed at holistic development and fostering lifelong relationships.

GUFTAGOO: A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



**Course Director
Dr. Madhavi Ravulapati**

Dearest Readers,

Allow me to introduce you to Guftagoo, a new endeavor designed to satisfy your insatiable appetite for the latest tête-à-tête within our esteemed circles. Here, you shall find a delectable assortment of intriguing articles, served with a dash of wit and a sprinkle of charm.

From the extravagant soirées of the OT's to the whispered secrets of the hostel rooms, Guftagoo shall leave no stone unturned. Prepare to be amused and intrigued as we unveil the secrets of the Ton. Join us on this delightful journey, and let us together savor the sweet taste of gossip.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our DG's Nominee Prof. Prabhakar Reddy Tada for his invaluable guidance and suggestions, which have greatly enriched this publication.

Yours in scandal,
House Journal Society.



Special Foundation Course 2024

Campus Highlights

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the Special Foundation Course (SFC) newsletter! Can you believe it's been a month already? We've made some friends and a whole lot of acquaintances as we navigate the epic challenge of matching faces to names, services, and their hometowns—all while running on fumes from those grueling early morning PT sessions (😓😓).

Speaking of challenges, our officer trainees are juggling everything from thought-provoking lectures to, let's be honest, a few snooze-fests. But the real action happens when class is in session! You all know what you do 😊 With biometrics that seem to have a mind of their own, let's just say some memos have gone hilariously astray. Get that biometric fixed!

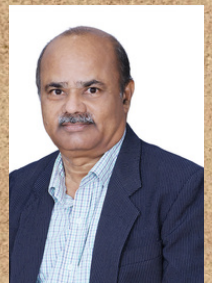
Now, about the mess—oh boy! It's a mess for sure, but our Knight in Shining Armor, along with his trusty team, is bravely battling the chaos. And with the elections wrapped up in the most fair manner (no politics from any Chanakyas here!), the clubs are ready to roll.

The Officers Club deserves a shout-out for their tireless efforts, fighting tooth and nail for our needs—like wipers (only the female officers got them, thanks to budget quirks) and cricket match tickets. Kudos for that!

The Social Service Club has kicked off a stellar cleanliness and blood donation campaign—let's support their Diwali donation drive and spread some joy! Meanwhile, the Fine Arts Club lit up the scene with a dazzling garba celebration, featuring officer trainees who went all out with their outfits.

With trek and village visits right around the corner, we're gearing up for new adventures that promise to be just as chaotic as our daily lives.

Stay tuned for more excitement as we continue this journey together!



DG's Nominee
Dr. Prabhakar Reddy Tada

The Team



MONIKA IES



SRISHTI ISS



PRASHANT ISS



PRANCHAL IES



MADHUMITHA ICLS

Highlights from the Month...



Inaugural Session

The inaugural session of the Special Foundation Course was an engaging event featuring addresses from the Director General, Dr. Shashank Goel and the Course Director, Dr. Madhavi Ravulapati among others. Their remarks set a positive tone for our journey ahead, highlighting the importance of our roles and the impact we can have as civil servants.

The atmosphere was filled with enthusiasm as they shared valuable experiences and encouraged us to embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. It was a great way to kick off this exciting chapter together!

Qawalli Night

The Officer Trainees were treated to an unforgettable Qawalli Night, featuring the renowned Warsi Brothers from Hyderabad. Their powerful performance took everyone on a soulful journey, blending poetry and rhythm in a way that truly captured the spiritual essence of Qawalli. It wasn't just music—it was an experience that connected everyone in the room, transcending language and background. It was indeed a celebration of culture and unity!

Elections

The recent elections at the institute were nothing short of exciting! With Officer Trainees from different services coming together, there was a lot of interaction, energy, and, of course, friendly competition. The campaigning was lively, with OTs blending across services, exchanging ideas, and getting to know one another in the process.

From creative slogans to light-hearted debates, the whole experience was a lot of fun and really brought everyone closer. It wasn't just about winning—it was about building bonds, teamwork, and enjoying the spirit of democracy within our group. It was a perfect mix of competition and camaraderie!

Shramdaan

On 2nd October, the OTs rolled up their sleeves and got to work in a cleanliness drive, taking part in Shramdaan to honor Gandhi Ji's vision of a clean India. Armed with brooms and gloves, they cleaned up the institute premises, sending a strong message about keeping our surroundings clean. It was a fun and productive day, with everyone pitching in and working together to make a visible difference.

Highlights from the Month...

Blood Donation

On the same day as the Shramdaan i.e. Gandhi Jayanti, OTs, Faculty, staff, and even teacher trainees from Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) joined hands for a blood donation drive. It was heartening to see so many volunteers stepping up to donate blood for a great cause. The turnout was amazing as around 70 people donated blood, and the entire event buzzed with a sense of camaraderie and care, reminding us all of the simple ways we can help save lives and give back to the community.

City Visit

Our day trip around the city was filled with excitement, laughter, and a lot of sightseeing! From iconic landmarks to vibrant markets, we soaked in the local culture and history. The OTs bonded over shared experiences, whether it was taking in breathtaking views, snapping endless photos, or enjoying delicious food.

Mini Trek

Our trek to the Telangana Police Academy was quite an adventure! For some of us, it was the first time trekking, and what a great way to start. The trail had just the right mix of challenge and fun, giving us a taste of what's to come with our upcoming trek to the Nilgiris, which we're all super excited about.

It wasn't just about the walk—it was the laughs, the mini breaks, and the sense of doing something different together. By the end, we were tired but thrilled, knowing we're all set for the bigger adventure ahead to the Nilgiris!

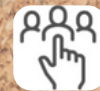
Garba Night

On Friday, 11th October, the Officer Trainees came together for a lively Garba Night to celebrate Navaratri. The event was filled with energy, with everyone dressed in traditional attire, dancing to the rhythm of dandiya beats and Garba songs. The vibrant atmosphere, colorful attire, and enthusiastic participation made it a night to remember, as OTs bonded over music and dance, embracing the festive spirit. The evening was more than just fun—it was a celebration of tradition and unity, bringing everyone together in a joyful way.





BALLOT BUZZ !!



The election process started in a laid-back, almost casual manner, as candidates began submitting nominations. But once the nominations were in, chaos descended. Calm was replaced by a whirlwind of activity, filled with noise and excitement. Hostels became hotspots for campaigning. No place was safe from political manoeuvring. Promises were made, deals were struck. The air was thick with politics & persuasion.

When the final day arrived, the competition was fierce but energy was infectious. Long queues formed as officers lined up to cast their votes for secretaries and members of various clubs. Despite the diversity of opinions, the election ended on a high note. There was a sense of accomplishment in the air, as everyone embraced the spirit of democracy and unity, no matter which side they had supported.



01

OFFICERS' CLUB



The committee includes Suman Nala (Secretary), Aditya Singh Chauhan, Nischal Mittal, Parul Singh, Shivanshi Shukla and Altap Sheikh (Ex. Officio). In the upcoming months, the club will organise multiple sports and cultural events, which will bring a new level of excitement and camaraderie in the campus. We promise to work tirelessly and make all our events a success. We will truly ensure that the special FC remains a truly meaningful part of our lives.

02

MESS COMMITTEE



The committee involves Gaurav Garg (Secretary), Dimpal Yadav, Karanti Goyal, Karandeep Singh, Arulselvan K and Taruni Pandey (Ex. Officio). Being a part of Mess Committee has given us an immense opportunity to serve each and every person on this campus. Our focus is to diversify the menu while taking nutritional aspect into account. We are taking care of sick people by providing them appropriate diet. Our agenda is to provide homely experience to each and everyone during this SFC.



03

SOCIAL SERVICE CLUB



It is our pleasure to introduce the club members: Prasannakumar V (Secretary), Janhvi Patel, Sumanpreet Kaur, Pavit, Yogesh Kumar and Kamble Sharan Gopinath (Ex. Officio). We are planning to organise various programmes which will help all officer trainees to become more empathetic along with fulfilling their responsibilities to serve the community. In this Special Foundation Course, we have planned different kinds of activities, such as visit to social welfare institution like orphanages, blind schools, organize blood donation camp, shramdaan etc.

04

HOUSE JOURNAL SOCIETY



The Society consists of Monika Narayan (Secretary), Srishti Agarwal, Prashant Nanaware, Pranchal Gupta and V. Madhumitha. We plan to release one newsletter every month i.e. three newsletters in total, along with the final journal in the end. We hope to record all the beautiful memories here. We will also plan to conduct one open mic night and many more events such as writing competition and handwriting analysis in future.

05

FILM & FINE ARTS CLUB



Happy to introduce our people: P. Vishnu Vardhan Reddy (Secretary), Saumya Mishra, Reet Sundaram Jha, Purnima Suden, Simran and Shubham Swamy (Ex. Officio). Our club acts as a one-stop platform for various art forms, movie academia, and a multitude of cultural & entertainment events. We shall organize screenings for various movies in the future. In the coming weeks, we shall organize Diwali Events, one-act play, Cultural Day, and much more. Our prime agenda is to make each OT feel inclusive and at home in the Special FC.

Hyderabad Highlights!



Photo Courtesy: Pranchal Gupta, IES

A one-day trip to Hyderabad gave us a rich experience of the city's historical and cultural treasures.

01. The Classic, CHARMINAR

Our day started with a visit to Hyderabad's iconic symbol, Charminar! The four minarets represent the four cardinal directions. The panoramic view of the old city from the top of the minaret was worth the wait. A bustling local market, Laad Bazaar, surrounds Charminar and is famous for its bangles and traditional wear. Before heading to our next destination, we enjoyed Irani Chai and mouth-watering bun-maska at the famous Nimra Cafe nearby.



Photo Courtesy: Reju Rana, IES



Photo Courtesy: Photographer, MCRHDIT

02. Chowmahalla Palace

The royal residence of the Nizams, Chowmahalla Palace, was built in the mid-18th century. It felt like a scene straight out of a Sanjay Leela Bhansali movie, with its stunning blend of Mughal, Persian, and European architectural styles, complete with magnificent chandeliers—perfect for capturing endless photos. We also had the chance to explore the vintage car collection and artifacts.



Photo Courtesy: Nayan Deep Gupta, ISS

03. Salar Jung Museum

It is one of the largest one-man collections of art and artifacts in the world. The famous Veiled Rebecca statue and the double-faced Mephistopheles & Margareta statue are must-sees. It also showcases rare manuscripts, weapons, and textiles. We even came across an original high school marksheet from 1914. Before leaving, we made sure to see the antique musical clock, which attracts crowds for its hourly chiming performance.



Photo Courtesy: Shobhraj, ISS

04. Golconda Fort

Once the home to the famous Kohinoor diamond, the fort is renowned for its acoustics; a clap at the entrance can be heard at the highest point of the fort, almost 1 km away. The fort complex has eight gates and numerous bastions. We climbed nearly 360 steps to enjoy the iconic and peaceful sunset, a truly breathtaking experience. Finally, the day ended with a sound and light show held in the evening, which narrated the fort's history.



Photo Courtesy: Ashutosh Gupta, IP&TAFS

Special Mention!!

At Golconda Fort, there was a moment of tension when Mansi Gokhale (ICLS) accidentally slipped on one of the stairs. In a quick and brave reaction, Prince Kumar (ICLS) jumped to save her from further harm. Unfortunately, in the process, another officer, Rajiv K (IIS) also got hurt. Thankfully, all three of them made it back safely. A big shoutout to them for their resilience and courage in the face of such an unexpected incident!



October's Vault of Nostalgia

