

“Specialized Course on WTO for Policy Makers and Trade Negotiators”

14 September – 9 October, 2015

1. The Centre for WTO Studies (CWS) organized a “Specialized Course on WTO for Policy Makers and Trade Negotiators” from 14th September to 9th October 2015 in collaboration with the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India. The training programme was held for a period of 4 weeks at the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi and was attended by 23 government officials from 15 countries, viz., Afghanistan, Algeria, Belarus, Bhutan, Comoros, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji, Laos, Mauritius, Mongolia, Nigeria, Palestine, Tajikistan and Thailand.
2. The programme was inaugurated on 14th September, 2015 by Dr. Surajit Mitra, Director IIFT. The inaugural programme was also attended by Mr. Abhijit Das, Head and Professor, CWS and Mr. Mukesh Bhatnagar, Professor, CWS.
3. The ITEC course covered topics relevant to WTO member countries such as International Trade Theory, International Trade Policy, Dispute Settlement, GATT, GATS, RTAs, TRIPS, Customs Issues, Trade Remedies, Trade and Development, Agriculture, Market Access Schedules of Non-Agricultural Goods, TBT, SPS, Trade and Environment, and Market Access. The training methodology included practical exercises, case studies and mock dispute.
4. In the course of their stay, a number of cultural activities were organized for the participants: Delhi sightseeing; visit to the Taj Mahal and Agra Fort and Sound & light show at Purana Qila (Old Fort).
5. The programme concluded on 9 October 2015 with an evaluation of the programme by the participants. Shri Sudhandhu Pandey Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce and Shri Arun Kumar Sahu, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs handed over certificates of participation. Prof. Abhijit Das, Head, CWS and Prof. Mukesh Bhatnagar, CWS were also present during the evaluation and closing ceremony.