

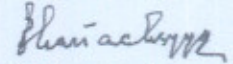
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting

No 1604/16/2011-BA(E)

Dated the 7th July, 2011

Subject:-Minutes of the meeting held on 25.5.2011 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (I&B) on the issues raised in the representation of Sanyukta Sangharsh Samiti.

Minutes of the meeting held on 25.5.2011 under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary (I&B) on the issues raised in the representation of Sanyukta Sangharsh Samiti are circulated herewith.



(S.P.Bhattacharya)
Under Secretary BA(E)
Tel:23384754

1. PPS to Additional Secretary.
2. PPS to JS(B)
3. PA to Director BA(E)
- ✓ 4. Shri Umesh Chandra, President, ARTEE
5. Shri Sanjay Kumar, President, PSA
6. Shri Kulbhushan Bhatia, General Secretary, ADTEA.
7. Shri Anil Kumar S.ARTEE

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF ADDITIONAL
SECRETARY, I&B ON THE ISSUES RAISED IN THE REPRESENTATION OF
SANYUKTA SANGHARSH SAMITI**

A representation has been received from Sanyukta Sangharsh Samiti(SSS) which comprises of three associations namely ARTEE, PSA and ADTEA. They have expressed their resentment over delay in settling staff welfare issues pertaining to Subordinate Engineering and Programme Cadres. They have also informed regarding their decision to launch an agitation. An email has also been received from Shri Sunil Shekhar informing that third step of agitation will be further intensified, if their grievances are not met.

2. A meeting was convened in the Chamber of Additional Secretary with the representatives of SSS on 25.5.2011. JS (B) and DS, BA(P) were present. The Meeting was attended by the following representatives of SSS :-

- a) Shri Anil Kumar S., ARTEE
- b) Shri Kulbhushan Bhatia, ADTEA
- c) Shri Sanjay Kumar, PSA
- d) Shri Umesh Chandra, President, ARTEE

3. The following issues were discussed in the meeting :-

(i) **One Cadre One Pay**

The representatives of SSS informed that the Supreme Court in one of its recent judgements has directed for granting the upgraded pay scales to the petitioners who joined after cut off date of 25th February, 1999 on the principle of "One Cadre One Pay". They demanded that this judgement should be implemented uniformly to all the employees of the 11 categories who joined after the cut off date of 25.02.1999, as the principle on which the Supreme Court has based its judgement uniformly applied to all.

JS (B) informed that the case has been examined in the Ministry and a decision has already been taken to file a review SLP before Supreme Court based on the legal advice. It was also mentioned that Committee of Joint Secretaries has also examined issues relating to upgraded pay scales and its recommendations are under consideration of GOM.

Additional Secretary assured that views of the association will be considered before a final view is taken in the matter.

ii) **Grant of ACP Benefit to Subordinate Engg. and Prog. Cadres**

The representatives of SSS informed that the benefit of ACP should be extended to all the Subordinate Engg. and Prog. Cadres on the basis of two judgments that have been delivered recently. First one pertains to the judgments of Supreme Court to extend ACP benefit in the scale of 8000-13500 and 10000-15600 to the applicants who did not opt for the upgraded pay scales granted by the Ministry in terms of the decision conveyed on 25.02.1999. The second judgement pertains to the Supreme Court Order granting one cadre one pay. The representatives of SSS informed that they have already given the representation to the Ministry explaining how ACP can be extended to all categories of employees.

JS(B) informed that the order passed by CAT Patna as upheld by the Patna High Court and subsequently ratified by the Hon'ble Supreme Court is applicable only in respect of a small minority of the employees who did not opt for upgraded pay scale in 1999 and therefore, it cannot be extended to the remaining employees who are beneficiaries of upgraded scales. The Ministry is already in consultation with DOP&T and Law Ministry to take a final view on implementing the Court order in respect of the applicant. The issue regarding extension of ACP benefit to the beneficiaries of upgraded pay scales is different and is subjudice.

Additional Secretary observed that issues relating to grant of ACP benefit to employees already granted upgraded pay scales have been pending since long and getting delayed because of various court cases. They need to be expeditiously resolved in consultation with concerned Ministries / Departments.

(iii) **Grant of Pay Parity to Technicians and Sr. Technicians by comparing their case with Lighting Assistants as per verdict of Hon'ble High Court Chennai**

SSS informed that based on a wrong calculation of financial implication to the tune of Rs. 42 Crore indicated by DG:AIR, Ministry has directed that an SLP may be filed. It was asserted that the assessment of DG:AIR is wrong and that financial implications will only come to a few lakhs.

Additional Secretary desired to obtain re-assessment of financial implication in implementing the order from DG:AIR so that a decision can be taken regarding implementation of the order of the High Court.

iv) **Merger of EA with SEA as per the order of DOPT**

The representatives of the Samiti informed that the matter regarding merger of the posts of EA with those of SEA as per DOP&T guidelines, has been pending for more than a year inspite of recommendations being made by the Committee headed by Chief Engineer (D) and other departments have already implemented the same.

Additional Secretary directed that examination in the Ministry be expedited and a final view taken.

v) **Recommendations of Committee of Joint Secretaries (COJS)**

The representatives of SSS informed that, as per information available with them, the Committee of Joint Secretaries has recommended for the withdrawal of upgraded pay scales granted to certain categories of employees of AIR & Doordarshan subject to stipulated conditions in 1999. The Samiti expressed their concern that the said recommendation, if implemented, would lead to widespread resentment among the subordinate cadres.

The Additional Secretary informed that the Report of Committee of Joint Secretaries has been submitted to the Group of Ministers and the Ministry will bring the view points expressed by the Samiti to the notice of Group of Ministers. The Additional Secretary requested the representatives of SSS to give a note regarding their views on the issue.

vi) **Intrusion of outsourced man power through BECIL and retired persons**

The representatives of SSS informed that there is no recruitment of fresh manpower in Prasar Bharati particularly in the programme cadre for the past many years and as a result Prasar Bharati has been resorting to outsourcing of the manpower through BECIL. Questions were raised on the procedure adopted and quality of personnel so inducted.

The Additional Secretary mentioned that engagement of contractual employees through BECIL was necessitated to overcome severe staff crunch. Once the Prasar Bharati Recruitment Rules are notified, it would enable direct recruitment of all categories of staff obviating the need to resort to contractual hiring.

vii) **Security of AIR and DD Installations**

The representatives of SSS informed that some suppliers of security personnel / equipment are having access to DG:DD through permanent pass showing them as regular employees. They demanded that the security of Akashvani and Doordarshan should be handed over to CISF.

After detailed discussions, Additional Secretary mentioned that the possibilities of deploying CISF for security subject to their willingness, can be explored. He further informed that Prasar Bharati would be asked to take strict action against persons who violate security instructions.

viii) **Cadre review of Subordinate Engineering and programme cadres**

The representatives of SSS informed that cadre review exercise of engineering employees is moving at a very slow pace. They stated that there are number of problems in the subordinate engineering cadres and cadre review is the only solution to all the problems.

Additional Secretary informed that the Ministry will take up the matter with Prasar Bharati for furnishing of the cadre review report within 15 days.