

No. SM/01/03/2014 (1)  
Government of India  
Ministry of Science & Technology  
Department of Science & Technology  
(SMP Division)

Technology Bhawan,  
New Mehrauli Road,  
New Delhi - 110016.

Dated: 27th March 2014

ORDER

**Subject :** Representation of the Defence Stream Dy. Superintending Surveyors undergoing training at IIS&M, Hyderabad - Report of the Committee - Immediate measures

- Reference:** (i) Representations dated 21.1.2014 from Defence Stream DSS under trainees.  
(ii) Order No. SM/01/03/2014 dated 3.2.2014 of DST.  
(iii) Representation dated 14.2.2014 from Association of Civilian Class-I (Group A) Officers.  
(iv) Report of Committee received on 28.2.2014.

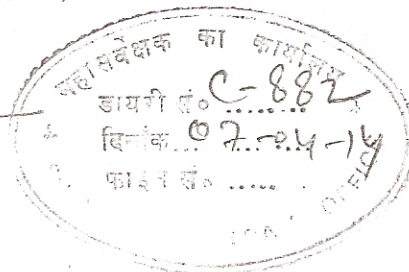
Whereas the Department of Science & Technology (DST) has received representations from Defence Stream Deputy Superintending Surveyors (DSS) undergoing training at Indian Institute of Surveying and Mapping (IIS&M), Hyderabad of Survey of India (SoI), regarding conduct of final retention exam and secondment of army officers to SoI in which they have alleged bias on the part of some officers concerned with examination and alleging harassment and humiliation by creating financial and academic deterrents.

2. And whereas vide Order dated 3.2.2014 (reference (ii) cited), a 6-member Committee, having members from both Civil and Defence Stream, was constituted to look into the allegations raised by the army officers and submit a report to DST.

3. And whereas the Committee has submitted its report on 28th February 2014.

4. And whereas on careful consideration of representations of the army officers and the said report, including the additional notes attached to the said report by three members of the Committee, representation dated 14.2.2014 from Association of Civilian Class-I (Group A) Officers, and other facts and circumstances of the case, Government notes that there is some simmering discontentment between officers of civil stream and defence stream in SoI, the atmosphere at IIS&M is one of lack of trust between the officers of two streams and there is a feeling of unfair treatment of one group by the other, lack of cooperation on the part of some officers connected with the examination /training to the Head of the Institute and so on. The atmosphere at IIS&M Hyderabad is such that Head of Institute himself is feeling tensed and threatened, which has perhaps forced him to file a request for pre-mature retirement, 15 months before the date of his

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normal date of superannuation and proceed on long medical leave. If the situation at IIS&M is such that the Head of the Institute, who happens to be a Maj. Gen. rank officer from the army, feels helpless and threatened, one can understand the plight of junior defence stream DSS officer/ trainees, who have been just seconded to Sol.

5. And whereas the said committee could not give categorical findings on the issues relating to examination at IIS&M Hyderabad on account of inability of IIS&M to produce question papers, answer sheets and other relevant documents relating to examinations for the last 5 years and recommended that system of examination in IIS&M and posting of officers in IIS&M needs to be enquired into especially with regard to conduct of exams in a professional manner.

6. And whereas three members of the Committee, in their additional notes attached to the report of the Committee, have given certain recommendations, which inter alia includes, bringing IIS&M under the direct control of DST as an interim measure, constituting a Committee to monitor training / administrative, infrastructural development, etc. to develop IIS&M as a centre of excellence to meet national developmental and security aspirations, enquiry into failing of all the 6 army officers in the final retention exam and passing of the lone civilian stream DSS, transfer out of present team of officers connected with the exams / training and so on.

7. And after careful consideration of the report of the said Committee, including the additional notes of three members attached with the said report and other facts and circumstances of the case, Government, in public interest, considers it necessary to take immediate measures, as detailed below, with a view to create a conducive environment in the organization, especially at IIS&M Hyderabad, so that officers from both the streams work together in an environment of mutual trust, respect and goodwill towards each other.

7.1 Steps would be taken for total restructuring and strengthening of IIS&M Hyderabad to make it an institute / centre of excellence, where not only officers of Sol, both from defence as well as civil, undergo training with full satisfaction and confidence in terms of impartial, fair and just treatment but even candidates from other organizations, including private organizations within the country, as well as candidates from other countries aspire to get trained. An Advisory Committee would be formed by the Government for restructuring, modernizing and strengthening of IIS&M and rendering advice to ASG, IIS&M for short-term measures, including examination, training etc. The composition and terms of reference of the Advisory Committee will be notified separately.

7.2 Pending formation of such a Committee, following immediate measures are hereby ordered:

7.2.1 In partial modifications of instructions contained in DST's letter dated 7th June 2013, Maj. Gen. R.C. Padhi, ASG, IIS&M Hyderabad, who is also holding the additional responsibility of National Data Registry Coordinator for NGIS, will report directly to Secretary, DST for all his administrative matters like leave, tour, ACR / APAR, etc., under intimation to Surveyor General (SG).

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7.2.2 Request of voluntary retirement of Maj. Gen. R.C. Padhi, ASG IIS&M Hyderabad will not be accepted and he is advised to continue and resume duties as ASG, IISM as soon as possible subject to otherwise being medically fit.

7.2.3 The Head of the Institute viz. ASG IIS&M will be given overall control to run the institute, including training, examination and other related technical issues, etc., without any interference in its normal day-to-day matters, coupled with full accountability / responsibility for smooth running of the institute in a fair and unbiased manner, subject to overall control and supervision of SG and DST for major decisions / policy related matters and approvals which are beyond the delegated power of ASG IISM.

7.2.4 As the Committee could not establish completely various facts, with a view to collect further details from SG / IIS&M so that further remedial measures to avoid recurrence of such instances can be taken, a fact finding committee will be constituted. The composition and Terms of Reference of the said Committee will be notified separately.

7.2.5 Without going into the merits of the allegations / counter allegations against the present team in-charge of examination / training at IIS&M Hyderabad, as a measure of confidence building and in public interest, with a view to create a conducive environment of mutual trust and respect, following officers would be transferred out of IIS&M Hyderabad with immediate effect :

- (1) Shri S.B. Sharma, Deputy Surveyor General
- (2) Shri T.P. Malik, Superintending Surveyor
- (3) Shri G. Varuna Kumar, Superintending Surveyor

These officers will be relieved immediately, with instructions to report to SoI Headquarters at Dehradun till their alternate postings are decided by Government in consultations with Surveyor General. ASG, IISM, will make local arrangements by giving temporary additional charge to other officers of IIS&M or if considered necessary, by giving temporary additional charge to some officers from APGDC Hyderabad / other offices of SoI located in Hyderabad, till alternate postings are decided by Government.

7.2.6 Those DSS trainees, including civil and defence, who have failed in the final retention examination conducted by IIS&M (and / or examination conducted by Institution of Surveyors), as a one time measure, will be given another opportunity to repeat these examination(s) along with next batch / next schedule. No defence stream DSS officers of 500.73 course will be reverted back to army on the grounds of failure in the final retention examination conducted in the past. Further, DSS Trainees of 500.74 course, in whose case the final retention examination was postponed, and for the previously failed trainees, the examination / re-examination will be conducted by a different / reconstituted Examination Board of IIS&M after the transfer out of the three officers, stated in para 7.2.5 above, after duly notifying the syllabus, date sheets, etc. by giving atleast one month's time for preparation and with stipulation that results would be declared within a reasonable period of about a month from the last date of examination. Present team in charge of examination (which is being transferred out vide para 7.2.5 above and / or the new / reconstituted team of IIS&M in charge

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of conduct of retest / future final retention examination will not be actively involved with the conduct of exams by Institution of Surveyors.

7.2.7 ASG, IIS&M Hyderabad would put in place the suitable grievances redressal mechanism where the Head of Institute and Heads of various faculty allots a fixed time every month for the trainees / officers when they can put forward their grievances / views, if any before the Head / senior officers for suitable redressal.

7.2.8 An advisory would be issued by ASG, IIS&M Hyderabad to defence stream DSS trainees, instructing them to give due respect to their seniors, observe discipline and punctuality and not to do any action which can be termed as unbecoming of an officer.

8. This issues with the approval of Competent Authority.

*Latha Gopakumar*

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For timely action(s) as ordered. The contents of these be brought to the notice of all concerned (including the defence stream DSS trainees of 500.73 and 500.74 course) and the order be also hosted on Sol's website.

