

No.22011/7/86-Estt.(D)
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
(Department of Personnel & Training)

...

dated 3-7-86

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: SENIORITY – Consolidated orders on.

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The undersigned is directed to say that instructions have been issued by this Department from time to time laying down the principles for determining seniority of persons appointed to services and posts under the Central Government. For facility of reference, the important orders on the subject have been consolidated in this Office Memorandum. The number and date of the original communication has been quoted in the margin so that the users may refer to it to understand fully the context in which the order in question was issued.

SENIORITY OF DIRECT RECRUITS AND PROMOTEES

(MHA O.M.No.9/11/55-RPS dated 22.12.59).

2.1 The relative seniority of all direct recruits is determined by the order of merit in which they are selected for such appointment on the recommendations of the U.P.S.C or other selecting authority, persons appointed as a result of an earlier selection being senior to those appointed as a result of a subsequent selection.

2.2 Where promotions are made on the basis of selection by a D.P.C., the seniority of such promotees shall be in the order in which they are recommended for such promotion by the Committee. Where promotions are made on the basis of seniority, subject to the rejection of the unfit, the seniority of persons considered fit for promotion at the same time shall be the same as the relative seniority in the lower grade from which they are promoted. Where, however, a person is considered as unfit for promotion and is superseded by a junior such persons shall not, if he is subsequently found suitable and promoted, take seniority in the higher grade over the junior persons who had superseded him.

2.3 Where persons recruited or promoted initially on a temporary basis are confirmed subsequently in an order different from the order of merit indicated at the time of their appointment, seniority shall follow the order of confirmation and not the original order of merit.

2.4.1 The relative seniority of direct recruits and of promotee shall be determined according to the rotation of vacancies between direct recruits and promotees which

shall be based on the quota of vacancies reserved for direct recruitment and promotion respectively in the Recruitment Rules.

2.4.2 If adequate number of direct recruits do not become available in any particular year, rotation of quotas for the purpose of determining seniority would take place only to the extent of the available direct recruits and the promotees. [DPT OM No.35014/2/80-Estt.(D) dt.7.2.86].

In other words, to the extent direct recruits are not available the promotees will be bunched together at the bottom of the seniority list below the last position upto which it is possible to determine seniority, on the basis of rotation of quotas with reference to the actual number of direct recruits who become available. The unfilled direct recruitment quota vacancies would, however, be carried forward and added to the corresponding direct recruitment vacancies of the next year (and to subsequent years where necessary) for taking action for direct recruitment for the total number according to the usual practice. Thereafter in that year while seniority will be determined between direct recruits and promotees, to the extent of the number of vacancies for direct recruits and promotees as determined according to the quota for that year, the additional, direct recruits selected against the carried forward vacancies of the previous year would be placed en-bloc below the last promotee (or direct recruit as the case may be), in the seniority list based on the rotation of vacancies for that year. The same principle holds good for determining seniority in the event of carry forward, if any, of direct recruitment or promotion quota vacancies (as the case may be) in the subsequent year.

ILLUSTRATION: Where the Recruitment Rules provide 50% of the vacancies of a grade to be filled by promotion and the remaining 50% by direct recruitment, and assuming there are ten vacancies in the grade arising in each of the year 1986 and 1987 and that two vacancies intended for direct recruitment remain unfilled during 1986 and they could be filled during 1987, the seniority position of the promotees and direct recruits of these two years will be as under:

	<u>1986</u>		<u>1987</u>
1.	P1	9.	P1
2.	D1	10.	D1
3.	P2	11.	P2
4.	D2	12.	D2
5.	P3	13.	P3
6.	D3	14.	D3
7.	P4	15.	P4
8.	P5	16.	D4
		17.	P5
		18.	D5
		19.	D6
		20.	D7

2.4.3 In order to help the appointing authorities in determining the number of vacancies to be filled during a year under each of the methods of recruitment prescribed, a Vacancy Register giving a running account of the vacancies arising and being filled from year to year may be maintained in the proforma enclosed.

2.4.4 With a view to curbing any tendency of under-reporting/suppressing the vacancies to be notified to the concerned authorities for direct recruitment, it is clarified that promotees will be treated as regular only to the extent to which direct recruitment vacancies are reported to the recruiting authorities on the basis of the quotas prescribed in the relevant recruitment rules. Excess promotees, if any, exceeding the share failing to the promotion quota based on the corresponding figure, notified for direct recruitment would be treated only as ad-hoc promotees.

SENIORITY OF TRANSFEREES

(MHA OM No.9/11/55-RPS dated 22.12.1959)

3.1 The relative seniority of persons appointed by transfer to a Central service from the subordinate offices of the Central Government or other department of the Central or a State Government shall be determined in accordance with the order of their selection for such transfer.

3.2 Where such transfers are effected against specific quotas prescribed in the Recruitment Rules, the relative seniority of such transferees vis-à-vis direct recruits or promotees shall be determined according to the rotation of vacancies which shall be based on the quotas reserved for transfer, direct recruitment and promotion respectively in the Recruitment Rules. Where the vacancies in any quota or quotas are carried forward, the principles stated in para 2.4.2 will apply, mutatis mutandis in determining inter-se seniority of the appointees.

3.3 Where a person is appointed by transfer in accordance with the provisions in the Recruitment Rules providing for such transfer in the event of non-availability of suitable candidate by direct recruitment or promotion, such transferee shall be grouped with direct recruits or promotees, as the case may be. He shall be ranked below all direct recruits or promotees, as the case may be, selected on the same occasion.

3.4.1 In the case of a person who is initially taken on deputation and absorbed later (i.e. where the relevant recruitment rules provide for "Transfer on deputation/Transfer"), his seniority in the grade in which he is absorbed will normally be counted from the date of absorption. If he has, however, been holding already (on the date of absorption) the same or equivalent grade on regular basis in his parent department, such regular service in the grade shall also be taken into account in fixing his seniority, subject to the condition that he will be given seniority from –

- the date he has been holding the post on deputation,
 - or
 - the date from which he has been appointed on a regular basis to the same or equivalent grade in his parent department;
- whichever is later.

3.4.2 The fixation of seniority of a transferee in accordance with the above principle will not, however, affect any regular promotions to the next higher grade made prior to the date of such absorption. In other words, it will be operative only in filling up of vacancies in higher grade taking place after such absorption.

3.5 In cases in which transfers are not strictly in public interest, the transferred officers will be placed below all officers appointed regularly to the grade on the date of absorption.

[DOP&T O.M.No.20020/7/80-Estt.(D) dated 29.5.1986]

SENIORITY IN SPECIAL TYPE OF CASES

[MHA O.M.No.37/1/52-DGS dated 10.7.54, O.M.No.13/4/56-RPS dated 29.9.1956 & No.13/4/57-RPS dated 14.7.58, MHA O.M.No.9/13/82-Estt.(D) dated 10/10/62 & O.M.No.9//30/63-Estt.(D) dt.7.2.64].

4.1 In the case of such ex-T.B. or ex-Pleurisy ex-Leprosy patients, as have been declared non-infective and medically fit for Government service, on re-employment in the same posts from which they were discharged the actual previous service rendered by them should be counted for seniority. The seniority of such persons re-employed in other posts will be fixed in consultation with the Department of Personnel & Training.

4.2.1 An order imposing the penalty of reduction to a lower service, grade or post or to a lower time-scale should invariably specify:-

- (i) the period of reduction, unless the clear intension is that the reduction should be permanent or for an indefinite period;
- (ii) Whether on such re-promotion, the Govt. servant will regain his original seniority in the higher service, grade or post or higher time-scale which had been assigned to him prior to the imposition of the penalty.

4.2.2 In cases where the reduction is for a specified period and is not to operate to postpone future increments, the seniority of the Govt. servant may, unless the terms of the order of punishment provide otherwise, be fixed in the higher service, grade or post or the higher time scale at what it would have been but for his reduction.

4.2.3 Where the reduction is for a specified period and is to operate to postpone future increments, the seniority of the Govt. servant on re-promotion may, unless the terms of the order of punishment provide otherwise, be fixed by giving credit for the period of service rendered by him in the higher service, grade or post or higher time-scale.

4.3.1. The surplus employees are not entitled for benefit of the past service rendered in the previous organization for the purpose of their seniority in the new organization. Such employees are to be treated as fresh entrants in the matter of their seniority, promotions etc. [MHA O.M.No.8/27/65-CS.II dated 25.2.66 & O.M.No.9/22/68-Estt.(D) dated 6.2.69].

4.3.2 When two or more surplus employees of a particular grade in an office are selected on different dates for absorption in a grade in another office, their inter-se seniority in the latter office will be same as in their previous office provided that -

- (i) no direct recruit has been selected for appointment to that grade in between these dates; and
- (ii) if there are no fixed quotas for direct recruitment and promotion to the grade in question in the new office no promotee has been approved for appointment to that grade in between these dates.

4.3.3 When two or more surplus employees of a particular grade in an office are simultaneously selected for re-deployment in another office in a grade, their inter-se seniority in the particular grade, on redeployment in the latter office, would be the same as it was in their previous office.

4.3.4 The above orders would not be applicable in respect of personnel who are appointed on the recommendations of the U.P.S.C. to posts/services recruitment to which is made through the Commission. Seniority of surplus officers appointed on the recommendations of the Commission will be decided on merits in consultation with the Commission.

5. It is requested that these instructions may be brought to the notice of all administrative authorities for information, guidance and compliance.

(Hindi version will follow soon)

Sd/-
(K.S.R. Krishna Rao)
Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of India
Tel: 3011225

To

All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India etc. etc.