

IES – GES Exchange Programme – First Round (2016)

An Exchange Programme between the Officers of the Indian Economic Service (IES) and the General Economic Service (GES) of United Kingdom is underway, aimed at systemic capacity building and knowledge transfer between the two countries.

Under the First Round of the Exchange, two Officers of the GES were in India for three months during April –June, 2016, who were attached to the Office of Chief Economic Adviser, Department of Economic Affairs (DEA), Ministry of Finance. The Officers were: Mr. Neil Golborne and Ms. Felicity Hannon. A joint Presentation made by the GES Officers to officers in the Economic Division, Ministry of Finance, outlining the challenges and successes relating to the GES, is available at the link given below:

<http://ies.gov.in/images/news/160506180521-Presentation%20to%20IES%20by%20GES%20Officers.pdf>

Subsequently, under the First Round of the Exchange, two officers of the IES, Shri Antony Cyriac, Director, and Ms. Nayantara Sasikumar, Deputy Director, were deputed to London for three months in Sept/Oct. – Nov./Dec., 2016. These officers were attached to the HM Treasury and the DFID, respectively. On their return to India, both officers made a joint presentation to officers in the Economic Division, DEA, highlighting their experience and lessons learnt. The Presentation is available at the following link:

<http://ies.gov.in/images/news/170824150833-IES-GES%202016%20ppt%20by%20antony%20nayantara.pdf>

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- During the 8th India-UK Economic and Financial Dialogue held in London in January, 2016, the Joint Statement by the Hon'ble Finance Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer, inter-alia, welcomed the first ever exchange programme between the Economic Services of both the countries.
- Accordingly, as part of the on-going India-UK Economic Policy and Prosperity Partnership (EPPP), an Exchange Programme between the Officers of the Indian Economic Service (IES) and the General Economic Service (GES) of UK is underway, aimed at capacity building and knowledge transfer on both sides.
- **The first round of the Exchange took place last year**, under which two Officers of the GES were in India for three months during April – June 2016, during which they were attached to the Office of CEA.
- After the visit of the two officers from UK, two officers of IES went to the UK for three months during September – November 2016. One officer was attached with the Treasury and the other with DFID.
- **The first round of the Exchange was very successful**, as the Officers from both sides had very fruitful and insightful attachments, as it gave them exposure to Government functioning in the other country from very close quarters.
- **The second round of Exchange is scheduled to be taken up in the current year**, during which two IES officers would be deputed to the Government of UK and two officers from UK will also come to India, for three months each.
- **The IES-GES Exchange Programme** is expected to go a long way in strengthening and deepening the existing engagement between the Indian Government and the Government of UK.
- As part of the proposed Joint Statement between the Hon'ble FM and the Chancellor of the Treasury during the Economic & Financial Dialogue (EFD), it is proposed to reiterate our commitment to further developing the Programme so that EPPP further deepens institutional ties and helps to improve economic policymaking in both countries.