New Delhi, the 8th November 2011

To,

Secretaries to Ministries/Departments of Govt of India
Chief Secretaries/Administrator of State Governments and UTs

Subject Domestic Funding of Foreign Training (DFFT) Scheme – Introduction of one-year MPA (Mason Programme) conducted by Harvard Kennedy School in 2012-13.

Sir/Madam,

In continuation of this Division’s circular of even number dated 16th September 2011 inviting applications for various long/short-term training programmes abroad under the DFFT Scheme, it has since been decided to offer one-year MPA (Mason Programme), 2012-13 of the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) also under the scheme. However, since the deadline for applications for this programme as stipulated by the HKS is 2nd December 2011, a separate application/sponsorship system has been devised so as to align the same with the calendar of HKS for this specific programme. The same is detailed below:

(i) The interested officers may apply directly to HKS before 2nd December 2011 and undertake admission/selection process as stipulated by HKS as a private individual.
(ii) This Department will earmark three slots for MPA (Mason Programme).
(iii) Once an officer is selected by HKS, he/she may apply for sponsorship under the DFFT Scheme through their respective controlling authorities along with requisite clearances, e.g., vigilance clearance, ACR Grading, etc.
(iv) Applications of such officers will be considered by a Committee to be constituted in DOPT.
(v) The successful applicants will receive full funding as in the case of other long-term programmes.

2. The eligibility criteria for applying for Mason Programme will be same as mentioned in our circular dated 16th September 2011 in respect of other long-term training programmes.

Yours faithfully,

Sanjeev Shankar
Director (FTC)