A New 'Master in Development Practice' (MDP) Program

Centre for Technology Alternatives for Rural Areas (CTARA), Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB) is happy to announce a new academic program titled 'Master in Development Practice.' This is in response to the demands from the stakeholders in the development sector for an academic program for professionals from different fields who are interested in the development sector. CTARA has a long experience of training development professionals and practitioners. It has been conducting the M. Tech. in Technology and Development program since 2007.

Eligibility: The new program is meant for professionals with a minimum four-year degree in engineering, technology, planning, and architecture or a master's degree in physical sciences and who have total cumulative work-experience of at least 24 months in the development sector. The applicant will have to submit a certificate of experience in the prescribed manner from a registered development organization. The employed candidates will have to submit a NOC from the employers.

Program Structure: This one-year long program will be conducted primarily in the online and interactive mode, with some in-person modules. The program expects students to make the commitment of at least about 30 hours per week (for the credit load of 27 credits each semester). The classes will be conducted in the evenings and on weekends. The program encompasses the coursework spread across two semesters (of a duration of about 14 weeks each semester) and a summer term (of about six weeks duration) that will be devoted to a field-based project. The field-based research or analysis project (for 12 credits) will be carried out by the student with a faculty associated with CTARA as the mentor. The program is designed with an intention to build on the previous experience of the students in the development sector. On successful completion of the entire prescribed course work and the research/ analysis project (total 66 credits), the student will be awarded the degree of Master in Development Practice by Indian Institute of Technology Bombay.

Course Contents: The program will have core (or compulsory) courses meant to help students develop perspectives, learn methods and tools, and build skills that are required for working effectively in the development sector as professional-practitioners. Additionally, the students will be able to choose from a bouquet of elective courses offered in the online mode by faculty from CTARA. Details of the courses are available in the program brochure.

Selection Process: The selection and admission process will involve submission of a formal application with required documents and certificates. The selection will be based on the candidate's Application Form, Statement of Purpose (SoP), written assignments, and interviews. The application process will begin in the second week of May 2022.

Fees and Other Logistics Details: The fee of the entire program is Rupees 3,00,000/- to be paid in two instalments at the beginning of each of the two semesters. Students of this program will not receive any financial support or hostel accommodation from IIT Bombay. The students will not be eligible for the regular placement program of IIT Bombay. This program is likely to begin in the last week of July 2022, provided minimum 10 students confirm enrolment.

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