



Department of Science & Technology
Government of India



Training Programme on Technology Diplomacy November 14-18, 2011, Jaipur

Technology has played and will play a vital role in the economic development of countries. Given the increasing inter-connectedness between the nation-states, technology acquisition/promotion has become an important part of international relations. In recent years, the pace of technological development has increased manifold and it has significant implications for international trade. More than 60 per cent of today's trade occurs between firms (intra-industry trade) and it is proved that technological advancement is the most important driver of intra-industry trade.

Given this importance of technology in our future economic development and the increasing level of India's outwardness, it is important to develop the skills and knowledge of our negotiators (especially those who are engaged in negotiating comprehensive economic agreements in general and technology agreements in particular) on various aspects of technology diplomacy.

Unlike their counterparts in developed countries, negotiators and policy makers in developing countries often lack understanding underpinning science and technology promotion and agreements therein. It is true that science and technology is a specialised subject and most of our negotiators come from a general knowledge background. The question is how we bridge this gap.

One approach of bridging this gap is to develop the skills and knowledge of our negotiators (mainly from foreign affairs and trade ministries) on various aspects of technology diplomacy (technology promotion/acquisition, etc). Second is to get inputs from our scientists and technologists on their areas of expertise and then blend them with the nuances of technology diplomacy.

This programme, supported by the Department of Science & Technology, Government of India and implemented by CUTS International, is an endeavour which is based on the second approach of bridging the gaps between our scientists and technologists and those who are engaged in international (bilateral, regional and multilateral) negotiations on comprehensive economic cooperation agreements in general and technology agreements in particular.

Ideally, this programme should be a blend of participants from among the scientific/technologist community and the negotiating community. However and for practical reasons, it is targeted to our scientists and technologists who are working in various ministries/departments of the Government of India and their affiliated institutions. CUTS takes the responsibility of sharing the inputs (on technology acquisition/promotion and related matters) from our scientific/technologist community with our negotiating community.

Over a period of five days, this programme will cover a range of issues – from basics of technology diplomacy to technology promotion, technology sourcing and assessment to the application of intellectual property rights. Case studies and simulation exercise will be conducted to impart practical skills and knowledge. A number of subject-specific experts will be engaged to deliver this programme.