

VEERAPANDIAN- IAS-

Thiru. Prabhakaran.. The 'Game changer' in the field of civil services exam-preparation

Prabhakaran sir, popularly known as PD (then Programme Director at TN Govt's All India Civil Services Coaching Centre), is a 'magic word' in the circle of civil service aspirants. His professional credentials and credibility made him 'God Father' of many serving Indian civil servants across the globe during their preparation times. His dedication and sincerity made Special Training Institute in Annanagar, a 'Star Training Institute' for civil service aspirants who were moving around as it's gravitationally bound non-stellar-objects.

He held the students spellbound with his magic words and other fascinations in his classes. Students will even skip breakfast in the morning to get first seat in classroom when he takes polity or general studies classes. A student who comes late had to go to another classroom where he cannot see him personally but to listen to his classes through speakers. One will not have the opportunity even to sit in the second classroom as two rooms will be fully packed. It would always be house full classes.

These occasions were not just proof to his teaching skills alone. It is more than that. It shows us that the students depose great faith in his master and his words infuse great confidence and lot of motivation in them. Being charismatic and dynamic will dramatically improve the teacher's acceptability and likeability amongst his students. His style of teaching was very appealing and interesting. They then won't have to make an effort to listen but will listen despite themselves, and will keep up with everything that's being taught to them.

You would feel that you became a civil servant when you come out of his two hour classes. His class notes will not run more than few pages. No need to look at your watch as to know whether two hours completed or not. That is the time managing skill he had shown in his classes which is the most demanding quality for any good civil servant.

His innovative methods and best practices were changed the age old conservative methods of preparing for toughest competitive examinations in Tamilnadu. Mentor system, Providing one set of NCERT and standard text books to one room and right mix of faculties from experienced

college professors and young talented aspirants as well are new and game changer to the age old strategies of examination preparation. The great strategy of knowledge sharing by senior aspirants benefitted new entrants a lot.

Apart from all the above, it would be incomplete if I missed to mention his large hearted nature. He had taken a special and individual care of the poor students like me. He has been continuing the same and producing bright and young minds to the nation. He is still an impressive and influential trainer for the aspirants. His teachings will go a long way even beyond exam preparations. May I wish him good health to continue the brilliant job!