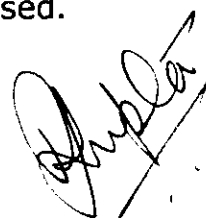


Q/PA-I/580/3/2015
Ministry of External Affairs
(PA-I Section)

Subject: Participation in Practitioners-in Residence Programme at South Asia Centre of London School of Economics during one of the two teaching terms- October to mid-December or Jan- March.

London School of Economics has invited nomination for 4-6 weeks fellowship during one of the two teaching terms- October to mid-December or Jan- March at the South Asia Centre. The officer will be a resident at the South Asia Centre and would have to submit a well researched paper of 23,000 to 25,000 words, on a mutually agreed topic, within six months of completion of fellowship.

2. Interested officers may forward their nomination through their Secretaries/HODs/HOMs, along with curriculum vitae, to the undersigned, latest by May 15, 2015. Details of the Programme are enclosed.



(Paulomi Tripathi)
Under Secretary (FSP & cadre)
30th April, 2015

All IFS officers of the rank of Joint Secretary/Director at HQ and Mission/Posts.



PRACTITIONERS-IN-RESIDENCE

Proposal to Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India

About LSE

The London School of Economics and Political Science (www.lse.ac.uk) is a leading higher education institution in the world, drawing students from more than 150 countries across the globe, spanning different social, educational and ethnic backgrounds.

LSE has been ranked 2nd in the world (ahead of Oxford and Cambridge) in 2014 in the social sciences, making it the best higher education institution in the UK in its field; the recently concluded UK-wide Research Excellence Framework (REF) 2014 assessment has confirmed this position for LSE – as the top university in the UK based on the proportion of world-leading research. Its 24 departments and several interdisciplinary institutes and centres offer degrees from undergraduate to PhD, across a wide range of subjects in arts, humanities and the social sciences, business, accounting, management, finance and law. Students, researchers and Fellows have access to faculty involved in cutting-edge research, outstanding library facilities, and a vibrant academic environment with an events calendar which regularly includes world leaders.

LSE and India

LSE has had a long and rewarding relationship with India, attracting its best minds to come here and in turn enrich the institution with their own excellence. This mutual exchange has several important markers in LSE's proud history with India: Mr Nandlal Maneklal Muzumdar was the first non-European President of the LSE Student's Union as early as 1912-13, later a Barrister who worked for Tata & Sons Ltd; Sir Ratan Tata made an endowment for a Professorial Chair to encourage research on India's social policy, economy & labour in 1913 – the first Chair was held by Major The Rt Hon. The 1st Earl of Attlee, Clement Richard Attlee (later Prime Minister of Great Britain, 1945-51); Dr B R Ambedkar, architect of the Indian constitution completed a Masters and PhD at LSE (1916-23); Mr K R Narayanan, Hon'ble ex-President of India, studied with the renowned political scientist Sir Harold Laski before returning to India in 1948; and Nobel Laureate Amartya Sen and ex-Prime Minister Dr Manmohan Singh are Fellows of LSE.

In 2014-15, Indian students at LSE number amongst the highest from a single country: we have 381 students from India this year -- 103 undergraduates and 278 postgraduates (MA & PhD – across 22 departments), and the Indian Students Society ('SPICE' – 'Society for the Promotion of Indian Culture & Ethos', <http://www.lsesu.com/organisation/7342/>) is one of the most vibrant in the School. LSE currently hosts the I. G. Patel Chair (in honour of Professor Patel, Director of LSE from 1984-90 and Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, 1977-82), funded by the Reserve Bank of India and State Bank of India – it is currently held by Lord Nicholas Stern. There are more than 50 academics whose

academic and research interests concern India directly or implicitly, and topics of research focussing on India cut across all disciplines from the social sciences to international relations, business, law and finance; and 'India@LSE' (<http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/indiaatlse/>) is a dedicated blog commenting on issues of contemporary interest in India.

A central component of LSE's engagement with India has been through its interactions with the Indian government. Apart from the prestigious I.G. Patel Professorial Chair mentioned above, LSE has had several engagements with different government sectors in meaningful dialogue and research; prominent among them are links with FICCI (Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) and, until recently, LSE hosted the flagship Chevening-Gurukul Fellowship for Leadership & Excellence for emerging Indians. LSE continues to host several Indian leaders and officers regularly in its events; Professor Raghuram Rajan, Governor of the Reserve Bank of India is scheduled to deliver a series of lectures later this year.

South Asia Centre at LSE

As part of its continuing engagement, LSE will launch a new South Asia Centre on 1 June 2015 with Dr Mukulika Banerjee (Department of Anthropology; author of *Why India Votes?* (Routledge, 2014), and several other publications) as its first Director. Dr Banerjee was educated in the universities of Delhi and Oxford, and has taught at Oxford and University College London before joining LSE in 2009.

The South Asia Centre has been established as part of LSE's internationalisation strategy, in which it sees India in particular to be a significant area of mutual engagement and interest. The Centre marks a step-change in LSE's interactions with India, harnessing the expertise of its India-focused faculty, and will include actively developing links with all sectors – from government to academic to business, law, culture, media and others. The South Asia Centre is especially keen to carry LSE's commitment to public impact of academic knowledge, for which LSE's performance has already been noted as the top university in the UK in the recent REF 2014. The South Asia Centre is taking the lead in extending this commitment, and central to this is engaging with government officers who have wide-ranging, first-hand, real world knowledge of the challenges faced by the country in its everyday work.

LSE Practitioners-in-Residence

The LSE-Practitioners-in-Residence Scheme is a new initiative of the School to attract serving practitioners to spend residential time at LSE, and engage with the academic community against the background of their real-world experiences. It will allow the chosen Fellow to interact across disciplinary boundaries with academic experts and other visitors from all over the world whose research and teaching interests intersect with the fields of experience of the practitioner. Given LSE's world-class expertise in International Relations, the South Asia Centre is keen to host a senior serving officer of the Indian Foreign Service (Director and above) who will bring their experience of international diplomacy and dialogue to inform debates and discussions at LSE. Central to this is the belief that senior civil service officers will have the knowledge of their specific country, job and portfolios, and through their experienced interaction be able to highlight the importance of local, specific knowledge to wider issues of global policy and concern. India figures prominently in this vision because of the central role it plays not only in South Asia but around the globe, in different

sectors, showing how a country with complex problems of poverty, nutrition, unemployment, etc is yet able to emerge as a global leader. The experience of current serving officers is especially enhanced in a climate where regional cooperation in the South-South underlines the development of regional countries in what promises to be the Asian century. As such, serving officers from across the globe can examine contemporary questions through first-hand experience as well as a comparative perspective spanning the globe.

Proposal to DoPT

The South Asia Centre would like to submit the following proposal for consideration to the Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India under LSE's 'Practitioners-in-Residence' scheme.

Objectives

- To invite one senior serving officer (of the designation of Director and above) per academic year from the Ministry of External Affairs/Indian Foreign Service as Fellow for 4-6 weeks at the South Asia Centre. The chosen Fellow will be selected after due consultation with the South Asia Centre, and the research to be conducted at LSE must align itself with LSE's academic provisions, subject to LSE's rules and regulations.
- To focus on the professional needs of the government by providing focused academic interaction to a senior official in a world class institution doing cutting-edge research in international relations.
- To provide the Fellow with world class research facilities and resources to develop and pursue a short piece of focused research on a mutually agreed topic, after due approval.
- To enable the Fellow to interact with a wide range of international speakers, academics, scholars, researchers and students across disciplines to exchange ideas. This engagement will cut across all 24 departments at LSE, as also its several focused centres and institutes, especially the departments of Politics, International Relations, Finance, Environment, the Institute of Global Affairs, etc.
- To provide the Fellow with a platform – via events like public lectures, meetings, interviews, panel discussions, group dialogues, teach-ins, etc – to interact with a wide, participatory audience from other sectors like business, media, non-governmental organisations, etc.
- To provide the Fellow with latest research ideas and new perspectives relevant to their concerns, focusing on India and her place on a global platform.

Output

- A Working Paper, to be submitted to the South Asia Centre after due approval from the Ministry.
- A calendar of events including lectures, discussions, meetings, etc with relevant individuals and organisations across the spectrum both in London and the UK.
- To contribute to the deepening interest in India's global position, and the role of informed policy in building that profile.
- To contribute actively to capacity-building in the government through research exercises undertaken in a world-renowned institution through focused, outcome-based research relevant to domestic administration, development and building an international profile.

- To identify priority areas for India's external relations through mutual academic and professional dialogue. These will include new ways of engaging with global issues like administration, development, finance and international fiscal swings, environment, climate change, etc.
- A platform in an international hub like London to express and debate the challenges and successes in India's emergence as a modern global power.
- To outline the complex conditions of India's civil service and its workforce to others who may want to learn from it.
- The Fellow will be included as an Alumni of LSE, and will be invited to all future LSE Alumni events in India. (It may be noted that the LSE Alumni Association has several chapters across India, and its network includes leading business and community leaders alongside government and political leaders.)

Application, Timeline & Selection Criteria

- Serving officers of the Indian Foreign Service (Director & above) located in an Embassy, High Commission (or Assistant High Commission) or Consulate-General of India anywhere in the world are eligible to apply.
- Applications should be submitted by 1 September for consideration of Fellowship in the next academic calendar (Sep-Mar); decisions will be communicated by end-October. (This will give officers up to a year to make requisite arrangements for relief from work.)
- Applications may be made on plain paper and should include
 - an updated Curriculum Vitae including academic qualifications and details of past and current portfolios.
 - A proposal (not exceeding two A4 pages typed in 1.5 space) clearly stating the topic of research, and its relevance to understanding India's changing position in global politics. [Note: (1) Applications should ideally emphasise the relation of their portfolio experience with India's specific regional and comparative global relevance. (2) Applicants are strongly advised to look at the LSE website (www.lse.ac.uk) and profiles of teaching faculty in different departments prior to submitting their applications. (3) The Director & Deputy Director of the South Asia Centre are happy to have informal conversations regarding topics of research over Skype or by telephone with interested applicants; these conversations will not bear on the final outcome of the application in any manner. Appointments for informal conversations may be made via e-mail (given below).]
 - Completed applications should be submitted as PDF to both Dr Mukulika Banerjee (M.Banerjee@lse.ac.uk) and Dr Nilanjan Sarkar (N.Sarkar@lse.ac.uk)
- An expert panel comprising LSE faculty will assess all applications.
- Only one Fellow will be selected per academic year (either for Oct-Dec or Jan-Mar).
- Decisions will be communicated directly to the successful applicant and DoPT by the South Asia Centre, LSE.

- The Fellow will be resident for 4-6 weeks at the South Asia Centre, LSE in one of the two teaching terms – Michaelmas (Oct-mid Dec) or Lent (Jan-Mar) according to mutual convenience.
- Fellows will be expected to spend the entire duration of their Fellowship at the South Asia Centre.
- A mandatory requirement of the Fellowship is a fully researched, written paper of (minimum) 23,000 to (maximum) 25,000 words, duly approved by relevant governmental authorities should be submitted to the South Asia. This approved paper
 - Must be submitted within 6 months of the end of the Fellowship.
 - The South Asia Centre will have the right to upload the paper on its website as copyrighted material.
- The Fellowship is aimed at capacity building and skills development, alongside networking and engagement for government personnel. The South Asia Centre will organise academic events (lectures, panel discussions, seminars, student interfaces, etc) for the Fellow to participate in.

Expenditure

Expenses for LSE

- LSE's 'Practitioners-in-Residence' scheme will provide free residential facility for the officer and his/her spouse only for the complete duration of the Fellowship (not exceeding 6 weeks). **[NOTE: Unfortunately, there is no provision for accommodation for children. Residential facilities offered will cater only to a couple and are legally limited to a 2-persons stay only.]**
- The South Asia Centre will provide all office facilities including free office space, a computer with internet, unlimited printing and photocopying facilities, full library reference and borrowing facilities at LSE.
- Under the auspices of the South Asia Centre, the Fellow will also be able to utilise library resources of affiliated colleges and universities in London and the UK free of charge. These include the outstanding India-focused collections at the library of the School of Oriental & African Studies, the British Library in London, and the libraries in Oxford, Cambridge and Manchester, amongst others.
- The South Asia Centre will bear all expenses for hosting various events for the Fellow at LSE.

Expenses for Government of India

- To bear costs of visa, air travel and per diem allowances as per rules & regulations of the Government of India

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Dr Mukulika Banerjee
 Director, South Asia Centre (from 1 June
 2015)

Associate Professor, Department of
 Anthropology
 E-mail: M.Banerjee@lse.ac.uk