

" In response to NGSU' report to 7th CPC, Pay Commision has asked Ministry of Science and Technology for justification of Upgradation of GP of S.A.'s and payment of OTA/NW to operational staff. NGSU is glad to inform all members that our report is been examined by pay commission and justification to Ministry of Science and Technology is enclosed for your information."

G.S.

INDIA Meteorological Department (IMD) Non Gazetted Staff Union, Delhi

PAY/POST	The post of Scientific Assistant presently in the scale of Rs. 9300-34800 (PB-2) with GP of Rs. 4200 may be upgraded to the GP of Rs. 4600
	FCS or MBPS mode of promotion with additional financial benefits must be adopted to minimise delay in career prospects.
	As IMD staff is posted to remote field stations, extra allowance may be provided as compensation.

Justification for GP 4600/- for Scientific Assistant In India Meteorological Department

The direct recruitment in Group 'B' in IMD is Scientific Assistant are recruited on ALL India Basis through Staff Selection Commission, Eligibility Criteria is B.Sc (Physics)/ B.E/B.Terch in in Elec. & Telecom Engineering with 1st class/ Diploma in Elec & Telecom Engg. 1st class. Candidates recruited directly in other departments with same qualifications such as ISRO, BARC, DAE, IITM etc are getting GP of 4600/-

Moreover DoE, Ministry of Finance has granted pay structure of Grade pay of Rs.4600/- in the pay Band-2 to the Assistant and personnel Assistant of central Secretariat Services, Armed Forces HQ Services, Indian Foreign Services Gr-B, Railway board services and Stenographers Services in Central Govt. On the core basis of the fundamental fact that "Direct recruitment to the post and that too through All India Competitive Examination "DoE had approved the Grade pay of Rs.4600/- to staff field offices vide Department OM No 1/1/2008-1C dated 16.11.2008.

While considering the case for granting upgraded pay of Rs.4600/- to Assistants and PA's in central Secretariat, it is an element of direct recruitment to the post and that too, through an All India Competitive Examination. Scientific Assistant in IMD is also recruited directly through SSC on the basis of All India Competitive Examination with qualification as science graduate/Engineering Graduate. Trainings are also imparted by IMD to Scientific Assistant

S.No	Name of Training	Period of Training	Remarks
1.	Integrated Meteorological Training Course	04 Months	Essential for Scientific Assistants
2.	Intermediate Training in Meteorological in General Meteorology/ Information System/ Instrumentation	04 Months	Essential for Next promotion to the cadre of Assistant Meteorologist Gr-II
3.	Advance Training in General Meteorology/ Information System/ Instrumentation	06 Months	Essential for Promotion to Meteorologist Gr-I

- IMD's Training Centres are recognised by World Meteorological Organization.
- In addition to this, Officers and staff are also given short duration specialized training on Doppler Weather Radar, Automatic Weather Station, Numerical Weather Prediction, PC application, Telecommunication & Techniques etc. by IMD.

Duties and responsibilities of Scientific Assistant:

Scientific Assistants are mostly performing operational duties in IMD at Airports, Coastal stations, Forecasting Offices, Communication Offices etc. The main duties of scientific Assistants are reproduced below:

- SAs are performing 24 hours duties at cyclone warning centres at all coastal stations throughout the year. They have to take observations and transmit the same to HQ every three hours in normal period and every one hour if any depression or cyclone is there. Coastal observations play a major role in cyclone track and intensity forecasting as well as to identify the crossing points, warning activity related to recent cyclones like 'HUDHUD' and 'PHAILIN' which brought good images to our department are examples. SA's also provide input to marine enquiry for logistics and other insurance agencies and earn revenue to IMD under the vigilance of Head of the section.

- Keeping weather watch and issuing current weather observations (METAR/SPECI) for Aviation purpose round the clock. Forecasts like Terminal Aerodrome Forecast, Sigmet warnings are upload in the OLBS system by SA.
- Reception and transmission of meteorological observations (SYNOPS, PILOT Balloon, RS/RW, Metars, Rarep) from all the stations including remote stations all over India.
- In cyclone warning centres, SA is instrumental in taking hourly observation, preparation and dissemination of weather reports to media (AIR/DD/other channels), and are also instrumental in preparing daily coastal weather bulletins, sea area bulletins and fisheries warning under the guidance of duty officer and transmitting to different agencies. At the time of depression or cyclone issuing of port warnings, cyclone alert bulletins and cyclone warning bulletins and transmitting the same to different ports as well as other user agencies also require SA, a active involvement.
- Numerical Weather Prediction (NWP) models run by IMD plays a vital role in day-to-day forecasting as well as for other special forecasts like fog forecast, cyclone forecast and forecast for ISRO for launching their various missions. Many SAs are involving in this work at HQs and Regional Centres which improves the quality of IMD forecast. They are also assisting R &D activities of NWP.
- Satellite and Radar plays an important role in weather forecasting. These observations help the forecaster to issue accurate forecast for Thunderstorms, flash floods, cyclone etc. and observations are being taken by SAs. SAs who are working in RADAR stations are also performing continuous duties.
- SAs also take RS/RW and pilot balloon observations, which are essential for forecasting purpose.
- In order to maintain the quality of meteorological observations, the inspection of observatories at regular intervals and calibration of instruments are mandatory. SAs who are posted in the inspection sections, undertake inspections tours to inspect and calibrate the Meteorological Instruments. Calibration of barometers & Radio sondes, Max./Min Thermometer, DB/WB Thermometer, Hydro graph etc.). After the installation of Automatic Weather Stations and Automatic Raingauge Stations, SA also maintains these stations and inspects them regularly.
- SAs also perform technical/administrative works assigned to them at any time by the office.

Justification for payment of OTA/NW to the operational staff of IMD

Most of the units of IMD are operational offices and some of this operational office are located at Airports and some are located in remote places in India where no basic facilities are available. All these operational offices including forecasting offices work round the clock throughout the year. There is man to man relieving system in these operational offices. Previously over time allowance and Night duty allowance were paid to the Staff for performing extra duty and night duty, but due to ceiling in basic pay of Rs.2200/- for payment of OTA and introduction of band pay system by sixth pay commission, operational staff of IMD does not get the OTA or night duty allowance or any type of other allowance for performing extra duty. Despite not being paid any allowance, operational staff has to perform the duty.

Sixth Central pay commission has discontinued the payment of OTA allowance or any other similar allowance to any central Govt. Employee except those belonging to categories of operational staff and industrial employees governed by statue. The categories of operational staff and industrial staff who are governed by statutory provisions will need to be paid this allowance in accordance with the extant rules and instructions because payment of this allowance is a statutory requirement (chapter 4.4 of the report).

Most of the units of IMD are operational in nature and staff posted in these units perform operational duties, it is imperative that seats in operational units cannot be kept vacant, so staff has to perform extra duty. Extra duties arise due to vacancies in the particular unit and leave periods of the staff posted a particular unit and extra duties are being performed by the staff without any economic benefit.

So it is suggested that provision of payment of OTA and night duty allowance or any other allowance to the operational staff of IMD performing operational duty may be considered.

Details of Training imparted to Meteorological Observer & Met Attendant (now MTS technical)

Name of Training	Period of Training	Eligibility	Remarks
Modular Course	02 Months	Meteorological Observer / 10 th Pass in case of Met. Attendant.	Qualifying the training is essential for promotion.

Met Attendant (now MTS technical) cadre is required for a specific purpose to render meteorological services. They primarily assist the operational essential requirements of this department. They join the feeder cadre as Meteorological Attendant with minimum qualification of 10th Pass. They have to undergo departmental trainings from time to time and are required to pass the examinations successfully. They are required to assist the scientific Assistant/ Meteorological Observer and other officials in all observational works. They have to face risk situations such as preparation of hydrogen gas and filling of balloons for upper air observations, to analyze the chemical and acids used in Lab. And maintain the equipment and assist seniors who look after the work in Lab. And also visiting remote field stations for maintenance of instruments etc.

High risk allowance may be recommended for such Met. Attendants performing duties which involve high risk.

Secretary
for Director General of Meteorology