रक्षा लेखा विभाग रक्षा मंत्रालय भारत सरकार



DEFENCE ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT MINISTRY OF DEFENCE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



Message

As I bid adieu to the department after putting in more than 35 years of service I can't help but feel nostalgic I had the proud privilege of working in a 272 years young Department, which has seen many stalwarts in their own right. Some of them have brought laurels to the department such as Shri Nirad C Chaudhary, Shri S. Mukherjee, Shri Batuk Singh and many more.

Department which traces its origin as the paymaster in the East India Company in 1747 has come a long way. Today it not only ensures timely and correct payment of pay and allowances to sentinels of our borders but shoulders an onerous responsibility of accounting, payment, Internal audit and rendering Financial Advice to the services in the Ministry of Defence. While the responsibility has increased tremendously, the manpower position has dwindled to almost 50 % since 1992.

Considering the above, during my short stint I and my team relentlessly pursued unfinished tasks of the Department and adopted a focussed approach specially on welfare of our own officers and staff. As a result, DPCs for promotion at all levels were processed and approval of Competent Authority obtained. Much awaited DPC for promotion of Sr. AO to JTS has also been pursued vigorously and result should be seen in a week or so.

Keeping pace with the ever changing environment, HRD assumes a pivotal role, I am happy to inform that a separate Domestic Funding of Foreign Training (DFFT) Scheme for officers of the Department has been finalized by us and is in the advanced stage of approval. Further, Foreign Training Program for AAO and Sr. AO/AOs has already been initiated. Response has been overwhelming and I hope that the Department will continue with such programs.

These are a string of initiatives taken to ameliorate the career development and to motivate the workforce. However, one cannot lose sight of the fact that we are a service department. Therefore, providing quality service to the Services should not only be a vision but it should be a mission of each one of us as an emissary of the Department. As rightly said by our father of the nation Mahatma Gandhi-

"A customer is the most important visitor on our premises. He is not dependent on us. We are dependent on him"

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I urge all officers at each level to take upon themselves the responsibility to guide, mentor and motivate both new recruits and old hands so that they can give their best to the Department and no one should indulge in nefarious activities, which bring disrepute to the Department as it is well said that it takes years to build reputation and minutes to ruin it. In today's age of social media, the impact is quite damaging.

I must make a mention of the erstwhile Superior Service of the Military Accounts Department which was considered to be an elite and coveted service, I am sure, the rechristened IDAS will provide that leadership and bring past glory back. This can be achieved only by taking measures and reforms on a continual basis. Infact we should take SMART initiatives that means Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time bound, while keeping Services on board. We must also set the goal that every week we must change one thing for good.

Before I say good bye, I take this opportunity to thank all my seniors, colleagues and all those whom I met during my career in the Department for their unstinting support and affection. The Journey has been quite enriching.

Last but not the least, I am sure that the department will reach new heights in times to come. Together we can and together we will.

(R K NAYAK)

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Dated: 30.4.2019

Place: New Delhi