



भारत सरकार **GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**
 वित्त मंत्रालय **MINISTRY OF FINANCE**
 राजस्व विभाग **DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**
 केन्द्रीय अप्रत्यक्ष कर और सीमा शुल्क बोर्ड
CENTRAL BOARD OF INDIRECT TAXES AND CUSTOMS
 प्रधान आयुक्त का कार्यालय
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER
 केन्द्रीय कर एवं केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क
CENTRAL TAX & CENTRAL EXCISE
 केन्द्रीय राजस्व भवन, **CENTRAL REVENUE BUILDING**
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GEXCOM/II/7/1/2020-Estt

Date: 05.07.2021

ESTABLISHMENT CIRCULAR NO.11/2021

Attention is invited to the following letter received from WCO Cell, CBIC, New Delhi:

Sl. No.	Letter No. and date	Subject
1.	F.No.DIC/Pol/WCO/14/2021 dated 22.06.2021	Master Degree Programme in Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) at the Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU), Tokyo, Japan (2022-23)

Copy of the mentioned letter may be downloaded from the website of Kochi commissionerate - www.cenexcisekochi.gov.in for information. Applications of willing and suitable officers, if any, who fulfill the criteria specified by WCO mentioned in Annexure-1 of the letter may be sent to this office latest by 07.07.2021.

Signed by S Suresh

Date: 05-07-2021 13:15:59

Reason: Approved

[S. Suresh]**Assistant Commissioner [P&V]**

To

1. The JC/DC/AC of divisions under Kochi commissionerate.
2. All Section Heads in Central Tax & Central Excise, Hqrs Kochi.
3. The Superintendent (Systems), Central Tax & Central Excise, Hqrs Kochi - for uploading in website.

Copy to:

1. The Deputy Commissioner (CCO), Hqrs Kochi - for information.

F.No. DIC/Pol/WCO/14/2021
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs
WCO Cell
8th Floor, Tower-2, Jeewan Bharti Building, Connaught Place
New Delhi

Dated:

To

All Members of CBIC,
All Pr. Chief Commissioners/Chief Commissioners of Customs and Customs (Preventive),
All Pr. Chief Commissioners/ Chief Commissioners of GST/Customs,
All Pr. Director Generals/Director Generals,
All Joint Secretaries/ Commissioners working in the Board.

Sir/Madam,

Subject: Master Degree Programme in Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) at the Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU), Tokyo Japan (2022-23)-reg.

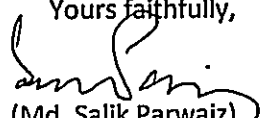
It is to inform you that the World Customs Organisation will award a number of scholarships for the Master's Degree Programme in Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) at the Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU), Tokyo, Japan. Funds for these scholarships will be provided by Japan Customs under the Japan-WCO Human Resource Development Programme (Scholarship Programme). This Master's Degree programme will start in March 2022 and finish in March 2023

2. The Scholarship Programme is aimed at promising young managers from the Customs administrations of developing country members. Candidates should have demonstrated potential for growth and commitment to the service of their administrations and should be fully proficient in English. The Master's Degree Programme comprises of two segments: an academic segment and a practical segment. The academic segment starts with focused teaching of foundational skills in strategic management and IPR. It then moves to a range of applied topics which help scholars understand how to design, implement, and evaluate public policies, in particular Customs policy, in accordance with development strategies for organizations. The practical segment is taught in co-operation with Japan Customs, including the Japan Customs Training Institute.

3. The eligibility criteria/ condition of candidacy and selection, application process etc. for the scholarship have been laid down in Annexure-1 and 2. The programme brochure is attached as Annexure-3

4. It is requested to forward the applications of the willing and suitable officers, who fulfill the criteria specified by the WCO; along with the vigilance clearance and APAR gradings for last 5 years in the attached proforma (Annexure-4). The applications shall be forwarded through e-mail to indiawco-cbec@nic.in latest by 12.07.2021. Incomplete applications and applications not received through proper channel or received after the stipulated date will not be entertained.

5. It is requested that the officer/s may be advised not to send their application to WCO directly and should not enter into any correspondence with WCO in this regard. The nomination of suitable officer/s will be sent to WCO after approval of the Board and the selected officer/s will be informed by this office.

Yours faithfully,

(Md. Salik Parwaiz)
Joint Commissioner 22/07/21

Encls.

Annexure-1 (Administrative Provisions, Financial/ Travel Arrangements etc.)

Annexure-2 (Note from the Aoyama Gakuin University)

Annexure-3

Annexure-4 Proforma

Copy to the Web Manager, CBIC with request to upload it on CBIC website.

PROFORMA (Annexure-4)

1	Name of the applicant	
1(i)	Date of Birth Age on 01.04.2022 Educational Qualification Languages known and its proficiency level (spoken and written) (Good/ Very Good/ Excellent) and supporting documents as per the guidelines	
2	Batch	
3	Current Charge held	
4	Brief resume / description of Customs work handled by the officer during her/his service with specific inputs related to stipulated criteria for the scholarship	
5	Special Achievements / Honour / Awards / Commendation Certificate	
6	APAR grading for last 5 years (in case of NRC, the APAR grading of the previous year to be provided)	Year Grading
7	Vigilance Status	
8	Contact details- Tel/Mobile	
9	Email ID.	
10	Aadhar No.	
11	PAN No.	
12	Details of official foreign visits / deputation / CDP during the last 03 years	
13	Whether awarded a scholarship under the Japan WCO Human Resource Development Programme in the past? If yes, please provide details.	
	Signature of the candidate	
	Signature and Seal of the Nominating Officer	

Japan-WCO Human Resource Development Programme
(Scholarship Programme)

【Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights】
2022/2023

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

Introduction

1. The major objective of the Japan-WCO Human Resource Development Programme is to provide scholars with the conceptual understanding and technical competence that are required to leaders who lead the organizations in the area of taxation and Customs. Scholars are expected to return to home Customs in order to utilize their knowledge and skills acquired through the programme and disseminate them to home Customs administrations.
2. The Japan-WCO Human Resource Development Programme (Scholarship Programme) provides a grant covering travel, subsistence, admission, tuition and other approved expenses to enable promising young Customs managers from developing countries to undertake Master's level studies at the Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU) in Tokyo, Japan.
3. The following administrative provisions govern this Scholarship Programme. If a nominee or a concerned person in the nominating administrations has any questions, he/she should address them to the Capacity Building Directorate of the WCO Secretariat before the Scholarship is accepted.

Capacity Building Directorate,
World Customs Organization,
Rue du Marché 30, 1210 Brussels, Belgium
Tel : + 32 2 209 96 47
Fax : + 32 2 209 94 96
e-mail : scholarship@wcoomd.org

Conditions of candidacy and selection

4. The candidates should be in good health to productively pursue studies in Japan, preferably below 40 years of age as of 1 April 2022.
5. The recipients of Scholarships under this Programme will enrol for **the Master's Degree programme in Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)** programme at the AGU.
6. This Scholarship is for one academic year starting from April 2022. There will be a preparatory course in March 2022 for a few weeks before the start of the Programme. The Scholarship period cannot be extended.
7. The candidates should be Customs officers **fully proficient in English** (a minimum TOEFL score of internet Based Test (iBT) 79 / TOEFL iBT home edition 79 / Paper Based Test (PBT) 550 or IELTS Academic Module 6.0, to prove their language proficiency). They should have a university degree or equivalent qualification.

8. The candidates should have at least **2 years** of work experience in Customs and should have assessed potential for advancement. In the selection, preference will be given to candidates who have experience in IPR border enforcement, and who are expected to work in the IPR-related section of their Customs administration after this Scholarship Programme.
9. Individuals who have already been awarded a scholarship under the Japan-WCO Human Resource Development Programme in the past will not be entitled to apply for this Scholarship Programme.
10. After the completion of the Programme, **the candidates should continue to work in their home Customs administration for 3 years at least.**
11. The candidates will be selected by the WCO in consultation with the AGU. The AGU shall inform the candidates about their selection or otherwise. The WCO will send a congratulatory letter to the administrations whose candidates have been selected.
12. In accepting a Scholarship, the candidate:
 - Must fill out and submit Scholar Guidelines to WCO, which will be shared later.
 - Undertakes to work full time on the assigned Programme. It will not be possible to undertake other activities not related to the Programme.
 - Undertakes to comply with the laws and show due respect for the culture and way of life of the host country.
13. The application process for candidates is as follows:
 - The nominated applicant requests website access via **online registration** option on the AGU's website (<http://www.aoyamasmiprp.jp/>), which should be completed **by 13 August 2021** whereupon applicant will be provided with an ID and Password to download application forms.
 - The applicant must then complete the **application forms** and **submit them with all the supporting documents** (including the Nomination Form from your Administration, which is downloadable from below-mentioned website) **by 1 September 2021** to the AGU Master's Programme Admissions Office at below indicated address.
14. **The original set of Application Forms with all supporting materials, including Nomination Form from your Administration,** should be completed and returned to:

Master's Program Admissions Office
Graduate School of Business
Aoyama Gakuin University
4-4-25 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku
Tokyo 150-8366
Japan
Telephone : + 81 3 3409 6239
Fax : + 81 3 3409 4575
e-mail : info_smiprp@busi.aoyama.ac.jp
Website : <http://www.aoyamasmiprp.jp/>

with the envelope marked, "Application for the WCO Scholarship". For more detailed information, please see the "Application Procedures" of the AGU, as enclosed herewith.

15. A duplicate set will be made and sent to the WCO Secretariat by the AGU Admissions Office. Therefore, it is not necessary to send a duplicate set to the WCO Secretariat.
16. Please note that **applications received after the deadlines will not be considered**. As late submissions, including of supporting document such as proof of English proficiency, are not acceptable, applicants and nominating Administrations are encouraged to prepare for required documents well in advance.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Accommodation and living allowance

17. An all-inclusive allowance of 147,000 Japanese yen per month will be granted to cover the cost of accommodation, meals and incidental expenses for the study period. The amount of the allowance is subject to change according to the decision of the Japanese Government. (The allowance will be paid in Japanese yen.)
18. The Scholars will be offered assistance by the AGU to find residential accommodation at a reasonable rent.
19. The candidates should note that the allowance will not be sufficient to cover the expenses of any accompanying dependants. No family-related expenses will be paid or added to the monthly living allowance.

Health certificate

20. The Scholars selected will have to undergo a comprehensive medical examination and submit a certificate from a licensed physician **certifying that they are free from any medical condition that would impair his/her studies during the Programme.**

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Travel costs

21. The cost of travel (return trip) between the Scholar's place of residence and Tokyo will be borne by the Programme budget. For this purpose, an economy class pre-paid air ticket by the most direct route will be arranged by the AGU through a local travel or airline office or by courier in the country of the selected candidate. Transportation cost between the Scholar's place of residence and departure/arrival airport should be borne by the Scholars.
22. Any additional costs entailed with the changes of the pre-arranged itineraries or cancellation of the flight without reasonable grounds after the issuance of e-ticket should be borne by the Scholar or his/her home administration.

Insurance

23. No insurance coverage is provided by the WCO/Japan in respect of personal accidents or damage to or loss of personal effects during transport to or from Tokyo.

Passports - Visas

24. Persons entering Japan must hold a valid passport and visa. Vaccination requirements depend upon nationality, and the Scholar is personally responsible for complying with those requirements. The AGU will provide the selected candidates with a letter certifying enrolment in the Japan-WCO Scholarship in order that he/she may apply to the Japanese Embassy in his/her home country for a **college student visa**, authorizing temporary residence in Japan for the duration of the Programme.

COMPLETION OF THE PROGRAMME

25. Scholars are expected to complete the Programme as scheduled. Early repatriation may be authorized only on medical grounds or for other similarly important reasons. If a Scholar withdraws from the Programme before commencement of the Programme or before its scheduled completion, he/she shall not be entitled to any benefits from the date of the decision. The WCO may request for refund of any expenses that are incurred from his/her withdrawal to the Scholar. In case refund is requested, if the scholar cannot afford this for any reason, the organization to which the Scholar belongs should undertake the obligation.
26. On completion of the Programme, the Scholar is required to go back to his/her home country without delay. In the event of no return, the WCO may request for refund of the scholarship to the Scholar or to the organization to which the Scholar belongs. The WCO/Japan will pay travel costs, as described above, for the Scholar's return journey from Tokyo to the point of first departure. Entitlement to return travel expenses shall cease if the Scholar does not leave Tokyo within two weeks of completion of the Programme, unless he/she has any compelling reason for extending his/her stay.
27. In the event of a Scholar failing to complete the Programme, a request for partial refund may be sent to the Scholar. In case refund is requested, if the scholar cannot afford this for any reason, the organization to which the Scholar belongs should undertake the obligation.
28. After half a year and 3 years respectively from completion of the Programme, Scholars should report to the WCO and the AGU indicating the post they occupy in their home administration and how they have been utilizing the experience they acquired in Japan.

<Note from the Aoyama Gakuin University>

Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights Program (SMIPRP)

The Graduate School of Business at AGU welcomes potential students who have a strong interest in conducting rigorous empirical and/or theoretical research integrated with their own practical work experiences. If you wish to apply for the SMIPRP at AGU, please visit our website (<http://www.aoyamasmiprp.jp/>), carefully read and strictly follow the admission guidelines and instructions.

1. Program

Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Right Program (SMIPRP)

2. Number to be admitted

The number of students to be admitted for SMIPRP course is approximately 10.

3. Application Requirements

- **Bachelor's Degree or Higher**

- **Proficiency in English:**

Suitable level of proficiency in English to be able to write a thesis is required.

Minimum scores in relevant English tests should be as follows:

TOEFL iBT (internet based test) 79,

TOEFL iBT home edition 79,

TOEFL PBT (paper based test) 550,

IELTS Academic Module 6.0 (in each band)

The score should be obtained within the past two years of the application.

TOEFL ITP score is not accepted.

- **Online PC Environment:**

Applicants must have online PC environment in which you can run Zoom (<https://zoom.us/>) for an interview."

4. Application Procedure (Please check the SMIPRP website for more details)

Step 1 Online Registration: First, you will need to create a login account to proceed with your application. To create a login account, fill out and submit the online registration form with the necessary information.

Step 2 Notification of ID&Password: Upon your submission of the online registration form, your ID and password will be sent to you via email.

Step 3 Download Application Forms: Please go to the top page of the SMIPRP website and click the 'LOGIN' button. Then you are required to enter the provided ID and password in the login page to proceed to the next step in order to download and fill out the designated Form1-5.

Step 4 Mail designated Application forms & other required documents: Please send all the designated application forms and other required documents by DHL or any other registered express mailing delivery service to be received by the deadline.

Mailing Address

Master's Program Admissions Office
Graduate School of Business
Aoyama Gakuin University
4-4-25 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku
Tokyo 150-8366
JAPAN

Step 5 Online Interview with selected applicants: After reviewing applications, the Admissions Committee for the SMIPRP will request an interview for selected applicants (i.e. those applicants who have successfully passed the documentary examination). Those who are selected will receive the notification and scheduling information on the interview via email. Interviews are conducted via Zoom.

5. Admission Calendar

- | | |
|---|---------------------------|
| - Online Registration | up to August 13, 2021 |
| - Mailing Materials | up to September 1, 2021 |
| - Notification of Invitation to Interview | September 24, 2021 |
| - Online Interview | October 5 through 9, 2021 |
| ※Interview schedule will be assigned from one of these days | |
| - Notification of enrollment acceptance | November 18, 2021 |
| - Submission of enrollment documents | December 2, 2021 |

6. WCO Scholarship

Full tuition scholarship is awarded to full-time candidates who have been accepted for study at AGU and approved by the WCO. You may apply for the scholarship when you submit the application for admission.

Requirement to apply for the Scholarship

- A candidate must be a customs officer of a developing member of the WCO with quality work experience of at least two years in the field of customs policy and administration in his/her home country.
- Preferably under 40 years of age as at April 1, 2022

What the Scholarship covers

- A monthly stipend is granted to cover living expenses during your studies at AGU. This stipend cannot be increased to cover family members. The amount of your stipend is subject to change according to the decision of the Japanese Government.*
- Your admission and tuition fees will be paid by the scholarship sponsors.
- Round-trip economy-class air tickets between your home country and Japan are also included.

* The total amount of the scholarship is 147,000 yen per month. (as of 2021)

Welcome to Aoyama Gakuin University



Aoyama Gakuin University (AGU) is one of the top private universities in Asia, located in the heart of metropolitan Tokyo, Japan.

www.aoyamasmiprp.jp



School Motto >>> The Salt of the Earth, The Light of the World (Matthew 5:13-16)

About SMIPRP

The Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights Program (SMIPRP) is a 12-month master's degree program at AGU's Graduate School of Business and offers cutting-edge classes and practical management skills for future leaders, particularly in customs organizations around the world. All instruction on the SMIPRP is given in English, and the program is open to students worldwide. This master's degree program operates under the sponsorship of the World Customs Organization (WCO).

Our Mission

Developing countries face enormous challenges in trying to achieve sustainable development. This is due, in part, to the lack of effective and efficient financial institutions and regulatory regimes. To build such institutions, developing countries need human capital with excellence in management knowledge and skills capable of designing and implementing sound public policies. This is where AGU finds its mission: "to be a school for training and research for future leaders in the policy arena."

The SMIPRP at AGU's Graduate School of Business, in cooperation with WCO, takes a leading role in achieving this mission by offering a master's degree program that nurtures future leaders in customs-related organizations. As a leading research institution in Business and Management, we pursue quality research in such areas as strategic and organizational management and intellectual property rights, offering continuous feedback to future executives in customs-related organizations.

The characteristics of the SMIPRP are threefold:

- The SMIPRP places its educational focus on management.
- The SMIPRP aims to incorporate Western theories of business management and research findings with those of Japan as the economic center of Asia.
- The SMIPRP strives to educate students about the management practices of private companies from a practical standpoint, which we believe contributes to nurturing future leaders not only for the organizational development of customs but also for the sustainable development of countries.

Program Overview

The SMIPRP is configured by four pillars, under which several numbers of courses are available for students as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Strategic Management
Course Subjects:
Competitive Strategy/ Management/ Organizational Management/ Innovation Management/ Multinational Financial Management</p> | <p>3. Customs and Tariffs
Course Subjects:
Customs Reforms & Modernization/ Practicum in Customs Administration/ Customs Law/ Customs Tariff Law</p> |
| <p>2. Intellectual Property Rights
Course Subjects:
IPR Enforcement at the Border/ Intellectual Property Rights / Copyright law</p> | <p>4. Research
Course Subjects:
Master Thesis / Academic Writing/ Statistical Analysis</p> |

Skills

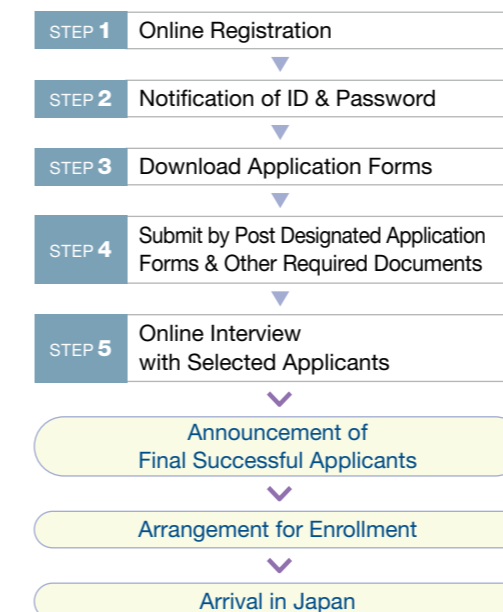
The SMIPRP aims to provide students with management knowledge and skills in three main areas:



Admissions Flow

Application Advice:

Complete STEPS 1, 2, and 3 A.S.A.P so you will have ample time to assemble the strongest possible application packet.



Strategic Management and Intellectual Property Rights Program (SMIPRP)

The Graduate School of Business at AGU welcomes potential students who have a strong interest in conducting rigorous empirical and/or theoretical research integrated with their own practical work experiences. If you wish to apply for the SMIPRP at AGU, please visit our website (<https://www.aoyamasmiprp.jp/>), carefully read and strictly follow the admission guidelines and instructions.

1. Number to be admitted

The number of students to be admitted for the SMIPRP course is approximately 10.

2. Qualification for Applicants

- **Bachelor's Degree or Higher**
- **Proficiency in English:**
Suitable level of proficiency in English to be able to write a thesis is required. Minimum scores in relevant English tests should be as follows:
TOEFL iBT (internet-based test or Home Edition) 79 / TOEFL PBT (paper-based test) 550
IELTS Academic Module 6.0 (in each band)
The score should be obtained within the past two years of the application.
- **The Official Letter of Proof**
For those who have received education in English, please obtain an official letter of proof from the graduated university indicating that your education was conducted in English.
- **Online PC Environment:**
Applicants must have an online PC environment in which you can run Zoom (<https://zoom.us/meetings>) for an interview.

3. Application Procedure (Please check the SMIPRP website for more details)

- **Step 1 Online Registration:**
First, you will need to create a login account to proceed with your application. To create a login account, fill out and submit the online registration form with the necessary information.
- **Step 2 Notification of ID&Password:**
Upon your submission of the online registration form, your ID and password will be sent to you via email.
- **Step 3 Download Application Forms:**
Go to the top page of the SMIPRP website and click the 'LOGIN' button. Then you are required to enter the provided ID and password on the login page to proceed to the next step in order to download and fill out the designated Form1-5.
- **Step 4 Submit by post Designated Application Forms & Other Required Documents:**
Send all the designated application forms and other required documents by the deadline. Sending by DHL is recommended. (As of June, 2020, EMS suspends services to many countries).
Postal Address
Master's Program Admissions Office,
Graduate School of Business,
Aoyama Gakuin University
4-4-25 Shibuya, Shibuya-ku,
Tokyo 150-8366, JAPAN

*Required documents should be submitted in typewriting, not in handwriting.
*Please contact us if measures taken in response to COVID-19 by the postal and courier services connecting your country and Japan will interfere with your ability to submit your complete application packet so that the packet arrives at our office on or before the application due date.

Step 5 Online Interview with Selected Applicants:

After reviewing applications, the Admissions Committee for the SMIPRP will request an interview for selected applicants (i.e. those applicants who have successfully passed the documentary examination). Those who are selected will receive a notification and scheduling information about the interview via email. Interviews are conducted via Zoom.

4. Admissions Calendar

Online Registration	Up to Mid-August
Post Application Forms	Early September
Notification of Invitation to Interview	Late September
Online Interview	Early October
Notification of Enrollment Acceptance	Mid November
Submission of Enrollment Documents	Early December

* Schedule is tentative. For details, please refer to our website.

5. WCO Scholarship

Full tuition scholarship is awarded to full-time candidates who have been accepted for study at AGU and approved by the WCO. You may apply for the scholarship when you submit the application for admission.

Requirements to Apply for the Scholarship

- Government officials of developing countries with at least two years' work experience in customs-related fields.
- Preferably under 40 years of age as of 1 April of the enrollment year.

What the Scholarship Covers

- A monthly stipend is granted to cover living expenses during your studies at AGU. This stipend cannot be increased to cover family members. The amount of your stipend is subject to change.
- Your admission and tuition fees will be paid by the scholarship sponsors.
- Round-trip economy-class air tickets between your home country and Japan are also included.

PROFORMA (Annexure-4)

1	Name of the applicant	
1(i)	Date of Birth Age on 01.04.2022 Educational Qualification Languages known and its proficiency level (spoken and written) (Good/ Very Good/ Excellent) and supporting documents as per the guidelines	
2	Batch	
3	Current Charge held	
4	Brief resume / description of Customs work handled by the officer during her/his service with specific inputs related to stipulated criteria for the scholarship	
5	Special Achievements / Honour / Awards / Commendation Certificate	
6	APAR grading for last 5 years (in case of NRC, the APAR grading of the previous year to be provided)	Year Grading
7	Vigilance Status	
8	Contact details- Tel/Mobile	
9	Email ID.	
10	Aadhar No.	
11	PAN No.	
12	Details of official foreign visits / deputation / CDP during the last 03 years	
13	Whether awarded a scholarship under the Japan WCO Human Resource Development Programme in the past? If yes, please provide details.	
	Signature of the candidate	
	Signature and Seal of the Nominating Officer	