### An Appeal and Update on EA and SEA Merger

Recent happenings have been disturbing and enough to teach a lesson, if we understand and ready to learn. The issue of EA and SEA Merger started with Deptt. Of Expenditure OM dated 13.11.2009. As per this O.M the staff working in the scale of Rs. 6500-10500 and Rs. 7450-11500 had to be merged and to be given Grade Pay 4600. (Pl. see Para 1).

#### Click here for DOPT OM Dated 13.11.2009

On the persuasion of ARTEE this clause was executed and all incumbent EAs working in the scale Rs. 6500-10500 were granted GP 4600 at par with the SEAs working in the scale of Rs. 7450-11500. DG (AIR) and DG (DD) issued orders subsequently for this purpose.

#### Click here for DG (AIR) Order dated 16.11.2009

#### Click here for DG (DD) Order dated 07.06.2010

In 2010 when SEA to AE Exam was declared, Sh. Praveen Kumar and eight other EAs approached the Principle Bench CAT Delhi, through OA 2940/2010, with the prayer to allow them to appear in the SEA to AE Exam as their G.P is also 4600. CAT gave them interim Relief. And asked the Department to amend RRs accordingly.

Unfortunately, in 2012, the negative elements in the Department tried to misinterpret this, in such a way to downgrade all EAs and SEAs in the Grade Pay 4200-/ and placing the extra Amount in Personal Pay. When we came to know ,we expressed our strong Resentment. But due to the De-Recognition, no official was ready to talk to us. Compelled by this President gave a call of sending E-Mails to Hon'ble Minister of I&B and Our CEO, Prasar Bharati.

This resulted in jamming of Email boxes, and the President was called by the Prasar Bharati and a Meeting was held in the Chamber of Member(P) (Now Principle Advisor) in the presence of Sh. R.Venketeshwarulu, Sr.G.M.(P) at that time. The president explained the losses to employees if MIB/PB proposal is implemented. Member (P) and Sr.G.M.(P) has agreed to review it and to send a fresh proposal to M.I.B.

#### Click here for Member (P) Letter to Ministry of I&B.

In his article "Recent Initiatives" our respected CEO also assured to grant protection to Incumbent EA and SEA. (Clause 3 IV).

#### Click here for Letter of Respected C.E.O., PB in April 2013.

Ministry of I&B wrote to DG (AIR) to calculate Financial Implications of Granting Protection to Incumbent EAs and SEAs in Grade Pay Rs. 4600.

Click here for letter from Hon'ble Ministry of I & B.

ARTEE Central Office knew that the issue was pending. We were working on the strategy that, if One Cadre One Pay issue is implemented, then there will be no EA in G.P. 4200, so the Merger of EAs and SEAs in GP 4200 will become irrelevant. But as we have highlighted the risk of approaching the court of law individually, without thinking the fallouts the menace has again affected us.

Some negative elements in Ministry and DG (AIR) misutilzed the opportunity and misinterpreted it. DG (AIR) also, without bothering the seriousness of the issue tried to generalize the speaking order which had to be issued to two Individuals in a case filed by them. But the unfortunate thing is that all Positive facts about the issue were concealed in that order.

Things were not in the right direction, and when the President came to know this, he immediately took up the issue and submitted a letter to Dr. Mahesh Joshi, ADG(P) and Principle Advisor to Hon'ble Ministry I&B on 01/07/2014.

#### Click here copy of the letter

On 08/07/2014 DG(AIR) issued a letter to Merge all EAs and SEAs in G.P. 4200. At 15:30 hrs. President, VP(AIR), G.S immediately met Sh. D.K.Verma, Dir (A), DG AIR and Sh. R.K Budhiraja, E.in.C.(AIR). They checked the files and assured to withdraw the Order with immediate effect.

The Unity and Strength of any Organization are tested in such situations. When Central Office was making the Maximum Efforts to nullify the damage, and even before the Order was uploaded on ARTEE website, the Order was circulated from the email ID of a senior leader, who has already been issued a warning by the CWC. The president had cautioned him on circulating such emails few months back also. Some negative elements, who always remain in search of such opportunities, immediately started circulating the Order solitarily for Political Purposes. Afterwards a negative campaign had started on socializing websites without bothering the damage it is causing to the Unity of the Organization and Morale of the Members.

On the same night, President had discussion with E.in.C. (AIR), who once again assured the withdrawal order in next day, and in the next day also issue was followed up and the Withdrawal Order issued at 12:00 hrs and it uploaded on our website subsequently.

Meanwhile, when matured behavior was expected from some ex leaders stunning messages were circulated, particularly in a southern state by a small section of members.

Just See a Message, which was circulated by Sh. J.Anilkumar, Ex State Secy Kerala.

# ARTEE Central Committee immediately step down hand over to S.Anil & team for the salvation of employees.

We believe that in such a crucial time, we all should show our solidarity and forget all differences. We condemn such messages which are derogatory to the Unity and to the Morale of our Members. It is pertinent to mention that Sh. Anilkumar S. resigned on his own, expressing inability to function with the present elected central body. He refused to withdraw his Resignation despite the repeated Appeals and efforts by Individuals and Central Council. Please note that EA and SEA Merger issue is not new one, but looming is shadows on us since 2010. Who was the President at that time? It seems that due to COMMON CAUSE this issue was not paid due Attention it deserved, without envisaging how damaging it could be.

We also condemn the efforts of some EAs (5K) who shown happiness on this Merger order. They don't know that if it becomes reality, there is no chance left for the implimentation of One Cadre One Pay. Meanwhile, there are confirmed information that Ministry of I&B is in a mood to withdraw the Executive order dated 25.02.1999. We have to counter this also with maximum urgency. This will finish all of our genuine demands. We are also talking to other Associations who shall be affected.

The mistakes committed in 1998, while accepting the 90% scale in place of 100% and accepting the word UPGRADED SCALES in 25.2.1999 order, while it was RESTORATION is proving costly now. Please note who was the Gen. Secy. in 1999 ?

#### The current situation:

[1]. Withdrawal of the impugned order on the same day itself. The whole issue was handled by your beloved ARTEE only.

[2]. Surprisingly the Order was issued without any vetting from Prasar Bharati. Now it has been decided by the management, that no order shall be issued without the vetting from Prasar Bharati.

[3]. DG (AIR) / PB has agreed to review the issue and a revised proposal with G.P. Protection will be prepared and sent to Ministry through Prasar Bharati.

Central Office appeals all our members to be united on such crucial times of issues pertaining to the benefit of all. There are many chances to do Politics and surely critical situations like this are not for the Politics. We are thankful to all the Members who rose to the occasion and expressed solidarity.

We are also surprised that no interest was shown in circulating the Withdrawal order in comparison of circulating the Merger order. Clearly the purpose was to create a panic and to play Politics on the issue. The issue is very sensitive and we cannot be complacent. So be alert and get ready for a flash call if anything goes wrong. Once again we appeal to the individuals, to restrain from filing individual cases.

The call of the time is TO Be United. We cannot allow this to happen at any cost. Get ready for the call from Central Office.

## **Central Office**