

MPPP- POLICY WALK

NEW-DELHI-29th and 30th Nov,2018

In order to facilitate interaction with the policy makers, BIPP had planned a “Policy Walk” for the students of the Management Programme in Public Policy. The purpose was to visit the people who matter and who are at the helm of affairs when it comes to policy formulation and implementation. The discussions and interactions have helped them in understanding Public Policy in India with a practical and dynamic approach. During the Policy Walk the Students Interacted with the following:

1st Meeting: Sh. Jayant Sinha, Hon’ble Minister of State for Civil Aviation, Govt of India



On Nov 29, 2018, the MPPP batch visited the Ministry of Civil Aviation and met the Minister of State, Mr Jayant Sinha. An alumini of IIT Delhi and IIM Ahmedabad, Mr. Sinha also holds an M.S from the University of Pennsylvania. From the students perspective, it was important to note that the Minister has worked for 12 years at McKinsey and was a partner in the Delhi and Boston offices.

Mr Sinha gave a brief about the Ministry of Civil Aviation and the manner in which market forces decide prices. He explained the variations in fare prices which are decided by demand

supply chain and why that is good for the sector. The boom in the aviation sector and the government's efforts to link many new stations was also touched. In a free wheeling interactive session, Mr Sinha candidly replied to questions on privatisation of Air India, the pricing policy of various airlines and stressed on the legal position of the government on many issues.

The interaction with the Minister was enriching as it exposed the group to the echelons where decisions are taken and policies are formulated. This session of the Policy Walk was indeed beneficial for the Public Policy students.

2nd Meeting: Puneet Dalmia, Managing Director - Dalmia Bharat Group



Mr. Puneet Dalmia shared an inspirational speech about the importance of being rooted in values and the importance of having a sense of giving back. He shared his views with the group on various questions and also highlighted the challenges with answered questions from the group. Sharing more details about their company's efforts at giving back, he highlighted some of the corporate social responsibility work at the Dalmia Bharat group including a scalable model in innovative pilot projects in rural financing and village development. Being one of the founders of Ashoka University, he is also committed to enabling young Indians in giving back to India's progress. This session was very inspirational, and the group was touched with the simple yet

effective message of the importance of values and building trust across stakeholders for taking India ahead. A private sector perspective during the policy walk helped the students in better understanding the Public Policy scenario in the country from a private sector perspective.

3rd Meeting: Dr Rajiv Kumar, Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog



It was an honour for the group to interact with the Dr. Rajiv Kumar - Vice Chairman at NITI Aayog which serves a premier policy 'think tank' of the Government of India and plays an important role in shaping the direction of India's journey of transformation; replacing the old system of the 'Planning Commission' with an institutional structure for promoting co-operative and competitive federalism. He shared details about NITI Aayog's role and the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) and its mandate to monitor and evaluate the Government of India funded development/welfare programs and initiatives and about the success of the Atal Innovation Mission. He was pleased to learn about the diverse composition of the MPPP batch and readily took questions from the group on a variety of public policy concerns. It was a memorable experience for the students.

4th Meeting: HE Ms Harinder Sidhu, Australian High Commissioner to India



The MPPP batch interacted with Her Excellency Ms. Harinder Sidhu, Australian High Commissioner to India. The group reached the Australian High Commission in Chankya Puri and after refreshments, the session started with a presentation by Ms. Sidhu. Public Policy making in Australia was introduced through a Case Study. She briefed the group about Australia's 'An India Economic Strategy to 2035' report as the case study. This strategy is an ambitious plan to transform Australia's economic partnership with India out to 2035. She explained the group how getting this strategy right will strengthen the resilience of the Australian economy and help India realise its aspirations. The strategy was formulated because there was no traction in India-Australia trade relations despite having a long-term strategic partnership. Ms. Sidhu emphasized about the importance of formulating a strategy that is implementable and not does not merely end up on a book shelf. Talking about the process of making such implementable she explained that it is important to capture 'right leads', 'involve right people', and design an appropriate 'analytic framework'. She described how more than 200 consultation groups, divided in to Indian and Australian groups, were formed for this purpose. Ms. Sidhu elaborated on 'closing the gap' process in policy formulation. She explained that this meant identification of problem and intended solutions, and then working out practical and implementable policy responses. After the presentation, Ms. Sidhu answered questions on varied topics such as challenges faced in formulating implementable policies,

problems of aborigines of Australia and issues of racial bias. The fact that the group was exposed to a highly enriching course on designing of foreign policy by Mr. Shyam Saran in the just concluded fourth residency enabled the group members to better appreciate the presentation of Ms. Sidhu and also ask pointed and relevant questions.

5th Meeting: Dr.Junaid Kamal Ahmed, India Country Director, South Asia, World Bank



Dr Junaid Kamal Ahmed appreciated his experience of working in World Bank especially in India. His aim is to “Convince India to treat World Bank as a shareholder”. He focussed on how do you want to use the World Bank is something that is required to be viewed in the context. The context of the WB is the political economy of the world and specifically the country in which the unit operates. AIDS crisis in India was averted due to the efforts of the GOI with the support of WB. Initially, India refused to publicly acknowledge such a scenario. Later on however, the engagement with the WB happened and the positive outcome is a result of the same. Climate change is the next new crisis on which serious engagement is required to be made. Climate change will have serious repercussions such as flooding, crops productivity going down, sea level increase, pollution etc. hence, a serious discussion and engagement on the issue is required urgently. The WB wants to be in India and create knowledge for rest of the world on issues such as “resilience”. India federalism is now on the rise. The violent birth

of India had meant that there were strong centralising tendencies eg central planning etc. Now states are increasingly becoming more assertive and important and this changes the WB working in India. Skill development is the next key area in which India can make a lot of significant contribution. There are 7 African nations wanting to replicate the Indian experience and this is being facilitated by the WB through the MEA. China managed to resolve its issue of NPA and India could do the same by using the WB expertise in this area.

4 major challenges ahead for India are:-

- Management of natural resources which are so far being taken for granted
- Human capital challenge
- Competitiveness of small and medium scale industries
- Capability of states

As per Mr. Ahmed, India does need to get its act together on managing urbanisation as well as things like air pollution, public health etc. It was a true learning experience for the Public Policy students especially understanding the policy point of view of a donor agency like The World Bank.

6th Meeting: Sh. Sudeep Lakhtakia, IPS, Director General - National Security Guard



The ISB MPPP group visited the NSG headquarters at Palam airport, New Delhi during the policy walk. The IG headquarters of NSG welcomed the group and made a detailed presentation on the organisation, administration and the operations conducted by NSG. The organisational set up of NSG and the method of recruitment was discussed along with the operational aspects with the latest equipment and technology available with NSG. The group

was also acquainted with the training facilities available with NSG and capacity building programmes conducted for the State police forces in co-ordination with the States. The preparedness and the advance techniques available with NSG in handling its core duties in internal security like hijack situation, terrorist attack and threat to VIPs having close proximity protection was explained to the group. DG, NSG, Sh. Sudeep Lakhtakia also hosted the MPPP Batch for lunch at the NSG Headquarters. This interaction gave a varied policy perspective to the students from the point of view of the top security organization of the country.

Final Visit: IGI Airport Visit: Presentation by GMR and a Guided tour to the AOCC and ATC



The MPPP Batch was taken to the Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi where GMR made a presentation on “Public Private Partnership”. It was a learning experience to understand a very successful PPP model in India. The students were also shown the newly built “Air Traffic Control (ATC)” as well as AOCC areas. It was exciting for the group too see how air traffic is controlled at the country’s largest airport.

With this, the two day’s Policy Walk Concluded on a high note.

A few Testimonials:

1. *“The Team ISB/Bharathi institute did an excellent job for the policy walk. From the time we have reached Delhi, the arrangements were exemplary.*

I am in no doubt to say that every member who attended the policy walk, have enjoyed it thoroughly which was discussed during our interactions. I have greatly enjoyed every interaction with

1. *Sh. Jayant Sinha Ji - Minister of state for Civil aviation*
2. *Sh. Rajiv Kumar Ji - Vice-Chairman, Niti Ayog*
3. *Sh. Puneet Dalmia Ji - Managing Director- Dalmia Bharat Ltd*
4. *Her Excellency - Ms. Harinder Sidhu - Australian High commissioner*
5. *Dr. Junaid Ahmed - Country Director - India, World Bank*
6. *Sh. Sudeep Laktakia - DG, SPG- India*
7. *AOCC / ATC visit*

Every interaction was very enriching and very encouraging. We thank Prof. Ashwini Chhatre, Dr. Aarushi Jain, and the External affairs team for the superb efforts to make the policy walk a great success. Look forward for more such events and opportunities.

Tribhuvan Ram Dharmana, MPPP,2018-19

2. *The policy trek was a well planned and managed effort*

Nikita Dilip Desai, MPPP,2018-19

3. *Greetings! Policy Walk was really an amazing experience, thanks a ton for your efforts.*

Srinivasa Rao Mylapalli, MPPP,2018-19

4. *I compliment everyone involved for putting up a great Policy Walk for the MPPP course. I am sure everyone had a great time in the interactions at the various place we were taken to and I am sure the exposure would do us good in the times to come. There was mix of people we interacted with, which included a Union Minister, a Director General of the elite Force, a Corporate head who is passionate about his social responsibility and the GMR which is a leading model of a successful PPP model. the Country head of the World Bank gave us an insight into all that the Bank stands for. The visit to the Australian High Commission and her personal interaction with us was the best part I'd say. I compliment you for the tour and for keeping the timings on schedule as promised.*

Nitu Debabrata Bhattacharya, MPPP,2018-19