The Centre for WTO Studies (CWS) organized a “Specialised Course on Trade Remedies under WTO (Anti-Dumping, Subsidies, Safeguards), TRIMS, Dispute Settlement and RTAs” from 21 – 30 November 2016 in collaboration with the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The training programme was held at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi and was attended by 13 government officials from 10 countries, viz., Afghanistan, Algeria, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The programme was inaugurated on 21st November, 2016 by Mr. Abhijit Das, Head and Professor, CWS and Mr. Mukesh Bhatnagar, Professor, CWS. The inaugural programme was also attended by Ms. Chandni Raina, Professor, CWS, Dr. Murali Kallummal, Associate Professor, CWS, Dr Pralok Gupta, Assistant Professor CWS, Dr Sachin Kumar Sharma, Assistant Professor, CWS and Ms. Shailja Singh, Assistant Professor, CWS.

The course focused on trade remedies disciplines under the WTO framework (Anti-Dumping Agreement, Subsidies and Countervailing Measures Agreement, Safeguards Agreement), investment disciplines administered through the WTO Agreement on Trade-related Investment Measures (TRIMS) and Bilateral Investment Treaties (BITs), Regional Trade Agreements (RTAs) and Dispute Settlement mechanism under the WTO.

The sessions were taken by faculty from the CWS, experts from the academia, public officials and former diplomats such as Prof. Abhijit Das, Head, Centre for WTO Studies; Prof. Mukesh Bhatnagar, Centre for WTO Studies; Mr. R.K. Gupta, Former Chairman, Settlement Commission, Customs and Central Excise; Ms Shailja Singh, Assistant Professor, Centre for WTO Studies, IIFT; Dr Murali Kallummal, Associate Professor, Centre for WTO Studies; Mr. Bipin Menon, Director Department of Commerce; Mr. Jayant Dasgupta, Former Ambassador of India to WTO; Mr. Atul Kaushik, Joint Secretary, Department of Justice.

The discussion on RTAs created a platform for participants to share their experiences on RTAs and exchange perspectives on the challenges they faced during implementation and implications for the future. Mr Jayant Dasgupta, former ambassador of India to WTO discussed his views on the outcomes at WTO Ministerial Conference at Nairobi in 2015 and the way forward.

During the course of their stay, a number of cultural activities were organized for the participants, such as sightseeing in Delhi that included a visit to Qutub Minar and Delhi Haat and a one-day tour to the city of Agra to visit the Taj Mahal and the Agra Fort.