

**IIM Bodh Gaya Hosts Management Development Program  
“Leadership and General Management”**

For  
**District Fire Officers, Bihar**

**Bodh Gaya, Bihar, March 2025** –The Indian Institute of Management Bodh Gaya (IIMBG) has completed a transformative Management Development Program (MDP) designed for the District Fire Officers, Bihar. The programme, held from **March 17<sup>th</sup> to March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025**, gathered government officials appointed as District Fire Officers, Bihar. The program's vision was shaped by IIM Bodh Gaya **Director Prof. Vinita S. Sahay**, who emphasizes the equal acquisition of hard and soft skills in government officials, which is essential to effective leadership. This program demonstrates IIM Bodh Gaya's commitment to building capacity in the public sector by equipping officials with essential skills and strategic insights to promote socio-economic development across the state. This five-day intensive program brings together experts from multiple disciplines, equipping participants with strategic decision-making skills, crisis management techniques, and effective communication strategies. The curriculum blends theoretical insights with practical applications, ensuring participants are well-prepared to handle the complexities of fire safety management in dynamic environments.



*Group photo of District Fire Officers with Director IIM Bodh Gaya, Chairperson Executive Education & Consultancy and Programme Coordinators*

The Management Development Programme (MDP) on Fire Safety Officer at IIM Bodh Gaya brought together 17 district fire officers from across Bihar, fostering a rich exchange of ideas and experiences. The program was carefully structured to strengthen strategic leadership, operational efficiency, and crisis management skills in the fire safety domain. Participants engaged in diverse sessions that combined theoretical insights with practical applications, covering essential topics such as contract management, team building, leadership, stakeholder engagement, crisis communication, and risk assessment.

The program commenced with an inaugural ceremony, graced by Prof. Amit Srivastava, Chairperson – Executive Education & Consultancy, who addressed the gathering and highlighted the importance of professional development in fire safety management. Following this, Prof. Vishal Ashok Wankhede introduced the program and extended a warm welcome to all participants, setting the stage for an engaging and insightful learning journey. Prof. Somya Prakash Patra, one of the Program Coordinators, provided an overview of the sessions, emphasizing the balance between conceptual knowledge and real-world applications.

#### **Day 1 (17/03/2025)**

The program commences with **registration and inauguration**, marking the beginning of an intellectually stimulating journey. This session provides an opportunity for participants to network with faculty and peers while setting the tone for the week’s discussions.



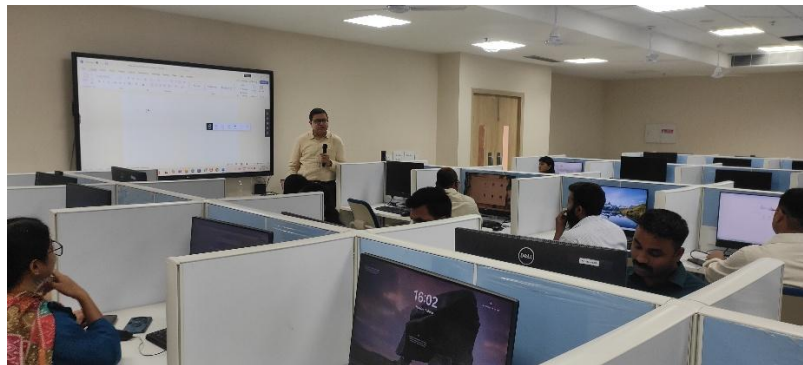
*Inaugural Programme*

The first academic session, *Mindfulness and Emotional Intelligence for Well-being*, is conducted by **Prof. Nidhi Mishra**. In this session, participants explore the principles of mindfulness and

emotional intelligence (EI) as tools for enhancing self-awareness, stress management, and resilience—critical skills for fire safety officers who operate in high-pressure environments. The session includes interactive exercises to help participants integrate mindfulness techniques into their professional routines.

Following a short break, **Prof. Sreelekha** leads a session on *Ethical Decision-Making*, addressing the moral dilemmas fire safety officers often face in the line of duty. The discussion covers ethical frameworks, real-world case studies, and structured decision-making approaches to ensure integrity and accountability in crisis situations.

Post-lunch, **Prof. Boudhayan Ganguly** introduces participants to *Data Analytics for Crisis Management*, emphasizing the role of data-driven decision-making in fire safety. This session covers predictive analytics, trend identification, and real-time decision-making using case studies from fire safety operations. The day concludes with a **campus visit**, allowing participants to experience IIM Bodh Gaya's academic environment and engage informally with faculty and fellow attendees. Prof. Somya Prakash Patra coordinated the campus visit. They were given a guided tour of the campus, which included key spots such as the library, the meditation center, the Nandi monument, and the sports complex. This tour not only offered a chance to relax and recharge but also allowed the participants to connect with each other and experience the institute's state-of-the-art facilities.







### Day 2 (18/03/2025)

The second day begins with **Prof. Nikhil Dhakate** leading a session on *Project Management*, focusing on planning, execution, and evaluation of fire safety initiatives. Participants learn about risk assessment, resource allocation, and contingency planning, gaining insights into handling large-scale fire safety projects efficiently.

Next, **Prof. Sanjay Kaushal** conducts a session on *Professional Communication*, highlighting effective verbal and non-verbal communication techniques. This session addresses challenges in emergency communication, stakeholder engagement, and internal team coordination, equipping officers with skills to convey critical information clearly and effectively.

After the lunch break, **Prof. Senthil Kumar A.** presents a session on *Financial Management*, focusing on budgeting, cost control, and financial decision-making in fire safety departments. The session helps officers understand resource optimization and financial sustainability in public sector operations.

The final session of the day, *Power and Politics*, is conducted by **Prof. Vittal Rangan**, exploring the dynamics of organizational influence, leadership, and decision-making within bureaucratic structures. This session enables participants to navigate complex hierarchies and enhance their ability to advocate for fire safety policies effectively.





An outbound visit to the Mahabodhi Temple and Sujata Garh was organized, offering participants a unique opportunity for reflection, team building, and cultural immersion. The visit was coordinated by Prof. Vishal Ashok Wankhede, ensuring a seamless and enriching experience for all 17 district fire officers. The first stop was the Mahabodhi Temple, a UNESCO World Heritage site and a revered symbol of enlightenment. Participants explored the historical and architectural significance of the temple, drawing parallels between its timeless resilience and the discipline required in fire safety operations. The group then proceeded to Sujata Garh, an archaeological site linked to the story of Sujata, who is believed to have offered food to Buddha, helping him regain strength before attaining enlightenment. This site inspired perseverance, empathy, and service to humanity, aligning with the core values of public service and leadership in fire safety.



*Mahabodhi Temple Bodh Gaya visit*





*Sujata Temple Bodh Gaya visit*

### **Day 3 (19/03/2025)**

The third day is dedicated to leadership development and quality management. The morning begins with Director, IIM Bodh Gaya **Prof. Vinita Sahay**'s session on *Vision, Mission, and Personal Effectiveness*. This session helps participants align their personal and professional goals with organizational objectives, fostering a strategic mindset essential for fire safety leadership.

Following this, **Prof. Vinita Sahay** continues with a session on *Leadership and Work-Life Balance*, addressing the challenges of maintaining mental and physical well-being in high-stress professions. The session includes practical frameworks for stress management, delegation, and work-life integration.

Post-lunch, **Dr. Ajith** introduces *Service Operations Quality and Lean Six Sigma in Fire Safety Departments*, demonstrating how fire safety organizations can implement quality management principles to enhance operational efficiency. The session covers key Six Sigma concepts, process improvement techniques, and real-world applications in fire safety.

The final session, *Public Communication During Crisis*, is led by **Prof. Durba Banerjee**, focusing on media engagement, crisis messaging, and public trust management. Participants learn how to craft clear, accurate, and reassuring messages during emergencies, ensuring effective crisis communication.

To enrich the programme, IIM Bodh Gaya hosted a Director's Dinner with cultural performances, offering participants a memorable experience and adding a festive touch to the training. Deputy

Inspector General (DIG), Shri Sudheer Kumar Porika, IPS, lauded the initiative, stating that the programme was a valuable learning experience for fire officers and highly beneficial for the department. He emphasised the critical role of leadership and strategic management in firefighting operations, where quick decision-making and operational efficiency can save lives and minimize losses. Shri Porika further highlighted the importance of continuous professional development for fire officers, stressing that such structured training enhances their preparedness for handling emergencies effectively.



#### Day 4 (20/03/2025)

The fourth day begins with **Dr. Suresh K G's** session on *Problem-Solving in Public Services*, where participants explore structured problem-solving methodologies tailored to the public sector. Through case studies and interactive discussions, officers learn how to address operational bottlenecks and improve service delivery.

Next, **Prof. Somya Gupta** leads a session on *Personal Finance*, empowering participants with financial planning strategies to ensure long-term financial security and stress-free retirement.

In the afternoon, **Prof. Amresh Kumar** discusses the *Use of Social Media During Crisis*, exploring how digital platforms can be leveraged for real-time information dissemination and public engagement during fire emergencies.



This is followed by **Dr. Suman Choudhary**'s session on *Managing Conflicts and Team Building*, which equips officers with techniques to handle workplace disputes, improve team cohesion, and foster collaboration.

A special evening session on *Fire Safety Risk Evaluation* is conducted by **Prof. Vishal Ashok Wankhede**, focusing on risk assessment methodologies, hazard identification, and mitigation strategies in fire safety management.



#### Day 5 (21/03/2025)

The final day begins with **Dr. Swapnarag Swain**'s session on *Public-Centric Service*, highlighting citizen-focused governance and the role of fire safety officers in ensuring community welfare.



Next, **Prof. Teena Bharti** leads a session on *Interpersonal Skills and Stress Management*, helping participants develop resilience, emotional intelligence, and conflict resolution skills essential for effective leadership in fire safety roles.

After a short break, **Prof. Sajan Pookkudan** delivers a session on *Effective Written Communication*, covering report writing, documentation, and formal correspondence in fire safety operations.

The final session, *Managing Stakeholder Dynamics*, is conducted by **Prof. Amit Srivastava**, emphasizing strategies for engaging multiple stakeholders, including government agencies, local authorities, and community organizations.



The program concludes with a Valedictory Session in the presence of Honourable Director Prof. Vinita Sahay, Prof. Amit Srivastava, Chairperson, Executive Education and Consultancy and Programme Coordinators Prof. Somya Prakash Patra and Prof. Vishal Ashok Wankhede recognizing participants' achievements and providing a platform for them to reflect on their learning experiences. This session also serves as an opportunity for networking and future collaboration. During this session, the 17 district fire officers shared their feedback on faculty sessions, program structure, and overall arrangements, providing valuable insights into their learning experiences.



### *Valedictory Programme*

Participants *commended the diverse and well-structured sessions, highlighting the practical relevance of topics such as crisis communication, leadership, stakeholder management, and risk assessment. They particularly appreciated the engaging teaching methods, case-based discussions, and interactive exercises that facilitated real-world application of concepts. Several officers expressed their gratitude for the expert guidance of the faculty, emphasizing how the sessions had enhanced their strategic thinking, decision-making, and operational efficiency in fire safety management. Shri Dr. Ashok Kumar Prasad, Principal, Bihar Fire Training Academy, Anandpur, Bihta, also appreciated the initiative. He remarked that this was a unique training opportunity for fire officers, providing them with a structured learning experience.*







The session concluded with certificates of participation being awarded, followed by closing remarks by Prof. Somya Prakash Patra who expressed gratitude to all stakeholders involved in the successful execution of the Management Development Programme (MDP) on Fire Safety Officer.

Prof. Patra extended his sincere appreciation to the Honourable Director IIM Bodh Gaya, **Prof. Vinita Sahay** for her visionary guidance and encouragement, which played a crucial role in shaping the program's structure and objectives. He acknowledged the unwavering efforts of the MDP team, whose dedication ensured a smooth and impactful learning experience for the participants. Special thanks were extended to Administrative Officer (AO) **Mr. Satrudhan Ji** for his continuous support throughout the program, ensuring that all logistical aspects were seamlessly managed. Prof. Patra also recognized the contributions of **Mr. Mahesh**, who meticulously handled session scheduling and arrangements, ensuring a well-coordinated flow of events. **Mr. Kunal** was lauded for his efforts in coordinating the outbound visits and managing food arrangements, enhancing the overall participant experience.

Prof. Somya Prakash Patra further extended his heartfelt gratitude to all those who contributed to the successful execution of the Management Development Programme (MDP) on Fire Safety Officer. Prof. Somya Prakash Patra also extended his heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Sreelekha Mishra,



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**Indian Institute of Management  
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Chairperson – Student Affairs, and the entire cultural team of students for organizing vibrant cultural performances that added a special touch to the program.

He expressed his sincere appreciation to Prof. Sanjay Kaushal, Chairperson of Media and PR, and the entire student team for their efforts in covering the program, ensuring its key moments were well-documented and effectively communicated. Their dedication in capturing faculty sessions, participant engagements, and the outbound visit played a vital role in enhancing the program's visibility and impact.

Prof. Patra also extended his thanks to **Mr. Ravindra**, Travel Desk for his meticulous coordination in arranging transportation for the outbound visit to Mahabodhi Temple and Sujata Garh. Their seamless planning ensured that participants had a smooth and enriching experience outside the classroom. He reiterated his gratitude to all faculty members, administrative staff, and the MDP team for their collective efforts in making the program a memorable and valuable learning experience.

Regards,

Dr. Somya Prakash Patra & Dr. Vishal Ashok Wankhede  
Programme Coordinators