

Jnana Prabodhini Competitive Examinations Centre, Pune.

**Celebrating journey of its alumnus
on account of
Tridashakpurti Varsha 2025-26
(30 years of establishment)**

Smt. Rajlakshmi Kadam

- Presently working as Consul (Trade) at the Consulate General of India, New York, USA.
- IRS (C & IT) - 2010 batch,
- Deputy CEO, MPSC - 2010 batch.
- JPCEC Batch of 2004
- MA (Literature), Diploma in Journalism.
- Masters in Pub. Administration, PG Diploma in Cyber Law, Cyber Forensic & Investigation.
- Previously worked in Satara, Kolhapur, Pune, Mumbai under various responsibilities.



Rajlakshmi Kadam, an officer of the Indian Revenue Service (C&IT) of 2010 batch, born at Met-Gutad, a small village near Mahabaleshwar in Satara district, Maharashtra. Her early life and education laid a foundation for her future career. Currently, she is on a deputation as Consul (Trade) to Consulate General of India at New York, USA. Her career spanning over 15 years is a testament of excellence, determination and dedication to the public service.

Early Life and Education

She completed her primary schooling at the village's Zilla Parishad school and high school at Mahabaleshwar, before moving to Satara for higher secondary education. She then pursued her Bachelor's and master's degrees in English literature from Shivaji University, Kolhapur. Following her post-graduation, she spent a year teaching English at Rajaram College, Kolhapur, the same institution where she had studied. This period was pivotal as she realised

that teaching might not be her lifelong profession, prompting a shift in focus towards the goal she had considered for years.

She mentions that the aspiration for civil services was not a sudden one but had roots in her childhood. Growing up in a small village, she was the first from her block to clear the UPSC exam, a feat achieved by neither boys nor girls before her. Exposure to the field was limited, but her mother played a crucial role early on by showing her newspaper articles about civil services, highlighting it as a career path offering opportunities for significant work. As she pursued higher education and ventured outside her village, she gathered more information about this field. While pursuing her MA at Rajaram College, Kolhapur, she encountered the Pre-IAS training centre there, which, though not fully developed at the time, provided initial awareness that preparation was possible. A significant trigger came when she was teaching. During a NAAC committee visit to Rajaram College, the chairman, upon learning she had just completed her MA and was teaching, encouraged her directly, saying "Do try UPSC". This remark from a stranger ignited a thought: perhaps there was something in her skills or potential, worth trying for, propelling her decision to dedicate herself fully to competitive exam preparation.

Onto The UPSC Dream

To focus on full-time preparation for UPSC, she moved to Pune. Upon arriving in Pune, she directly connected with Jnana Prabodhini. She had not explored other preparation centres in Pune. She learned about Jnana Prabodhini Competitive Examinations Centre through a colleague at Rajaram College, who was a Pune University post-graduate. After appearing for the entrance exam for Jnana Prabodhini, the transparency of the process, including writing tests followed by an interview, impressed her and convinced her that she would find the right direction and guidance there.

She joined Jnana Prabodhini Competitive Examination Centre in 2003-04 and dedicated a full year to preparation, covering both Prelims and Mains syllabus requirements. However, she did not clear the Prelims in her first attempt. Reflecting later, she felt her humanities background might have made her weaker in the factual aspects necessary for Prelims, although she grasped concepts well, retaining factual data proved challenging. As she prepared for her second attempt, the lack of a fallback option weighed on her, particularly as she did not wish to return to teaching. Jnana Prabodhini explicitly communicated the reality

of competitive exams – that not everyone clears, and having a backup plan is crucial. This emphasis on practicality motivated her to consider other options. Alongside her second UPSC attempt preparation, she enrolled in a Bachelor of Journalism (BJ) course at Tilak Maharashtra Vidyapeeth. Since attending regular classes daily was not feasible alongside her UPSC study, she chose this course which had weekend classes.

She completed her BJ course during her second UPSC attempt year. While she gave the Prelims exam in Mumbai, she returned to Pune that night, and her BJ exams started the very next day. The two fields, however, turned out to be complementary. She excelled in Journalism, winning a gold medal that year. Her UPSC studies aided her BJ course, and in turn, BJ improved her writing skills and ability to view issues from multiple dimensions. Despite this, she could not clear the Prelims in her second UPSC attempt either. This was a significant setback, as is common for many UPSC aspirants.

Simultaneously, she had been preparing for the MPSC (Maharashtra Public Service Commission) exams. She kept her optional subjects the same as UPSC and added the extra Maharashtra-related content required. After her second UPSC setback, she reached the interview stage in MPSC. This was around 2006. However, she narrowly missed making the final list by a few marks.

From Break to Breakthrough

Coming from a background where becoming financially independent was paramount, she sought employment based on her journalism degree. She aimed to cover her living expenses in Pune. Fortunately, she secured a job at Lokmat newspaper in Pune as a Research and Reference Assistant. She was transparent with the editor, Shri. Anant Dixit, about her UPSC preparation and the need for time to study. The editor proactively offered her a role better suited to her studies than reporting, which would require extensive fieldwork. He envisioned a role where she could study while also using her knowledge to assist the newspaper. This led to the creation of a new post at Lokmat Pune. For about a year, she managed the Lokmat library, her role involving finding facts, digging out information, and providing details to support the editor in writing editorials. This job surprisingly aided her studies as she had access to various books and references.

While working at Lokmat, she continued appearing for MPSC exams. She took the Sales Tax Inspector (STI) exam, and the final result came out while she was working there. She cleared the STI exam. The decision of whether to join the STI post presented itself around 2008. Ultimately, given the importance of economic independence and securing a government job, she decided to join. She was posted at Satara, her home district, although she had requested Pune to continue her studies at Jnana Prabodhini.

This period marked a challenging phase as she balanced her STI job with UPSC preparation. Her third UPSC attempt had already happened around the start of her STI job, and she had not cleared the Prelims. As a general category candidate at the time, she was left with only one remaining attempt for UPSC. It was a do-or-die situation for her UPSC dream.

She gave her fourth UPSC Prelims attempt while working as STI. She managed to clear it. This gave her last opportunity to appear for the UPSC Mains. The period leading up to the Mains exam was particularly challenging. As she was still on probation in her STI job, taking extensive leave was difficult. Given the uncertainty of the UPSC exam, she couldn't risk leaving her job completely. Simultaneously, her MPSC Mains result was awaited, where she had already appeared for the interview.

In this demanding situation, she worked five days a week in Satara and travelled to Pune on Friday nights to study at Jnana Prabodhini over the weekend, returning to Satara on Monday mornings. She highlights the crucial support she received from the mentors (Savita Tai and Vivek Sir) at Jnana Prabodhini. Finding a place to study (अभ्यासिका) for only two days a week was challenging given the high demand, but she spoke to them about her situation, and they allowed her to use the study facilities on Saturdays and Sundays. This permission was invaluable as it allowed her to stay connected with the study flow, the peer group, catch up on current affairs, and participate in discussions that happened throughout the week. This routine helped her immensely as she prepared for her last UPSC Mains.

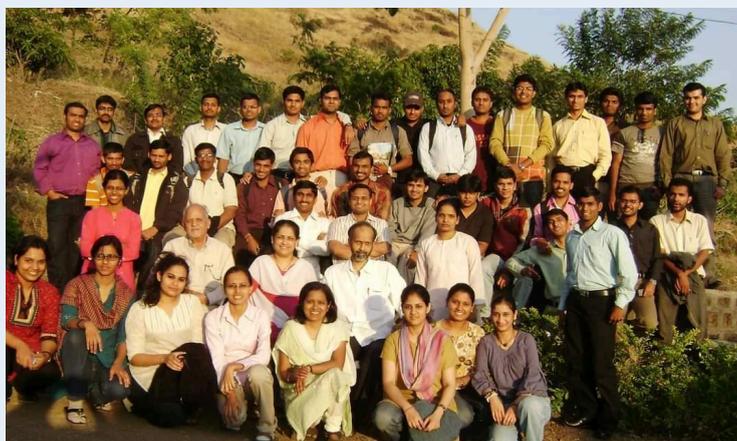
After giving the Mains exam, she felt mentally free from the pressure of the next Prelims. She then focused entirely on her STI job. Around this time, the final result for the MPSC exam she had given earlier came out, and she was selected as Deputy CEO. In February 2010, she resigned from her STI position and joined the Deputy CEO post at Solapur Zilla Parishad, which was her first posting. The day after she joined as Deputy CEO, the UPSC Mains result

was announced, and she received an interview call. The interview was scheduled for April 1st, leaving her with less than a month to prepare.



Rajlakshmi, as Dy. CEO along with Central Govt. officials to review the NREGS program in Solapur.

She informed her CEO about the interview call. He was very supportive and granted her leave, advising her to focus on the interview preparation. She spent about 25 days in Pune, staying at Jnana Prabodhini to prepare. She credits the Prerana batch for interview preparation at Jnana Prabodhini as being extremely beneficial. This batch included a District Study Tour. Interacting with various officers during this tour provided her with a firsthand understanding of ground-level problems, how officers handle them, how they find solutions, and even the reality of political interference. The officers in the Jnana Prabodhini network were open and explained things thoroughly, which significantly helped her interview preparation. Her UPSC interview, her last attempt, was on April 1st, 2010.



Rajlakshmi with other JPCEC batchmates and Dr. Vivek Sir, Dr. Savita Tai & Nandedkar sir during the Personality Profiling camp (Interview Preparation Batch) at Shivapur

JPCEC Made a Difference...

Reflecting on her journey, she acknowledges the many ups and downs that she experienced. She feels Jnana Prabodhini, as a competitive exam centre, provided much more than just classroom coaching. It offered various facilities and opportunities, like study tours. She never felt it was just a coaching class; rather, it acted as a 'Lighthouse', guiding her towards her destination like a beacon in the sea. The interactions with successful candidates and those with multiple attempts provided clarity early on – firstly, about *why* one wants to join the service, and secondly, that reaching the service is just a medium, not the end goal; the real work begins after selection. This clarity had a significant positive impact throughout her 15 years of service.

Beyond Prelims and Mains preparation, JPCEC helped her understand different dimensions of a topic through mentors and serious peer groups. The overall environment, including prayer meetings (Upasana) and field visits to villages to meet self-help group women and farmers, provided experiences not available just through books. She found the quality of village visits during Jnana Prabodhini tours better than those during her official training, which many people experience for the first time only after selection. Coming from a rural background herself, these tours helped her develop a perspective on problems even in her own village and taluka/block, understanding where issues originate, people's perspectives, and how to get to the root of a problem. This perspective was very helpful in her interview and in writing Mains answers.

She also values the lifelong bonds formed at Jnana Prabodhini, with mentors and friends, which transcend the competitive nature of the exams. These friendships provide support for discussing any issue or difficulty. The Prerana batch for interview preparation was particularly unique and, in her opinion, unmatched elsewhere in India.

Being an Officer

After Rajlakshmi's selection in 2010, her training did not follow the traditional path of LBSNAA for foundation courses. Since the 2008 batch, the foundation course was divided among locations like Hyderabad, Bhopal, and Nagpur. Her foundation course took place in Hyderabad. Due to the large batch size, the subsequent departmental training for her service (Customs and Central Excise, now GST) was conducted in Faridabad and Mumbai. Her training took place in Mumbai.

She explains the nature of her service, distinguishing between Direct Taxes (paid directly by citizens/companies like Income Tax, Corporate Tax) and Indirect Taxes (paid by citizens but collected and deposited by someone else). Her service is Customs and Central GST, which falls under indirect taxes. Previously, this included Central Excise (tax on manufacturing), Service Tax, and State-administered Sales Tax. GST (Goods and Services Tax) subsumed these, creating Central GST (with the Central Government) and State GST (with the State Tax authorities). GST is collected at each stage from manufacturing to the final consumer, with input tax credit given for previously paid taxes. Customs duty is levied on imports. Customs also regulates exports, providing benefits to exporters and controlling the movement of restricted/prohibited goods across borders. This constitutes the core work of her service.

Her training spanned approximately 18 months. It included classroom modules on Custom Law, Central Excise Law, and Service Tax Law. A key and highly valued part of the training was the field attachments. These involved visiting various departmental offices for about a week or two, observing and learning actual work processes from officers – from basic file noting and drafting show cause notices to passing orders. Beyond departmental attachments, they also had attachments with other departments like Income Tax, Army, BSF, Coast Guard, Navy, and the National Forest Academy in Dehradun. These external attachments were crucial for understanding coordination, such as the implementation of the Wildlife Protection Act by Customs officers at borders to prevent smuggling of wildlife products. The Army attachment, in particular, was an eye-opener, highlighting the reality of inter-agency coordination on the ground compared to theoretical understanding. These attachments across various states provided an opportunity to travel across almost all of India, from North East to South, Delhi to Rajasthan/Gujarat. This travel helped overcome the fear of working anywhere in India, preparing her mentally for an All India transferable service.



Rajlakshmi receiving an award for best performance in competition during her Foundation Course, at Hyderabad.

Her first posting as Assistant Commissioner was in Satara in 2012. This is her home district, though she had preferred Pune for the first posting. This role was vastly different from her previous STI position; she was now heading the entire district's division. She was the first lady Assistant Commissioner in the division since its inception, which presented both challenges and interesting experiences. She mentions that people were unaccustomed to taking instructions from or reporting to a female boss. However, she learned significantly from her senior staff, whose long experience provided valuable practical knowledge that strengthened the foundation of her future career.

Institutional Networking in Satara

In Satara, she adopted a proactive approach. She visited and met with the Collector, CEO, and SP, which was somewhat unusual for Central Government officers who often maintain distance from State Government agencies. She explained her department's role in the district. When she later needed data from the Collector's office for some service tax cases she booked, her prior networking helped. The Collector's office provided the data promptly and cooperatively, enabling her to detect good service tax evasion cases. Her staff realised the importance of this proactivity and networking. She feels she established a new practice there, highlighting the necessity of institutional networking beyond personal connections, which expanded the scope of their work. Similar proactive outreach to the Income Tax department also helped secure necessary data, leading to good tax evasion cases and recoveries within her short tenure in Satara.

Kolhapur

After one year in Satara, she was unexpectedly transferred to Kolhapur. Generally, the tenure in the Satara division is at least two years, sometimes longer. The transfer was a surprise. In Kolhapur, which is the headquarters for the region including Satara, she was assigned important charges: Anti-Evasion and Audit. Handling both gave her exposure to contrasting work styles – Audit being a calm process of examining documents, while Anti-Evasion involves aggressive searches and raids to recover documents and evidence. Managing both charges over the year helped her develop a balanced approach to taking action and ensuring compliance. She was mentally settling in Kolhapur, expecting to stay for a couple of years, when she was again unexpectedly asked if she would come to Pune. She readily agreed, stating she was willing to serve wherever the department needed her.

Back to Pune

Rajlakshmi was posted in Pune from 2014. Initially, she handled Audit work. Later, she worked in the Chief Commissioner's Office, which heads the entire zone. This provided a broader perspective of the zone's work and coordination with other departments. The period was particularly significant as it was in 2017, when GST rolled out. This was a crucial phase, with widespread confusion among the public regarding the new tax system. The CC Office was responsible for creating awareness.

Surprisingly, Rajlakshmi was one of the very few Marathi-speaking officers in the zone at that time, which was invaluable for communicating with trade associations, colleges, schools, and the public in the regional language. Participating in these awareness programs across various levels significantly improved her understanding of the GST law and procedures, as answering people's questions required complete clarity. She interacted with many people and gave live interviews on Akashwani and Sahyadri Doordarshan, addressing queries from across Maharashtra. Her journalism background proved helpful in handling interactions and providing responses. This was a challenging yet interesting period.



Rajlakshmi during her Pune stint, in an interview on DD Sahyadri.

The transition to GST was challenging for her. However, officers with a Service Tax background found it slightly easier as the GST law has a similar base. A significant challenge was the involvement of the State Government, whose working style differed greatly from the Centre's. The responsibility of coordinating with states to establish procedures fell to the Central Board of Indirect Taxation and Customs (CBIC). She was appointed the Nodal Officer for Pune, coordinating with State GST officials (up to Additional Commissioner level) and other State Government offices like the Collectorate and Divisional Commissioner. A feedback mechanism was set up where Ministry officials (Additional/Joint Secretaries) were connected to districts and communicated with nodal officers to understand ground issues and public concerns about GST. She would collect this feedback and send it up. This process taught her immensely about policy making, particularly the critical role of feedback for necessary changes. Contributing to this process provided great satisfaction.

Discussing the future of GST, she views it as the primary source of government revenue going forward, with dependency on direct taxes likely decreasing with development. Customs is more focused on national security than revenue. The ongoing process of GST rationalisation, determining rates for various goods, is complex and time-consuming in a diverse country like India. Many factors influence the decisions, including trade association perspectives, consumer interests, government revenue needs, and aspects like imported raw materials or export potential. Decisions are collective, considering various viewpoints. She believes a good model is being established, although initial issues with the electronic system caused difficulties for both trade and officers. System issues are now largely resolved and

more robust. Sometimes, clarifications about existing taxes are perceived as new taxes by media/social media (like the popcorn example), which she considers normal.

Tougher Challenge – GST Intelligence

In 2018, she was posted to the Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) in Pune. Her responsibility involved investigating GST fraud cases. This role exposed her to new fraudulent methods, particularly the use of fake invoices and Fake Input Tax Credit (ITC), which were relatively new during the initial GST period. She is proud to have been among the first officers to book such cases.

It was during her tenure here that her team made the first arrest under the GST Act in Pune. The process of arresting someone under the new GST Act and explaining its legal basis to the court was a significant challenge initially. This first arrest, however, paved the way for subsequent arrests to be easier. The individual arrested spent over 60-65 days in jail.

She describes the nature of these fraud cases. They often involve no actual movement of goods, only the issuance of paper invoices, with transactions worth crores happening from small rooms or even non-existing premises. Reasons include generating cash, siphoning money, or inflating turnover to secure bank loans. Tax evasion is a consequence. In the specific case leading to the first arrest, a lead from a small firm in Pune exposed a larger racket extending to Mumbai, with the mastermind based there. The investigation involved data analysis, connecting links, searches at seven locations, seizing computer data and documents related to fake entities/shell companies. A chartered accountant assisting with the fraudulent documentation was also identified and faced action. The mastermind was arrested in Mumbai, and action was taken against other linked individuals. The total fraud uncovered was over 400 Crores, making it one of the largest initial cases. Revealing this new modus operandi brought great satisfaction. One case even went up to the Supreme Court, where she personally attended the hearing in Delhi. The recent verdict in favour of the department brought her satisfaction, validating their hard work in preparing the documentation to defend the case before the court. Officers remain attached to such cases they worked hard on, even years later.

Reflecting on handling cases without precedent, especially in investigation, she learned the critical importance of thorough homework and data analysis before taking action like

searches or seizures. Connecting the dots and understanding the bigger picture beforehand is essential, as a weak foundation can lead to significant hurdles later. The second key lesson learned was the absolute necessity of strictly adhering to legal procedures. Small procedural details, she emphasizes, are crucial when a case reaches court. Examples include ensuring a lady officer is present for a residential search, displaying identity and authorization before starting a search, properly listing seized items, following legal time lines and drawing a detailed panchnama noting who entered and exited. Failure to follow these minor steps can lead to the case being dismissed on technical grounds before even reaching its merits, undermining all investigation efforts. Even when taking action under GST or Customs Acts, they follow the procedures laid down in the Criminal Procedure Code (CRPC), now the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). Knowing relevant case laws is also important. As Deputy Director in DGGI, she personally ensured officers strictly followed these processes.



Rajlakshmi (2nd from right) with Pune Chief Commissioner, Pune (3rd from right) and other DRI officials.

She spent two and a half years at DGGI, from 2018 until November 2020. Following her promotion to Joint Commissioner, she was transferred to the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in Mumbai.

She clarifies the scope of DGGI and DRI. DGGI focuses on GST, Service Tax, and Central Excise. DRI's mandate is broader, covering Customs law, allied acts like Wildlife Protection, Arms Act, and NDPS (Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances) Act, commercial fraud (import/export tax evasion), and smuggling. Her tenure at DRI provided exposure to anti-smuggling cases, NDPS cases, and complex commercial fraud cases. The Mumbai unit

of DRI is India's oldest and largest zonal unit due to Mumbai's economic significance and the major Nhava Sheva port in vicinity, resulting in a huge variety and volume of cases.

At Directorate of Revenue Intelligence, Mumbai

In DRI, she held a supervisory role as Joint Director, not a field officer. This brought different challenges, such as ensuring field officers properly followed procedures and intervening quickly when they faced difficulties. The anti-smuggling work necessitates a 24/7 operational readiness. Smugglers don't operate on a schedule convenient for officers; actions are often required at midnight or whenever intelligence leads dictate. This made the work exciting but also demanding, requiring continuous vigilance. She gives credit for her best performance in this challenging assignment to the unwavering support of her family, especially her 5-6 years old son and doctor husband and the trust shown by her seniors in her abilities and efficiency. She initially handled commercial cases and spent the last year and a half on anti-smuggling and narcotics cases. Dealing with hard-core criminals in narcotics cases was different from commercial fraud. Officers often face life-threatening situations in the field, requiring extra caution. Understanding the dynamics of gold smuggling cartels was a great experience. Developing intelligence and planning actions against them was exciting.

She shares some case examples from DRI. In a commercial case involving a major MNC, they handled it professionally and sophisticatedly, calling senior officials for statements. She emphasizes that strong evidence and homework are crucial in commercial cases, as weak cases often end up in lengthy litigation. In this case, their solid data analysis made it difficult for the company to deny tax evasion. They also had to prove intent. The case resulted in the company paying a huge amount for the tax, a significant amount she saw for the first time in a single payment. This achievement was appreciated even by the Finance Minister. Handling large companies is challenging due to potential complaints, which can put officers on the defensive.

From anti-smuggling cases, she recounts a gold smuggling case involving Kenyan and Sudanese ladies. They arrested around 19 ladies at once who were bringing gold powder mixed in their bags (approx. 20 Kg). The ladies were difficult, refusing to sign any documents, even their statements or the panchnama. Her officer called her at 3:30 am asking what to do. She immediately instructed them to draw a panchnama recording that the ladies were refusing to sign. This created a precedent. At the court hearing, the ladies again refused

to sign even the jail passes. The public prosecutor explained, the court was initially skeptical but accepted the panchnama of refusal. She saw this as finding a legal solution instead of resorting to coercion.

In NDPS cases, they busted factories in places like Aurangabad, Hyderabad, and Vapi. It was disheartening to see talented youth misusing their chemistry knowledge to produce synthetic drugs for minimal gain. They conducted awareness campaigns in Mumbai colleges to educate students about the harmful effects of drugs. She feels the spread is deep-rooted. The people who benefit financially are different; the chemists only get a small amount for their skills. DRI's focus is on breaking the supply chain, not targeting consumers. They handled large cases, including 200 Kg of Heroin and 52 Kg of Cocaine, disrupting the supply chain to some extent. Some cases involved foreign nationals at airports, even those who had ingested cocaine capsules. They would be taken to the hospital to retrieve the capsules. This work exposed her to the different facets of human nature – how people are driven by money to risk their lives.



Rajlakshmi and other officials with college students during a Narcotics Drugs awareness campaign at Mumbai.

She shares a poignant experience from an NDPS case involving a Nigerian man arrested for cocaine smuggling (ingesting capsules). He only spoke French, so a translator was needed. After his capsules were retrieved and he was brought to the office, before his arrest he was asked to call his relative as per the procedure. During the WhatsApp call, his wife said something that caused him to collapse and cry uncontrollably. The officer who had arrested him sat beside him and comforted him. Through the translator, he explained that his son was seriously ill, and he had undertaken the smuggling to earn money (2-2.5 lakhs) for his son's treatment. This moment highlighted the desperate circumstances that can push people into

such crimes and the complex societal repercussions. She found the arresting officer's display of humanity deeply impactful.

In August last year, she was transferred from DRI. Her current posting is in the National Customs Targeting Centre (NCTC), Directorate General of Analytics and Risk Management. Her role involves risk analysis for Customs import and export consignments. The focus is on identifying risky consignments from the perspective of national security, revenue, and violation of allied laws. The work is data-driven, not field-based. Her prior experience is helpful, but this role involves data analytics, a new and important field. She is learning data analysis techniques, tools, interpreting data, and connecting different data sources. This is a completely new and interesting area, especially given her humanities background.

Regarding the use of technology, specifically AI, in her current role, she notes that their risk management system is being updated using AI and Machine Learning. AI/ML is becoming essential for handling big data.

Current Role

Currently, has been appointed as the Consul (Trade) at the Consulate General of India in New York. This role will position Rajlakshmi at the heart of India's engagement with the United States, focusing on promoting bilateral trade, investment, and economic cooperation. She is among the 7 IRS officers deputed across key diplomatic missions abroad.

Looking Ahead

With 15 years of service completed and potentially 15-20 more ahead, she reflects on the evolution of civil services. She has witnessed a transformation towards becoming a true 'Civil Service', moving away from the 'British legacy' flavour. Increased public awareness, facilitated by tools like CPGRAM and RTI, has enhanced accountability. She views this positively as it encourages better service delivery. She believes the future trend is towards greater service orientation. It is crucial for incoming civil servants to be clear that their primary purpose is to serve the people.

Technology's role is undeniable and goes beyond basic computer use. Apps, portals, and resulting transparency and accountability are becoming integral. Civil servants must be technologically upgraded and equipped. Senior officers embracing technology can significantly improve government service delivery, transparency, and accountability. She points out the challenges in data sharing even *within* the government, highlighting the need to understand and implement solutions while ensuring data security. She is optimistic that the new generation of civil servants, often arriving with better technological knowledge, can make the government system more vibrant.

JPCEC in Future

Offering advice to competitive exam centres like Jnana Prabodhini, drawing from her 20 years of association with it, she suggests, they continue their approach of providing direction and inspiration rather than spoon-feeding. She emphasizes the need to further focus on Skill Set Development essential for being a good civil servant. This includes aspects like Human Resource Management – learning how to deal with people, which is a major challenge in service but not typically covered in academy training focused on rules and regulations. This skill is crucial for handling people and can also aid in understanding the Ethics syllabus. Another key focus area should be Technology Acceptance and the importance of staying updated. There is a misconception that technology is less critical in government than in the private sector, but being technologically un-upgraded in government can leave officers feeling handicapped or vulnerable. Instilling the importance of continuous technological learning is vital. Finally, and most importantly, she stresses the value of Integrity, something she feels Jnana Prabodhini already emphasises on. Making integrity an inherent part of one's personality, not just as a service requirement, but is crucial for success in any field of life and upliftment of the society. JPCEC can definitely contribute in a very effective manner in the process of Policy making with the strong network and brain storming on various issues by various experienced and versatile network members.

Photo Gallery



Rajlakshmi with parents and sibling



Rajlakshmi with spouse Dr. Amit & son Rananjay



Rajlakshmi with Dr. Amit, Rananjay and Dr. Vivek & Dr. Savita Kulkarni



Rajlakshmi with other JPCEC alumni, their spouses and Dr. Vivek, Dr. Savita Kulkarni during officers meet at her residence in Kolhapur.