DRAFT MINUTES OF THE QUARTERLY REVIEW MEETING HELD WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ITGOA AND ITEF UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SHRI R.K. TEWARI, CHAIRMAN, CBDT IN HIS CHAMBER, NORTH BLOCK, NEW DELHI ON 14.07.2014 AT 04.30 PM.

   The Quarterly Review Meeting with the representatives of Income Tax Gazetted Officers Association (ITGOA) and Income Tax Employees Federation (ITEF) was held on 14.07.2014 at 04.30 pm under the chairmanship of Shri R.K. Tewari, Chairman, CBDT in his Chamber, North Block, New Delhi to discuss the issues raised by them. A list of the officers of CBDT and representatives of ITGOA and ITEF, who attended the meeting, is placed at Annexure “A”.

2.            The Chairman welcomed the officers of CBDT and representatives of ITGOA and ITEF and thereafter the following issues raised by them were discussed as under:-

Item No. 1.  Promotion

A.            ITO to ACIT:

Members of ITEF and ITGOA requested for immediate filling of posts created in the cadre of ACIT/DCIT on restructuring of the Department through promotions only to reduce huge stagnation in ITO cadre. They informed that there is delay in deciding and refixing the seniority in the grade of ITO due to slow implementation of decision of Apex Court in N.R. Parmar case by the Cadre Controlling Authorities. They insisted that Board shall issue instructions to CCAs for implementation of decision of Apex Court  in a uniform manner as per the “Advisory” prepared by the Board after discussion with the Associations within specific time limit.

The official informed that Cabinet has approved the filling up of posts in the cadre of ACIT/DCIT arising out of the cadre restructuring of the Department over a period of five years

The staff side requested that in the vacancy years 2013-2014 & 2014-2015 (regular as well as vacancies arising out of cadre review) may be affected immediately. The official side informed them that for proposal for promotion of ITOs to the grade of ACsIT for the vacancy year 2012-13(Review-DPC) and 2013-14(Regular-DPC) had been submitted to UPSC, who had been requested to process the proposals and intimate the convenient date(s) for holding of DPC Meetings at the earliest possible.

The staff side requested for promotions to the Group B & C Posts for RY 2014-15 on Model RRs as directed by the Union Cabinet. The official side informed them that the draft Recruitment Rules for Group ‘B’ and ‘C’ cadres of the Department had been submitted for the approval of Hon’ble Finance Minister before these are sent to DoPT and the same is being pursued for early approval.  They were also made clear that promotion to the Group ‘B’ and ‘C’ posts for recruitment year 2014-15 can’t be made on the model RRs.

1. B.            DCIT to JCIT:

The staff side requested that promotion to JCIT for 2005 batch of IRS Officers should be effected immediately. The official side informed them that the file dealing with the subject sent to DoPT for seeking one year’ relaxation for the purpose of promotion of IRS Officers of 2005 batch to the grade of JCIT, received back.  After updating the APARs the proposal will be sent to UPSC.

1. Grant of NFSG:

The staff side requested that left out officers of 2001 batch should be granted NFSG immediately.DIT (HRD) informed that Vigilance Status in respect of left-over officers of 2001 Batch has been received. But APAR grading from DT/Pers Section of CBDT are awaited. Staff side was requested for updating the APARs of eligible officers through their personal efforts. Staff side also requested to follow the same procedure as adopted for grant of NFSG to officers of 2000 batch in the month of February, 2014.

D.            Regularization of Adhoc Promotions of JCsIT:

The staff side requested that promotions of JCIT’s of the officers of 2002 to 2004 batches should be regularized immediately and 2000 and 2001 batch JCsIT may be regularized from the date of their Ad-hoc promotion.  US(Ad.VI) informed that ACR/APARs of more than 170 officers of 2002 to 2004 batch IRS officers are still incomplete and vigilance status in respect of the eligible officers had been called for from DGIT(Vig.), New Delhi.

Item No. 2.  Amendments to the Transfer & Posting Policy for Group “A” officers considering unique problems of promotee officers as suggested by JCA.

The staff side requested that amendments to the Transfer & Posting Policy for Group “A” officers considering unique problems of promotee officers as suggested by JCA. The Chairman requested them to submit the detail of such officers mentioning their unique problems for incorporating in the  transfer and policy for redressal.

Item No. 3.  Finalization of Recruitment Rules for Group “A” & Group “B” officers including A.O/P.S after consultation with JCA.

The staff side requested for the finalization of Recruitment Rules for Group “A” & “B” officers including A.O/P.S after consulting JCA. The staff side requested for incorporation of clause as mentioned in the Clause 5 (e) & (f) of DoPT O.M dated 04.03.2014 in the IRS Recruitment Rule and requested for status of suggestion made by the ITGOA. The official informed that draft Recruitment Rules for Group “A” and “B” officers including A.O./P.S. of the Department had been submitted for approval of Hon’ble FM before referring to DoPT.

Item No. 4.  Payment of wages to Casual labourers in view of the judgment of Pr. Bench of Central Administrative Tribunal and regularization of eligible persons against the MTS posts sanctioned in the cadre restructuring.

The Additional CIT(OSD)/V&L informed them present status of the action being taken on the two judgements of the Principal Bench of CAT, Delhi. Chairman directed to expedite action on the judgement of the Principal Bench of CAT, Delhi in O.A. No. 1846/13, 1921/13 and in O.A. No. 2012/2013 after receipt of the recommendations from the Principal CCsIT concerned.

The official side was also informed that the proposal for regularization of casual labours who have completed 10 years as on 1.1.2008, is again being sent to DoPT with reference to their query viz. as to why the Department did not fill the regular vacancies and whether these posts are live, for their concurrence.

Item No. 5.   Cadre Restructuring & Related matters.

(i)            Retrieval of posts lost in the CR in the cadres of Inspectors and Ministerial staff due to typographical error/erroneous reporting.

The staff side requested for retrieval of posts lost in the CR in the Cadre of Inspectors and ministerial staff due to typography error/erroneous reporting. The official side denied any  loss of posts in the cadre of Inspectors and ministerial staff as consolidated approach was taken for allocation of posts. The Staff side did not further press the issue.

(ii)          Posts of PPS/Sr. PPS and AO-Grade-I/AO-Spl. Grade must be created commensurate with the number of officers in SAG/HAG/HAG+/Apex Scale.

The staff side requested that posts of PPS/Sr. PPS and AO-Grade-I/AO-Spl. Grade must be created commensurate with the number of officers in SAG/HAG/HAG+/Apex Scale after implementation of cadre restructuring of the Department. In this regard they were requested to make a fresh proposal without giving reference of cadre restructuring already approved by the Cabinet, for taking up the matter separately with Department of Expenditure.

(iii)         Revival of additional 398 (600-202) posts in the grade of ACIT/DCIT as proposed in CR.

The staff side requested for revival of additional 398 (600-202) posts in the grade of ACIT/DCIT as proposed in CR. The staff side was requested to make a separate proposal in this respect.

(iv)         Re-look on the allocation of CR posts and not to reduce any posts in future in any charge.

The staff side requested to re-look in the allocation of CR posts and not to reduce any posts in future in any charge.

The staff side was informed that a committee is being constituted to look into the issues of reduction in post in Kolkata region and other issues. They were advised to bring the issue before the Committee.

Item No. 6.    All India Seniority List of ITOs.

The staff side insisted for issue of advisory in the form of FAQs to all the Principal CCsIT for the implementation of decision of the Apex Court in the N.R. Parmar case for refixation of seniority in the cadre of Inspector. They were of the view that the offices of Principal CCITs are not taking uniform approach in deciding and fixing the seniority in the cadre of Inspectors. They were informed that advisory in the term of FAQs prepared by HRD was not touched by DoPT and DoLA while giving advice/clarification on the implementation of the decision of the Apex Court. They were categorically made clear that without the approval of DoPT the Board is not competent to issue such advisory as it would complicate the matter and there will be flood of litigation leading to more delay in the preparation of the All India Seniority List of ITO.  They were also informed that the issue of advisory in the form of FAQs will be relooked after discussion with HRD and thereafter advisory will be issued alongwith time limit.

Item No. 7.  Financial Benefit on promotion in the same grade pay and Advance Increment to Sr. Tax Assistants on passing ITI Examination.

The File containing the proposal of financial benefit on promotion in the same grade pay has been received on 14.07.2014 from DoE and order are likely to be issued. The proposal regarding Advance Increment to Sr. Tax Assistants on passing ITI Examination will be favorably expedited by HRD.

Item No. 8.   Implementation of following schemes approved by the Board and still pending approval at IFU/DoE:

(i)            Six Air Conditioners per Range for staff rooms.

(ii)          Laptops to Inspectors.

(iii)         Mobile handset to all personnel in the Department.

Pr. CCIT (Logistics) informed that the file containing the proposal of six Air Conditioners per Range has been received back several time from Department of Expenditure. The fresh queries raised by them are being replied shortly. She also told that the file containing the proposal of Laptops to Inspectors and mobile handsets to all personnel in the Department has also been returned by Department of Expenditure with fresh queries and the file is being re-submitted with replies with reference to the queries raised by DoE.

(iv)         Increase in the reimbursement of local travel expenses to Inspectors and Notice Servers.

               It was decided that the proposal for increase in the reimbursement of local travel expenses to Inspectors and Notice Servers will be put up in the Board meeting before referring the proposal to Department of Expenditure.

Item No. 9.  Grievance Relating to Transfer Policy & Transfers.

               It was decided that specific grievances of the officers relating to transfer policy and transfers may be brought before the Board for redressal. The official side informed that transfers were carried out on the basis data provided to Data Base Cell. The staff side was requested to submit details of transfer representations to the deficient region such as NER, Bihar, TN, Kerala, WB etc.

Item No. 10 & 11.  Utilization of Fund of 1% Incremental Incentive Scheme and outsourcing of departmental functions.

The agenda item relating to “Utilization of Fund of 1% Incremental Incentive Scheme” and “outsourcing of departmental functions” could not be discussed as Chairman was required for discussion on important issue by the Revenue Secretary. These items will be discussed in the next meeting of QRM.

At the insistence of the staff side, the following points of urgency were discussed.

1. To expedite the approval of Jurisdiction proposal submitted by various Regions.
2. Communiation to CCAs the order of the Pr. Bench of CAT, staying the alleged overpayment on fixation of pay of ITI/AO/PS.
3. Instructions to CCAs to fill up the consequential vacancies of RY 2013-14 as certain CCAs has not done the same.

               The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

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