

**RECORD NOTE OF DISCUSSIONS ON
THE MEETING HELD ON 09.03.2021 AT 3.00 P.M. BY THE
DY. C&AG (HR & TRAINING) WITH THE OFFICE BEARERS OF
THE ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF DIVISIONAL ACCOUNTS
OFFICERS AND DIVISIONAL ACCOUNTANTS.**

1. An Agenda meeting by the Dy. C&AG (HR & Training) with the office bearers of the All India Federation of Divisional Accounts Officers and Divisional Accountants was held on 09.03.2021 at 3.00 P.M. in Committee Room No. 510. List of the participants who attended the meeting is at Annexure A.
2. At the outset, the Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General welcomed the representatives of the All India Federation of Divisional Accounts Officers and Divisional Accountants and hoped that the ensuing deliberations would be fruitful and constructive.

ANNEXURE- A

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS WHO ATTENDED THE MEETING HELD BY DEPUTY
COMPTROLLER AND AUDITOR GENERAL (HR & TRAINING) WITH THE OFFICE
BEARERS OF THE ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF DIVISIONAL ACCOUNTS OFFICERS
AND DIVISIONAL ACCOUNTANTS ON 09.03.2021 AT 3.00 P.M.**

Shri/Smt.

Namita Sekhon	Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General (HR & Training)
Prachi Pandey	Principal Director (Staff)
V. S. Venkatanathan	OSD/AC (N)
Prem Kumar Jaruhar	Sr. Administrative Officer (Staff Apptt III)
M Vijaya Santhi	Sr. Administrative Officer (Staff-JCM)
Nirmal Ku. Pradhan	Secretary General of the Federation
K.K. Sharma	President of the Federation
Rakesh Purohit	Addl Secretary General
S.K. Vij	Joint Secretary General

Demand No.1 **Constitution of Cadre Review Committee for Cadre Review**

Explanation:

Considerable portion of Govt. expenditure comprises development works like construction of Roads, Bridges, and Buildings etc. and the work is executed through the Public Works Department of State Governments. The Division of Works Department is the primary unit of execution and Divisional Accountant is entrusted with the pre-check of all financial transactions. The fundamental points for restructuring are stated as below:

- I. Minimum level of pay to entry grade commensurate to the post of Divisional Accountant at par with Sub-Divisional Officer and AAO of CPD i.e. level 8.**

Explanation

The post of Divisional Accountant in CPWD is being filled up by the Assistant Accounts Officers from the Ministry of Urban Development in the pay scale of level-8. The initial pay scale of DA cadre under IA&AD despite performing identical functions remained at level 6.

Official response to the Demand:

The pay structure of officials in a Department is based on the recommendations of Central pay Commission and acceptance thereof by the Government. While forwarding memorandum to the 7th CPC, higher pay scales were proposed for Divisional Accountant Cadre and the same was not accepted by the CPC. DAI assured that the matter will be again taken up with the Ministry.

- II. Up-gradation of Divisional Accountants Grade Examination (DAGE):**

Explanation

The up-gradation of DAGE by including a few new papers and giving at par status with SAS by renaming DAGE SAS (Works) and opening a promotional channel for Divisional Accountant cadre in IA&AS. By passing SAS examination Divisional Accountant cadre can apply for deputation in other departments/other states. The enhancement of sphere of knowledge is essential in the current scenario of computerization of Income tax, IFMS etc. The syllabus is outdated in view of the changed working pattern due to the increase in CPWD expenditure/contracts.

Official response to the Demand:

It is stated that DAGE is in the nature of a confirmatory examination for the post of Divisional Accountant at pay level 6 and SAS examination is for AAOs at pay level 8. Up-gradation of DAGE to the level of SAS examination would cause hardship in confirmation of the Divisional Accountant cadre. Therefore up-gradation and renaming of the examination has not been agreed to. However, DAI assured that

adequate training would be imparted for enhancement of knowledge and up-gradation of skills of officials in the cadre.

Separate provision /percentage in IA&AS (Recruitment) Rules for filling the posts of IA&AS by promotion from the Divisional Accountant Cadre in addition to the provision of induction in IA&AS from SAO cadre was not agreed to. Further SAS qualification is essential for promotion to JTS of the IA&AS. The feasibility of allowing DA cadre officials to appear in SAS examination for acquiring Departmental qualification without coming into the mainline cadre (AAO) would be explored.

III. Optimizing potential of Divisional Accountant cadre for international affiliations:

Explanation

Comptroller and Auditor General is the Supreme Auditing Institution of India and a member of international forums like INTOSAI. It is suggested that international exchange programmes may be instituted for this cadre. This will allow the cadre to work in international organizations like UNO, WHO, World bank, World Trade Organization etc .

Official response to the Demand:

After qualifying the prescribed examination, Divisional Accountant cadres are eligible for international assignments like U.N Audit etc.

This agenda item may be treated as closed.

IV. Delinking parity with other posts.

Explanation

It is requested for the delinking of parity with posts of Accountant/Senior Accountant of AG office and establishing parity with the posts of Assistant Accounts Officers (AAO) and Senior Accounts Officers (Sr AO) of IA&AD.

Official response to the Demand:

The posts in Divisional Accountant cadre and various posts in A&E offices are distinct and have cadre pay structure. It was assured that the issue of parity will be taken up with the Ministry.

2. Stagnation

Explanation

From the initial post of Divisional Accountant to reach the post of Sr. Divisional Accounts Officer 20 to 25 years is required.

Official response to the Demand:

DAI assured that the issue of stagnation will be reviewed in Hqrs office. The Federation was also requested to send the comments/proposals in this regard and the same will be considered in Hqrs office subject to their suitability.

3. Posting and Transfer Policy:

The existing instructions issued vide letter No. 502 dated 20.03.2015 regarding the tenure of posting (12 years) for the purpose of posting in a particular Division/Station is very severe for the members of the cadre and they are virtually paralyzed in career planning of offspring besides other difficulties namely settling in a particular place, availing medical facilities etc. These guidelines/instructions are required to be kindly re-revised.

Official response to the Demand:

The condition of 12 years of posting in a particular division/Station was included in the Posting and Transfer Policy as per the recommendations of Association in 2012. However, it was assured that the reduction of the period of 12 years will be considered.

4. **Extension of Central Govt. Health Scheme (CGHS) facility to the serving members of the DA cadre.**

Explanation

Currently the benefits of CGHS are only available to the retired members of the cadre but the benefits of CGHS have not been extended to the serving members of the cadre. Presently the cadre members in service are governed by the medical rules of the respective state governments. The medical facilities provided by the state governments are inadequate and the reimbursement rules are cumbersome. Thus the cadre members are deprived of adequate medical facilities. Considering the increased network of CGHS hospital it has become more reachable and its benefits present a clear advantage over the existing system. Thus serving members of the cadre may kindly be brought under the purview of CGHS.

Official response to the Demand:

DAI assured that the matter will be examined and taken up with the Ministry if required.

5. Conferring Group A Status to Sr. DAO w.e.f. 01.01.2006.

Explanation:

AIF requested for appropriate orders conferring Group A status along with relevant benefits to Sr. DAOs w.e.f. 01.01.2006 based on the decision of the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal (Pr. Bench) New Delhi OA No. 2966 on dt 13.11.2013, but Sr. DAOs are conferred Group A status w.e.f. 17.01.2020. Necessary orders may be kindly issued for conferring Group A status along with relevant benefits to Sr. DAOs w.e.f. 01.01.2006

Official response to the Demand:

In compliance with the Supreme Court order dated 21.08.2018, the post of Sr.AO was classified as Group 'A' w.e.f. 09.04.2009. There were no such Court Orders for Sr. Divisional Accounts Officer. As the pay scale of Sr. AO and Sr. Divisional Accounts Officer are the same, the post of Sr. DAO was classified from Group 'B' to Group 'A' vide Gazette notification dated 17.01.2020.

Hence, the request for conferring Group 'A' status retrospectively w.e.f. 01.01.2006 cannot be acceded to.

This agenda item may be treated as closed.

6. Anomaly in fixation of pay on promotion as Sr.DAO

Explanation:

In offices of the AG (A&E) of some states there are certain cases where the senior cadre members promoted as Sr. DAO before the 1st day of January, 2016 are drawing less pay in the revised pay structure CCS (RP) Rules 2016 than their juniors who are promoted as Sr. DAO on or after the 1st day of January, 2016. Therefore, the pay of such senior members in the revised pay structure is required to be stepped up to an amount equal to the pay as fixed for their junior in that higher post. O/o the PAG (A&E), Odisha and Jharkhand has referred the case to Headquarters office.

Official response to the Demand:

Similar discrepancies also have arisen between Sr.A.O./A.O who were promoted before 01.01.2016 and after 01.01.2016. The pay of the Sr.A.O (PB 3 Grade pay Rs.5400/-) and drawing equal or higher pay in the 6th CPC than an A.O. (in PB 2 Grade Pay 5400/-) is getting fixed on 01.01.2016 in the 7th CPC at a stage lesser than an A.O. This has been referred to Ministry and the reply is awaited. The anomaly in fixation of pay on promotion as Sr.DAO will be resolved in a similar manner.