ADDRESS BY THE HON'BLE PRESIDENT OF INDIA SMT. DROUPADI MURMU ON THE OCCASION CALL ON BY STATE CIVIL SERVICES OFFICERS ATTENDING THE 126TH INDUCTION TRAINING PROGRAMME AT LBSNAA

Rashtrapati Bhavan, March 7, 2025

Dear officers of the Indian Administrative Service,

I congratulate each of you on your promotion and induction into the Indian Administrative Service. This is a significant milestone in your careers.

I am told that you have already served for over 2 decades in your respective state governments. You are quite experienced and well versed with the intricacies of governance. You have contributed to the administration of your states and are aware of the needs of the citizens.

As you step into your new role, you should inspire and lead by example, motivating those around you to strive for excellence in public service. As IAS officers, it is imperative to adopt a national and inclusive approach in administrative functioning and implementation of government policies and programs. I am sure that the induction training will enable you to reorient your approach and equip you with the latest knowledge and skills required for effective governance.

Dear officers,

In today's dynamic environment, driven by technological advancements along with rising awareness among citizens, you are expected to perform at your best and set new benchmarks in transparent, accountable, speedy and efficient governance. To meet these expectations, it is essential to embrace digital governance and leverage emerging technologies. These technologies can enhance administrative efficiency and help in more responsive, citizen-centric and transparent governance.

For excellent outcomes, it is always better to leverage the strengths and core competencies of persons, departments and organisations. This means that silos should be broken and collaboration should be promoted. You should create a culture of innovation by encouraging new ideas, imagination and out-of-the-box thinking. You should also promote interdepartmental cooperation and adopt whole-of-the government approach to address challenges and deliver seamless services to our citizens.

Further, the essence of governance lies in responsiveness and sensitivity towards the needs of the people. A citizen-centric administration prioritizes the welfare of people, focusing on the poor and deprived. You should ensure that policies and programs are implemented in a way, which addresses their concerns effectively. This requires an empathetic approach, robust feedback mechanisms, and, fast and efficient redressal systems.

Dear officers,

The global landscape is in a state of flux. Indian is undergoing transformation and is progressing with an aim to become Viksit Bharat by 2047. There is an urgent need to act decisively and move ahead with unwavering commitment to accelerate our progress. The decisions that you take and policies that you implement should contribute to the development of our country and the people. The output and outcome of your work will be reflected in the overall outcome of government schemes and programmes. Your role is crucial and each of you should realise this. You should also be aware about your own physical, mental and spiritual well-being while taking up important responsibilities.

I urge you to uphold the principles of sustainability and inclusiveness in your functioning. As we tackle the challenges of climate change and environmental degradation, it is essential to promote eco-friendly initiatives. At the same time, the benefits of development should reach all sections of society, especially the disadvantaged and marginalized.

You should strengthen the values of integrity and compassion in every aspect of your life and career. These values make a meaningful impact on the lives of those around you and on the lives of the people of our country.

I wish you all a very bright future.

Thank you!

Jai Hind!