



National Water Academy Pune (India)



Participant's Guide

October 2007

Dear Participants,

Many of you will be coming to NWA for the first time. Here is some useful information that is intended to make you familiar with the conventions and procedures in vogue at NWA. We suggest that you read the following pages carefully before you arrive at National Water Academy, Pune. We do hope that your stay with us will be pleasant and rewarding.



Location

National Water Academy is located on the western side of the Pune city on Pune-Sinhghad Road near Khadakwasla village. It is 12 Kms. from Swargate, 18 Kms. from Pune Station and 29 Kms. from Pune Airport. The location map is given at end of this document.



Arrival

Reaching NWA campus is perhaps the only difficult part of attending a program at NWA. Although we are trying to make available transport on arrival, presently we are unable to do so, particularly when participants arrive individually. Transport will be provided if a group is arriving together, and gives prior intimation of their arrival to the course coordinator. Transport to railway station/ bus station is usually provided on the day of departure.

There are no taxis in Pune, only three-wheelers. Khadakwasla being outside Pune limits, three-wheelers may sometimes be reluctant to come or charge something extra. Pre-paid service

is available at Pune railway station and airport and is the best option. A reasonably good bus service is available from the Railway station (Route No. 49); from Shaniwarwada in city center (Route No. 50, 51 and 52). These last three routes also come via the Swargate inter-state bus terminus. The bus service runs upto 2230 Hrs. Fortunately, the NWA campus is located right on main road, with a bus stop close to the hostel entry gate, and therefore there is no distance to be walked from the bus stop. Check-in desk at the hostels operates round the clock.

Reaching NWA when arriving in Pune at late night can be a little difficult. Although Pune is generally considered a safe city, NWA is located somewhat outside the city limits and travel at midnight is not exactly the best thing to do.

As a policy, NWA requires the participants to attend the program completely, from first session to the last session. Attendance certificates are given only to the participants who attend thus. For this, it is advisable to arrive a day before and plan the departure after 1700 hours of the concluding day. Accommodations allotted to Participants should normally be vacated within 24 hours after the conclusion of the course to facilitate preparation for receiving the next group of participants.



Accommodation

NWA has a hostel capacity of 40 rooms, soon to be expanded to 90 rooms. Even with present 40 rooms, participants are

accommodated one-in-a-room (no sharing) as far as possible. After expansion, accommodation will always be one-in-a-room. All rooms are double bedded and can be used as family accommodation when allotted one-in-a-room. Participants are welcome to attend the program with spouse. **But do check beforehand** the availability of independent accommodation, if you intend to attend with spouse. The NWA mess located in the hostel provides full boarding at affordable, controlled rates."



Climate and Clothing

Pune enjoys a temperate climate, pleasant almost all year round. Khadakwasla is particularly cooler than rest of the city. The weather is warm in March, April and May. The winter is mild between Nov-June, though what is mild and what is severe is a matter of individual perspective. The rainy season is normally from June to September. Dress is generally informal.



Security of Valuables

It is best not to bring valuables or expensive gadgets and **NWA can not accept any responsibility for any loss.**



Medical Facilities

Falling sick away from home can be an upsetting experience and we hope that you will come to NWA in good health. No medical facilities are available in NWA or nearby. If consultation with a doctor is essential, then arrangements will be made to take the participant to one of the hospitals or consultant in Pune. There are a few Chemists shops near CW&PRS campus, but they may stock only a limited range of medicines. If you foresee that you will need some medicines while at NWA, do bring a sufficient supply with you.



Hours of Work

The Academy starts at 0900 hrs. Normally, every day there are 4 lecture sessions each of 75 minutes duration. On the concluding day, we try to finish a little earlier to enable participants to catch a evening train/flight.



Library Facilities

We have excellent library facilities for the use of participants. A computer center with ISDN Internet facility is also available. Daily newspapers are made available in Guest House/mess/Club Room/Library.



Laundry

Laundry facility is available in the hostel. Ask the attendant in the hostel for laundry work. Please note that all housekeeping work in NWA is outsourced. All workers in the hostels are contractor's employees and NOT NWA employees. The payments for washing, pressing etc. are to be made directly to the attendant by the

participants. Arrangements are being made for self-operated launderette machines.



Telephone and Trunk Calls

With the cell phones becoming common, most of you may not need a STD public phone any more. However, a STD pay phone is provided in the hostel. Local calls can be made from the intercom available in hostel for which the payments is to be made directly to the attendant. Internet connection is available in the academic building. And participants can check their e-mails in the computer room during the break periods.



Bank

A branch of Canara bank with ATM facility is located in the CW&PRS office complex near the main gate. This is the nearest bank at about 1 km distance from hostel. Participants can use this bank for transactions.



Minor Repairs

Requisitions for any minor repairs of furniture and fittings (Electrical / Plumbing) in the hostel rooms may please be given to the hostel attendant.



Places of Interest in Pune

Pune is situated at an altitude of 570 m on the Sahyadri hills in western

Maharashtra, Popularly known as the 'Queen of Deccan', it is spread over an area of 138,76 sq.km. and has a population of 30 lakh. Its pleasant climate and proximity to the glitzy state capital Mumbai has made Pune the second most important city in Maharashtra. Earlier considered a "city of pensioners" for its moderate climate and quiet life, Pune is now a growing metro with all the advantages, and disadvantages, that go with a metro.

For many years Pune was the pulse of the Maratha land and has give India some of its most memorable personalities. Shivaji, the Maratha King who defied the Mughal Emperor Aurangazeb was brought up in Pune. The city also served as the headquarters of the mighty Maratha empire under the Peshwas until its annexation in 1818 by the British East India Company, after which it continued as the regional capital of Bombay Presidency during the monsoon. Pune is famous for many greats who took birth or worked here. Amongst them, the great freedom fighter Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak; Gopal Krishna Gokhale one of the builders of modern India; Maharshi Dhondo Keshav Karve who throughout his life fought for the upliftment of women, started a college for them and established the first Indian University for women; Mahatma Jyotiba Phule who for the upliftment of the depressed classes. Shrimati Anandibai Joshi the first lady to complete medical education (in the USA). Pune is also known for its support to arts and culture, particularly classical music.

The city of Pune is distinctly divided into the older half, where the localities have been named after the days of the week,

and the more modern, bustling, spacious Cantonment.

Simhagad



Simhagad, a pre 1450 AD mountain fort is about 14 Km from NWA. The state highway on which NWA is located, is named Simhagad road after this fort, which was one of the most important forts in Maratha empire. Shaniwar Wada Here lie the ruins of the Peshwa palace built by Bajirao- I in the 18th Century. For a long time the palace was the seat of political power in Maharashtra and still continues to be the symbol of Pune's culture. Not much remains of the palace today apart from the imposing outer wall and the ruins of the main building. Particularly memorable is the balcony on the Nagarkhana which gives a remarkable view of the inner enclosure.

Sarasbagh



There is a famous Ganesh Temple built on a small hillock which used to be surrounded by a lake. Several years ago, the lake was drained out in order to make way for a park. Now there are beautiful green lawns and fountains, it is a nice place to spend evenings. Paravati Hill This is one of most famous landmarks of Pune. Though the hill is in the southern half of the city, it is visible from almost every part of Pune. There are 108 steps that lead to the temple dedicated to Parvati and Devadeshwar. There are also temples dedicated to Vishnu, Ganesh and Kartikeya. Climbing to the top of the hill can be rewarding as one can enjoy an excellent panoramic view of Pune.

RajaKelkar Museum



The Museum houses a one-man collection of rare historical exhibits from the Mughal and Maratha Periods. Among the collection are some beautiful paintings, musical instruments, lamps, nutcrackers, foot scrapers and several other interesting curios. However, the show stealer is the Mastani Mahal, which was brought from its original setting and re-erected here.

Shinde Chhatri



This memorial dedicated to the Great Maratha nobleman Mahadaji Shinde is situated 2 km from the race course in a place called Wanavadi. The building is a great architectural achievement, which combines imposing austerity with beauty.

Vishrambagwada



This three-storey mansion is famous for its entrance, which is surrounded by a balcony. The carved woodwork on the balcony is a fine example of Peshwa art.

Pashan lake



The lake is 2 km away from Pune and is particularly worth a visit during the winter months when a number of migratory birds gather there. A must for bird watchers.

Bund Gardens



The picturesque gardens are situated on the bank of Mula Mutha rivers about 2 km from the Pune Railway Station. Facilities are provided for boat rides in the backwaters of the river.

The Agha Khan Palace



Also known as Kasturba Samadhi, This building is a famous landmark in Pune. It is the place where Mahatma Gandhi, Kasturba Gandhi and Mahadeobhai Desai were imprisoned during the Quit India Movement in 1942. Marble memorials were later erected in the memory of Kasturba and Mahadeobhai both of whom breathed their last here.

Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute



The institute is situated at the foot of Law College hill and is immediately recognizable for its striking oriental architecture. There is a museum here, which exhibits nearly 20,000 manuscripts from the collection of Bolhar, Kielhorn and Bhandarkar.

Chaturshringi Temple



The temple is dedicated to goddess Durga. The presiding deity is goddess Ambreswari. An annual fair is held during the nine days of Navaratri in the month of Ashwin (Sept - Oct)

Film and Television Institute of India



The Institute, which is on Prabhat Road, conducts courses in all disciplines of the film industry including acting, directing, editing, music, screenplay and photography.

National Defence Academy



Situated in picturesque surrounding at Khadakwasla, 17 km from Pune, NDA is the training ground for the young officer cadets who are commissioned into the Army, Navy and Air force.

Pataleshwar Caves



The cave temple, which is dedicated to Lord Pateleshwar, the God of the nether world, is on the Jungli Maharaj Road in the Shivajinagar area of the city. The shrine dedicated to Shiva, the Nandi and the huge pillars are believed to have been carved out from a single rock.

The Pune University



The magnificent University buildings built in Italian Gothic style are located in Ganeshkhind. The lawns are beautifully maintained and an added attraction for the students is the large swimming pool. The building was formerly the official residence of the Governor of Mumbai during the monsoon, when the regional headquarters of the Mumbai Presidency temporarily moved from Mumbai to Pune.

