

North Block, New Delhi,  
Dated the 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2026.

**TRAINING CIRCULAR**

Subject:- **In-person** Singapore Cooperation Programme on “**Digital Governance, Cybersecurity and AI Adoption for Public Service**” from 13th to 17th July, 2026 in Singapore.

The Republic of Singapore has invited nominations for **In-person** Singapore Cooperation Programme on “**Digital Governance, Cybersecurity and AI Adoption for Public Service**” from 13th to 17th July, 2026 in Singapore under the Technical Assistance Programme with India. The programme is intended for mid- to senior-level government officials who have direct oversight, involvement and responsibility in designing and/or implementing policies related to digital governance, AI adoption or cybersecurity. The eligibility conditions and other information about the course are mentioned in the Information Brochure received from the sponsoring Government (**Annex-I**). Number of slots available for India is **Two**.

2. Nomination of candidates is regulated by the guidelines prescribed by DEA, a synopsis of which is attached as **Annex-II**.

3. **The course is sponsored by Government of Singapore**, who will provide accommodation, local transport, medical insurance and daily allowance. **The nominated candidate or his/her nominating authority shall have to bear the cost of round trip air fare and other travel related expenses.** An undertaking to this effect has to be given by the participant or his/her Ministry/Department/State Government in case they agree to bear the travel expenses in the prescribed format (**Annex-III**).

4. The following forms need to be duly completed and certified by the participant and the competent authority of the nominating Ministry/Department:

- (i) Sponsoring Government's application to be filled online (available at <https://go.gov.sg/iora2026>). Printed copy of application submitted by the candidate online to SCP may be sent to DEA along with the other forms.
- (ii) DEA's proforma - duly countersigned by competent authority (**Annex-IV**).

5. **Application Form complete in all respects alongwith check-list reach this Department through the Administrative Ministry/Department of Govt. of India /State Government/UT, as the case may be, not later than 24.04.2026 positively at the following address:-**

**Shri Pankaj Gangwar,**  
**Under Secretary (BPC&T),**  
Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance,  
Hall No. 15076, Kartavya Bhavan -1, New Delhi-110001.  
Ph:- 011 – 2401 2878,  
Email- [pankaj.gangwar@gov.in](mailto:pankaj.gangwar@gov.in)  
[chourasia.anil@nic.in](mailto:chourasia.anil@nic.in)

6. Incomplete applications and nominations received after the cut-off date will not be entertained. This may please be noted for strict compliance to avoid disappointment at a later stage. The candidates are advised to have their applications processed through their administrative Departments well in time and send complete information asked for in the forms specified above. Details of various short-term training programmes are regularly uploaded on Ministry of Finance's website [www.dea.gov.in](http://www.dea.gov.in) under the link "Foreign Training Programmes" [<https://dea.gov.in/foreign-training-and-employee-corner>].



( Pankaj Gangwar )  
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

1. Adviser(FS&CS), Department of Economic Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
2. Joint Secretary (Admn. ), Ministry of Electronic & Information Technology, Electronics Niketan, 6 CGO Complex, New Delhi.
3. Joint Secretary (Admn. ), Ministry of Home Affairs, North Block, New Delhi.
4. Joint Secretary (Admn.) of all Ministries/Departments, Government of India.
5. Chief Secretaries of all States Governments/UTs.

TO BE UPLOADED ON website of Department of Economic Affairs' WEBSITE  
[<https://dea.gov.in/foreign-training-and-employee-corner>].

# Digital Governance, Cybersecurity and AI Adoption for Public Service

13 to 17 July 2026

Sponsored by the

**SINGAPORE COOPERATION PROGRAMME**

For the

**MEMBER STATES OF THE  
INDIAN OCEAN RIM ASSOCIATION (IORA)**

In collaboration with

**THE IORA SECRETARIAT**

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## Singapore Cooperation Programme

Singapore has provided technical assistance to other developing countries since the 1960s. As a country whose only resource is its people, Singapore believes that human resource development is vital for economic and social progress. Singapore itself has benefited from training provided by other countries and international organisations.

In 1992, the Singapore Cooperation Programme (SCP) was established to bring together under one framework the various technical assistance programmes offered by Singapore. Through the SCP, the range and number of training programmes were increased to share Singapore's development experience with other developing countries.

To date, more than 160,000 officials from more than 180 countries, territories, and intergovernmental organisations have participated in our courses and study visits. The SCP is managed by the Technical Cooperation Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore.

## Course Objectives

The course aims to support the development needs of IORA Member States through capacity building, particularly in the field of digitalisation and cybersecurity for the public service.

## Synopsis

Topics to be covered include:

- Singapore's experience in developing policies for digitalisation and cybersecurity.
- Best practices in building public service capabilities and managing digital governance challenges.
- Methods to support national digitalisation efforts.
- The use of Big Data, AI, and IoT to enhance public service delivery.

## Methodology

The course will be delivered for up to **30 participants**. A variety of teaching methodologies will be used throughout the course to ensure active learning and participation including lectures, group discussions, dialogues and experiential activities. Relevant site visits will also be included to enhance the learning experience of the participants.

## Course Duration and Venue

The course will be conducted in-person from **13 to 17 July 2026** in Singapore.

## Application Information

Applicants should be:

- Mid- to senior-level government officials who have direct oversight, involvement, and responsibility in designing and/or implementing policies related to digital governance, AI adoption or cybersecurity;
- Nominated by their respective governments and the IORA National Focal Points;
- Proficient in written and spoken English, and
- In good health.

## Terms of Award

The course is sponsored by the Government of Singapore under the Singapore Cooperation Programme.

Under this programme arrangement, the Government of Singapore will bear the following expenses for the successful applicants (thereafter known as participants) during their training in Singapore. These expenses include:

- Course fees;
- Hotel accommodation for the entire duration of the course. Complimentary breakfast is provided in the hotel from the first day of the course to one day after the course;
- Per diem of One Hundred and Thirty Singapore Dollars (S\$130) from the first day to the last day of the course. A proportionate reduction in the per diem will be made if you are unable to attend the full duration of the course;
- Transportation between hotel and training venue; and
- Basic insurance coverage (Group Hospitalisation and Surgical; Group Personal Accident) for participants during their stay in Singapore, in accordance with the policy of a local insurance company. [This does not cover any pre-existing conditions/illnesses and/or any outpatient medical/dental treatment. Participants are personally liable for all medical expenses beyond what is covered by the insurance policy.]

### Note:

- The nominating government will be responsible for its participants' round-trip airfares;
- Participants are to bear their personal expenses that might be incurred prior to receiving the per diem; and
- As the basic insurance coverage is limited, participants are strongly advised to purchase comprehensive travel insurance which includes adequate coverage of COVID-19 related expenses and medical evacuation in the event of any unexpected emergencies.

## Regulations

Participants are required to comply with the following:

- For entry into Singapore, participants are required to adhere to the latest travel requirements and advisories as indicated at [www.ica.gov.sg/enter-transit-depart](http://www.ica.gov.sg/enter-transit-depart);
- Strictly observe course schedules and attend all training sessions. Participants will receive a certificate of completion from the SCP only upon **attaining full attendance of the course**. Any leave of absence must be substantiated with medical certificates or compelling reasons. Non-compliance with full participation requirements will affect the eligibility for future SCP course applications; and
- Carry out instructions and abide by conditions as may be stipulated by the nominating authority or government and the Government of Singapore and its appointed trainer, with respect to the course.

## Application Procedure

(Closing date for nomination: **6.00pm, 1 May 2026 (UTC+8)**)

The Government of Singapore and the IORA Secretariat are pleased to invite the respective IORA National Focal Points for Technical Assistance (NFPs) to nominate **up to two (2)** officials to participate in the course through the IORA Secretariat's contact person Ms Kritika Nuckchady ([kritika.nuckchady@iora.int](mailto:kritika.nuckchady@iora.int)) and copied to [zeld.vrolick@iora.int](mailto:zeld.vrolick@iora.int) and [hq@iora.int](mailto:hq@iora.int). All nominees should also submit their applications online at <https://go.gov.sg/iora2026> by **6.00pm, 1 May 2026 (UTC+8)**. Instructions and FAQs for Applicants and NFPs can be found at the links below:

- Applicants: <https://go.gov.sg/start-guide>

- NFPS: <https://go.gov.sg/start-nfp>

Selection of candidates will be based on merit. Should there be more applicants than training places, the Government of Singapore seeks the understanding of the respective NFPs in the event that its nominee(s) is not selected.

**Note:**

- Please refrain from making telephone and email inquiries on the status of your application while your application is being processed.
- The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Singapore will inform all successful nominated applicants of accordingly via Letters of Acceptance. The NFP will also be informed directly.
- Flight arrangements should be made only upon receipt of the Letter of Acceptance to the course.

**Follow us at:**

- SCP Website: [www.scp.gov.sg](http://www.scp.gov.sg)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SCPFriends](https://www.facebook.com/SCPFriends)
- Instagram: [www.instagram.com/SCPFriends](https://www.instagram.com/SCPFriends)

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**SUMMARY OF GUIDELINES PRESCRIBED BY DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS**

Before applying for the training programme, the candidates are requested to satisfy themselves whether they fulfill the eligibility conditions as per the guidelines on Foreign Training Programmes (FTP) administered by the Department of Economic Affairs(DEA), summarized below:-

**Eligibility Conditions**

<b>Duration of Training</b>	<b>No. of years of service completed in Govt. as on the date of FTP</b>	<b>Upper age limit on the date of FTP</b>	<b>Cooling off period</b>	<b>Limit on participation in number of trainings in a year</b>
Upto one week	5 years	Less than 58 years	Six months	Two FTPs of duration of less than one week in a calendar year
One to Two weeks	7 years	Less than 58 years	One year	One FTP of duration of one to two weeks in a calendar year
More than two weeks	9 years	Less than 55 years	Two years	One FTP of duration more than two weeks in a period of two years

**Note:-** Project-related training/official visits abroad are exempted from the provisions of cooling off.

2. Candidates and nominating authorities in Ministries/Departments/State Govts. Etc. should also satisfy themselves about the eligibility conditions prescribed by the sponsoring foreign Government/agency before sending the nomination to DEA.

**HOW TO APPLY****3. Filling up of application forms:-**

- (i) Ensure that the **DEA proforma** is duly filled in and is complete in all respects. Without this proforma, application will not be entertained.
- (ii) Ensure that the **application form prescribed by the sponsoring agency** is also complete in all respect, wherever the sponsoring agency asks for Country Report, the same should also be attached.
- (iii) The column relating to **Vigilance Clearance** in DEA proforma should be filed in and certified by the competent authority. Alternately, vigilance clearance certificate by the concerned authority can also be attached. Applications without vigilance clearance at the time of applying will not be entertained.
- (iv) **In case of training programmes which are not fully sponsored** and where expenses on Air travel or any other expenses have to be borne by the candidate or his sponsoring Department, ensure that Part-A or Part-B, as the case may be, of the Undertaking Form is duly completed. Applications received without undertaking form will be summarily rejected. **It may be noted that submission of undertaking form is not necessary in respect of fully funded training programmes and the candidate can mention 'Not Applicable' in the form.**

**4. Nominations:-**

- (i) In case there is more than one nomination for a particular course, the nominating authority State/Central Government should clearly indicate the prioritization of the nominees.
- (ii) Application for the training programme is to be forwarded through the concerned Ministry/Department after completing all necessary formalities. Applications are not to be sent to the sponsoring foreign country/agency direct unless the same has been endorsed by the Nodal Department i.e. DEA.

**5. Clearance:-**

Once the nomination forwarded by DEA to the sponsoring Government is accepted and conveyed to the applicant, he/she will be responsible to complete all pre-departure formalities like obtaining political clearance from MEA and have the sanction order issued from his/her administrative Department etc.

**Abbreviation:-**

JICA - Japan International Cooperation Agency, SCPTA - Singapore Cooperation Programme Training Award, IMF - International Monetary Fund, MTCP - Malaysian Technical Cooperation Programme.

**DEA PROFORMA FOR FOREIGN TRAINING**

<b>1. Name</b>				
<b>2. Date of Birth</b>		<b>3. Male/Female</b>		
<b>4. Educational Qualifications</b>		<b>5. Date of Entry into Govt. Service</b>		
<b>6. Service to which Officer belongs</b>		<b>7. Date of Regular appointment</b>		
<b>8. Details of Posts held during the last five years (starting from present) :</b>				
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Post held &amp; Pay level</b>	<b>Period of Posting</b>	<b>Ministry/Department/ Organization</b>	<b>Nature of Work</b>
<b>9. Name of training programme applied for and its relevance to the candidate</b>				
<b>10. Papers etc, if any, published by the candidate</b>				
<b>11. Details of Foreign Training Programmes attended during the last two years :</b>				
<b>S.No.</b>	<b>Dates &amp; Duration Of Training</b>	<b>Subject/title of training</b>	<b>Name of the Training Institution</b>	<b>Source of funding</b>
<b>Signature of the candidate:</b>				
<b>Office Phone :</b>				
<b>Mobile No. :</b>				
<b>E-mail :</b>				
<b><u>CERTIFICATE</u></b>				
Certified that Shri/Ms. _____ is clear from vigilance angle. In case the programme is not fully funded, Undertaking in the prescribed proforma (Part A/Part B) is attached.				
<b>Signature of the Competent Administrative Authority of the applicant with Name, Designation, Phone Number and Email (alongwith official seal)</b>				

**CHECK LIST**

<b>Sl. No.</b>	<b>Required Documents</b>	<b>YES/NO</b>
1.	<b>MTCP Application Form/ JICA Application Form / Online Submitted Singapore Application Form alongwith supervisor endorsement</b>	
2.	<b>Complete DEA Proforma alongwith Vigilance Clearance</b>	
3.	<b>Whether Application has been recommended/ nominated by Line Ministry/Department/State Government</b>	
4.	<b>Whether undertaking by Ministry/Department is given for bearing the air fare for the travel where training is not fully funded.</b>	

To be filled only in case the Training Programme is not fully sponsored

PART-A

UNDERTAKING

This is to certify that in the event of selection, Ministry/ Department/ State Government of \_\_\_\_\_ undertakes to bear the cost of round-trip airfare and other related expenses (which may also include the expenditure on local travel, accommodation, insurance, living and other expenses, depending upon the terms of sponsorship for each course/training, as specified in the brochure/letter of concerned sponsoring organization) in respect of Shri/Ms. \_\_\_\_\_ Designation \_\_\_\_\_ working in this Department/ Ministry/ State Government for attending Training Programme/Course on \_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Signature of Competent Authority

Name

Designation

(SEAL)

-----OR-----

PART- B

UNDERTAKING FOR SELF FINANCING

This is to certify that in the event of my selection, I \_\_\_\_\_ holding the post of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Ministry/Department/State Government of \_\_\_\_\_ undertake to bear the cost of round-trip airfare and other related expenses (which may also include the expenditure on local travel, accommodation, insurance, living and other expenses, depending upon the terms of sponsorship for each course/training, as specified in the brochure/letter of concerned sponsoring organization) for attending Training Programme/Course on \_\_\_\_\_ sponsored by \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Signature of the candidate)  
Name, Designation (With seal)

Countersigned by:

Signature of Competent Authority  
Name, Designation (With seal)

