



India Meteorological Department
NON-GAZETTED STAFF UNION

ESTD. 19 SEP 1947

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Ref No :- IMD/NGSU/069

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Respected,
Dr. Jitendra Singh,
Hon'ble Minister of State (IC),
Earth Sciences, Government of India,
New Delhi

Sir,

NGSU IMD, New Delhi would like to present before you facts of our department and grievance of main cadre of IMD and also to highlight the misuse of powers for granting FCS to Group "A" officers. I would like to present you the short report for your kind perusal.

A REVIEW: IMD'S SCINTIFIC STATUS AND FCS TO GROUP A OFFICERS

India Meteorological Department (IMD) is one of the oldest and strategic Departments established in 1875 as the nodal agency of the GOI for Meteorological science and providing services at par with the international standard laid down by World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). IMD is a scientific department under the Ministry of Earth Sciences having three distinct streams for running the scientific functions:

- (A) Group "A" officer
- (B) Group "B" (Gazetted/ non-Gazetted)
- (C) Group "C"

It is relevant to mention that the Government of India constituted 8(eight) nos. of committees since 1976 for restructuring of IMD for betterment of its officials and the department as a whole, such as

1. 1976: Dr. Raja Ramanna Committee
2. 1980: Shri S.K.Das Committee
3. 1990: Prof. S.Sampath Committee
4. 1998: shri Y.S.Rajan Committee
5. 2000: Dr. K.Kasturirangan Committee
6. 2006: Prof. R. Narashimha Committee
7. 2006: Shri S.K.Das Committee
8. 2008: Dr. Shailesh Nayak Committee

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None of the above committee reports have been implemented in regard to Group B and Group "C" cadre.

But MoES/IMD introduced new Recruitment Rules for Group "A" in the year 2012, due to which channel of promotion of Group "B" to Group "A" is closed now. The hierarchy as per earlier RR for Group "A" and Group "B" is presented below:

For Group "A"

| S.No | Designation | Promotion |
|------|--|--------------------|
| 1. | Meteorologist Grade-II | Direct Recruitment |
| 2. | Meteorologist Grade-I | FCS |
| 3. | Director | FCS |
| 4. | Dy. Director General of Meteorology | On seniority |
| 5. | Additional Director General of Meteorology | On seniority |

For Group "B"

| S.No | Designation | Promotion |
|------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. | Scientific Assistant | Direct Recruitment |
| 2. | Assistant Meteorologist Grade-II | On seniority |
| 3. | Assistant Meteorologist Grade-I | On seniority |
| 4. | Meteorologist Grade-I | On seniority |
| 5. | Director | FCS |

and after the introduction of new Recruitment Rules for Group "A" in the year 2012 The hierarchy is as follows:

Group "A"

| S.No | Designation | Promotion |
|------|---------------|-----------|
| 1. | Scientist "B" | FCS |
| 2. | Scientist "C" | FCS |
| 3. | Scientist "D" | FCS |
| 4. | Scientist "E" | FCS |
| 5. | Scientist "F" | FCS |
| 6. | Scientist "G" | FCS |

Group "B"

| S.No | Designation | Promotion |
|------|---|--------------------|
| 1. | Scientific Assistant | Direct Recruitment |
| 2. | Assistant Meteorologist Grade-II | On seniority |
| 3. | Assistant Meteorologist Grade-I | On seniority |
| | No promotion after Assistant Meteorologist Grade-I | |

Presently only two level promotion for directly recruited Group "B".

Hence main cadre of IMD (about 90%) is deprived of promotions, **normal time taken for first promotion for any directly recruited Group "B" Scientific Assistant in IMD is about 27 years, while as during the same period Group "A" and Admin staff in IMD get at least four promotions.**

All this has happened due to change in recruitment rules for Group "A" in 2012. As per DoPT and Department of Science & Technology, **FCS related guidelines clearly indicate that IMD does not fit as a Scientific Department.** DoPT order No AB-14017/37/2008-Estt(RR) dated 10-09-2010 with Annexure-I, II, III clearly mention that criteria for Institutions to be declared as scientific and criteria for granting FCS, none of the requirement is being fulfilled by IMD. It is also not understood how UPSC is recruiting "Meteorologist Grade-II" for IMD when the said post does not exist at present. This shows the misuse of power by MoES and IMD administration.

As the Group "A" in IMD is involved in policy making, there RR's were amended in accordance with the FCS guidelines formulated by DST in 2012 but they started getting FCS in 2010 before gazette notification was issued. The RR's of Group "A" IMD were classified as INDIA METEOROLOGICAL SERVICES until 1988 but later it was suddenly reclassified as GENERAL CENTRAL SERVICES. And later the Group "A" RR's which were notified in 2012 clearly states "GENERAL CENTRAL SERVICES GROUP 'A' GAZETTED (SCIENTIFIC), NON MINISTERIAL."

This is a deliberate move made as policy makers to avail the benefit of FCS without actually fulfilling the promotion eligibility criteria. This is a breach of confidence

Therefore it is requested that all cadres starting from Scientific Assistant in IMD should be given the benefit of FCS. Here it is mentioned that all Group "A" officers are primarily involved in issuing of weather related forecasts and they are categorized as Scientists, but it is fact that Group "B" officers in IMD are also involved in issuing weather related forecasts/ Nowcasts, particularly during night hours at forecasting offices and at Airports. At some forecasting centers (MC's) Group "B" officers are working as in-charge also and are issuing forecasts. So there is not much difference in working of a Group "A" and Group "B" officers in IMD. That is why earlier Group "B" officers were promoted as Group "A" officers, which now been stopped due to implementation of new RR's for Group "A" in 2012.

For getting justice which was denied by MoES and IMD to the Group "B" and Group "C" employees, unions were forced to approach Central Administrative Tribunals, and judgments of Gwahati Bench and Jabalpur Bench were in favour of employees, but neither MoES nor IMD implemented them.

Hence promotions under FCS for Group "A" needs complete review due to following reasons:

Main Points for reviews are:

DOPT approval for FCS in IMD is not known.

IMD mandate says they issue all types of forecast and forecast is a service based on the operational requirement of the user e.g. Aviation, Shipping, Farmer etc.

Service provider department can't be defined as scientific department: and can not be compared with BARC, ISRO etc which are purely scientific commercial in nature and Group "B" is also getting promotions under FCS, IMD doesn't fit into this.

Therefore IMD is neither scientific nor commercial it is an operational department, involved in recording and collecting real time data to provide accurate weather related forecast service.

Hence IMD is not scientific; therefore 'SCIENTIST' post cannot be justified.

FCS for Group "A" officer in IMD is a loss of government revenue as it is implemented to department which is unable to justify its scientific status. If issuing of weather forecast is a scientific job in nature, than Group "B" officers are also doing the same job, so they are also scientists and should have got the benefit of FCS. So FCS to only Group "A" officers must be stopped immediately to prevent loss of govt. revenue. The matter may kindly be looked into.

We are confident you will do justice.

Thanking you.

Yours faithfully,



(V. P. Kaushik)
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