

Leadership Talk

Speaker: Mr. Prateek Singh, IPS Officer, DCP, Bhubaneswar Police

Date: 12th August 2023

Theme: Leadership excellence in the Police Force: Experiences and Stories

The first-year students of the School of Human Resource Management, XIM University, attended a Leadership Talk on the theme – ***Leadership excellence in the police force: Experiences and Stories*** on August 12, 2023, delivered by Mr. Prateek Singh, IPS Officer, DCP, Bhubaneswar Police. The speaker delivered his thoughts using real-time professional and personal experiences and stories, which made the session extremely engrossing.



Talk Summary

The session, helmed by Mr. Prateek Singh, IPS Officer, Deputy Commissioner of Police, Bhubaneswar commenced with a spirited dialogue on the crux of leadership, thoughtfully aligned with the context of International Youth Day. The participants engaged in a profound

exploration of leadership, clearly elucidating its traits and responsibilities. The discourse illuminated a leader's quintessential attributes—courage, motivation, trustworthiness, active listening, and empathy. These facets were underscored as the bedrock upon which effective leadership is built

Mr. Singh wove his journey into an interesting narrative, offering a living embodiment of these virtues. He emphasized the vital importance of harmonizing personal ambitions with the broader vision of the organization, illustrating the synergy required for successful leadership

The conversation ventured into the realm of challenges that the leader encountered, such as strikes and rallies during his career and how he addressed these challenges. The talk elegantly conveyed that facing adversity and embracing discomfort is pivotal to cultivating mental resilience. The ability to transcend fears and maintain unwavering focus amidst external influences emerged as quintessential traits for effective leadership. A horse-riding activity was ingeniously employed as a metaphor, beautifully encapsulating the equilibrium between control and power dynamics—a pivotal aspect of leadership.

Mr. Singh's emphasis on team satisfaction as a cornerstone of achievement resonated deeply, reflecting a profound understanding of the dynamics that foster unity and productivity. His insights aptly highlighted that genuine team happiness lays the foundation for operational triumph. The discourse encapsulated a treasure trove of wisdom, cultivating an enriching experience for all participants. The resounding message of well-being's paramount significance in leadership success, amalgamated with practical examples and theoretical discourse, equips attendees with a robust framework to ascend as the distinguished leaders of tomorrow.

Key Takeaways

- ✓ Mental resilience helps a leader manage a team efficiently and to do so a person should be able to get over his fears.
- ✓ Training does have an impact on the personality and skills of an individual as specified by sir during his army training.
- ✓ An individual should not restrict himself within the boundaries

- ✓ There may be many people in life who may be jealous of your success, even those who are not related to you.
- ✓ Leaders radiate positive energy, and to develop this, it is vital for an individual to be calm and composed in his dealings of life.
- ✓ Experience teaches a person a lot, and these experiences help us drive the force within ourselves.
- ✓ Welfare of the employees is at the helm of the priority list for any leader.

Q&A session

1. *Covid was a time full of challenges and uncertainty, especially for the armed forces. What were the challenges faced by you during that period?*

During Covid, the work particularly included ensuring that the Covid protocols and lockdown were adhered to and smooth functioning with the districts or states that were allotted. It was also a time when many of the colleges were infected resulting in a reduction of the workforce by 60% moreover reinfections and work pressure was making matters worse making it one of the most difficult times for Mr. Singh. He also said that the time of uncertainty was very mentally draining and was considered to be one of the most depressing phases as they lost many people from their team as well. Sir made all the students realize that irrespective of whatever, the armed forces always try to put people ahead of even themselves.

2. *As a leader, what was your strategy in looking after the well-being and happiness of your employees?*

Mr. Singh considers the well-being and happiness of the employees above any other thing as he believes that if the employees are satisfied and happy in the organization, that would help increase productivity; moreover, it would also help him get the work easily done by the employees. He also adopted various strategies to tackle this by providing a flexible schedule and holidays on various festivities so that the employees remain motivated, according to Mr. Singh, there is a direct correlation between the happiness and motivation of employees.

3. *What was your motivation to be a part of the armed forces and what were your strategies while preparing for it?*

Mr. Singh believed in the policy to try everything before finding his interest hence he decided to try various fields before making his career choice moreover the vibrant personality of Mr. Singh was because of his experience in various fields. Mr. Singh mentioned that after his corporate stint he realized that this was not the right career option for him and he should do something which is more of his liking and hence he decided to start preparing for UPSC. He also mentioned that the next step which was a hurdle in his journey was the training which is compulsory to be a part of he said that was the most difficult step as it was very mentally and physically draining moreover that was one thing which can be considered one of the major factors that helped in developing Mr. Singh's personality. In the end sir said that it was an amazing experience and the want to help people was the driving force for him in his entire journey.



About the Speaker

Shri Prateek Singh, Deputy Commissioner Police, Bhubaneswar and a distinguished member of the Indian Police Service, renowned for his exceptional contributions to the force. With a solid educational foundation in electronics from NIT Kurukshetra and a Masters in Public Administration from the Indira Gandhi National Open University, Shri Prateek Singh embarked on his IPS journey in 2014.

Throughout his illustrious career, he has consistently demonstrated remarkable courage and exemplary leadership. Notably, during his tenure as the Superintendent of Police in Kandhamal, he confronted the challenges posed by Naxalism with resolute determination, earning him the prestigious Police Medal for Gallantry and the DGP Commendation Disk in 2019. In Cuttack, he effectively tackled organized crime, resulting in the recovery of over 100 weapons and significant strides against adulteration.

While serving as the Deputy Commissioner of Police in Bhubaneswar, he adeptly managed major events such as FIFA and the Under-17 Hockey World Cup for women. Furthermore, his innovative initiatives addressing cyber safety and the BISWAS programme for well-being of senior citizens garnered widespread acclaim. Shri Prateek Singh's professional journey serves as a testament to his unwavering dedication and unwavering commitment to excellence, rendering his insights truly invaluable for our discussion on effective leadership today.

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