

OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL OF INDIA

Dated: 17th December, 2025

**CAG URGES IRS PROBATIONERS TO PLAY POSITIVE ROLE IN INDIA'S
INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

The Induction Training of the 79th Batch of Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax) Officer Trainees was formally inaugurated today at the National Academy of Direct Taxes (NADT), Nagpur.

The inaugural ceremony was graced by Shri K. Sanjay Murthy, Hon'ble Comptroller and Auditor General of India, as the Chief Guest, and Smt. Malathi Sridharan, Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax, Mumbai and Nagpur, as the Guest of Honour. Senior officers from the Income Tax Department and other departments were present on the occasion.

Addressing the Officer Trainees, Hon'ble CAG Shri K. Sanjay Murthy congratulated the 79th Batch on joining public service and highlighted the critical role of the Income Tax Department in nation-building stating that lion's share of revenue generated by the Government of India comes from the Income Tax Department. He lauded NADT, its faculty members, and staff for their exemplary role in capacity building and described the Academy as a benchmark for other national training institutions in terms of course content, infrastructure, and training facilities. He urged the Officer Trainees to remain positive, committed, and conscious of the important role they would play in India's journey towards inclusive and sustainable development.

Smt. Malathi Sridharan, in her address, congratulated NADT for consistently inculcating the core public service values of honesty, sensitivity, fairness, and promptness among Officer Trainees since 1980. She highlighted several new initiatives of the Income Tax Department, noting that the Department has kept pace with the rising aspirations of the nation through bold reforms aimed at achieving an efficient, effective, and transparent tax administration. She emphasized the transition to a faceless assessment and appellate regime, marking a shift from coercive enforcement to voluntary compliance, with greater reliance on nudging taxpayers rather than compulsion. She also underlined the pivotal role of NADT's extensive training in preparing young officers to meet the challenges of senior leadership roles in the Income Tax Department and in other areas of public administration.

During the ceremony, Dr. Sibichen K. Mathew, Director General, NADT, administered the Oath of Allegiance to the Officer Trainees of the 79th Batch of Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax).

79th Batch comprises 180 Officer Trainees who came after clearing the UPSC Civil Service Exam 2024, with an additional 02 officers from the Royal Government of Bhutan, bringing the total strength to 182. The batch has an average age of 28 years, with the youngest officer trainee being 23 years old. The Batch includes 67 female Officer Trainees, accounting for 37% of the total strength. 16 Officer Trainees are married, representing approximately 9% of the batch. Almost half

i.e. 49% of the batch have studied engineering while 26% have a background in the Humanities. 20 studied sciences, 9 medicine, 8 commerce or business management and 6 read law. 47 OTs have post graduate degrees and 2 have PhDs.

For majority of the batch, i.e. 54%, this is their first employment. The rest who bring prior work experience to the table, having worked in diverse sectors such as Central and State Government, Multinational Corporations (MNCs), Public Sector Undertakings (PSUs), and the private sector. The officer trainees come from a highly diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds. They represent 26 states and Union Territories of India, with the largest contingents from Uttar Pradesh (35), Rajasthan (20), and 16 each from Maharashtra and Kerala. In terms of geographical background, 37% of the Officer Trainees hail from rural areas, while the remaining 63% are from urban or semi-urban regions. Although Hindi is the most common mother tongue, the officer trainees also speak Malayalam, Marathi, Telugu, Kannada, Tamil, Gujarati, Assamese, Dzongkha, English, Bengali, Kashmiri, Konkani, Meitei, Nepali, Punjabi, Odia, Urdu, Adi, Gujjri and Bagri. Shri Salil Bijur is the Course Director, Shri Akhil Goel and Ms. Seema Pramod are Assistant Course Directors of the batch.



CAG Shri K. Sanjay Murthy addressing IRS Probationers at Nagpur on 17.12.2025