

Granting of LTC every year

1311. SHRI BALWINDER SINGH BHUNDER: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government intends to allow the facility of LTC to Government official every year instead of two /four year block period; if so, the details; and

(b) by when the notification in this regard would be issued?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) No Sir.

(b) Do not arise.

Non-acceptance of self attested documents

1312. DR. R. LAKSHMANAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government received any representation/grievances/complaints from general public regarding non-acceptance of self-attested documents by the officials; and

(b) if so, the details of the complaints received by Government and action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (DR. JITENDRA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Two references of public grievances were received on non-acceptance of self-certification by different authorities. A number of applications under RTI Act, 2005 seeking clarification on the subject have also been received.

Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances has been requesting States/UTs and Central Ministries to adopt self-certification and for abolition of affidavits. Several communications have been sent in this regard.

Fate of Assessment and Monitoring Authority

1313. SHRI D.P. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Autonomous Assessment and Monitoring Authority, which functioned under the then Planning Commission of India is still relevant and would operate under the new National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDERJIT SINGH): (a) and (b) The establishment of the Independent Evaluation

Office (IEO) with a mandate to carry out evaluation of flagship programmes, was approved by the Government on 18th November, 2010. IEO was to work as an attached office of the *erstwhile* Planning Commission and it was provided with appropriate functional and financial autonomy in addition to separate manpower and budgetary allocations. The Programme Evaluation Organization (PEO), NITI also carries out evaluation of the Government programmes.

However, since IEO could not take off and the services of the Director General, IEO was terminated by the Government *w.e.f.* 31st August, 2014; the Government established a Committee of Secretaries (COS) to review the role and responsibilities of IEO and PEO. The CoS in their meeting held on 3rd February, 2015 recommended the closure of IEO. The COS also recommended that PEO should be renamed and restructured to suit NITI's requirements. Copy of COS recommendations is attached.

The COS recommendations have been submitted to the Government for their approval.

Copy No....1.... of 10

F. No. 511/2/2014-CA.IV

Government of India

Cabinet Secretariat

Rashtrapati Bhawan

New Delhi, the 6th February, 2015

Subject : Review of Role and Responsibilities of Programme Evaluation Organization and Independent Evaluation Office.

Please find enclosed herewith a copy of the minutes (Doc. No. 02/2015-CA.IV) of the meeting of Committee of Secretaries (COS) held under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on Tuesday, the 3rd February, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. in the Committee Room, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, on the subject mentioned above, for information and necessary action. Action taken on the recommendations of the COS may kindly be uploaded on E-SamikSha web portal.

(Rupesh Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Tel: 23018342

Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog

Secretary, D/o Expenditure

Secretary, D/O Personnel and Training

Secretary, M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation

Copy also forwarded to:

Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister

Copy to:

Ms. Deepti Umashankar, Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat

(Rupesh Kumar)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

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Cabinet Secretariat

Rashtrapati Bhawan

Minutes of the Meeting of Committee of Secretaries

Document No. 02/2015-CA.IV

Copy No....1.... of 10

Venue : Committee Room, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, the 3rd February, 2015

Time of Meeting : 3.30 PM

PRESENT

Shri Ajit Seth, Cabinet Secretary

Ms. Gauri Kumar, Secretary (Coordination), Cabinet Secretariat

Ms. Sindhushree Khullar, Chief Executive Officer, NITI Aayog

Shri Ratan P. Watal, Secretary, D/o Expenditure

Shri Sanjay Kothari, Secretary, D/o Personnel and Training

Dr. T.C.A. Anant, Secretary, M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation

Shri Tihun Kanta Pandey, Joint Secretary, Cabinet Secretariat

Ms. S. Ahladini Panda, Director, Cabinet Secretariat

Subject : Review of Role and Responsibilities of Programme Evaluation Organization and Independent Evaluation Office.

A meeting of Committee of Secretaries (CoS) was held under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary on 03.02.2015 at 3.30 p.m. in the Committee Room, Cabinet Secretariat, Rashtrapati Bhawan, to discuss the following issues:

- (i) Whether IEO should continue in its current form as an attached office of NITI Aayog or some other Department such as MoSPI.
- (ii) If it is so to be continued, it needs to be examined whether a DG is required and if so, at what level.

- (iii) If the IEO needs to be merged with the NITI Aayog, the next step of the merger.

2. It was recalled that in the meeting of CoS held on 08.08.2014 prior to the constitution of NITI Aayog, the roles and responsibilities of Programme Evaluation Organisation (PEO) and Independent Evaluation Organisation (IEO) were reviewed. The COS had recommended that given the overlap in functions of IEO and PEO and as IEO was yet to take off, there was no need for continuation of the IEO. However, the PEO needs to be strengthened to enhance the capacity and quality of work.

Secret

3. It was agreed that evaluation and assessment of development projects/ schemes/ initiatives is an important part of the process of planning and resource utilization. One of the objectives of NITI Aayog as per para 12 (k) of the Resolution dated 01.01.2015 is "to actively monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes and initiatives, including the identification of the needed resources so as to strengthen the probability of success and scope of delivery". Keeping in view the mandate of NITI Aayog and the need for maintaining neutrality for evaluation, it was agreed that the PEO should be appropriately restructured and renamed and work as an attached office of NITI Aayog. CEO, NITI Aayog suggested that the restructured PEO could be named as Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO).

4. It was informed that the Cabinet had approved creation of a post of Director General, IEO in the rank and status of Member, Planning Commission, four posts of Directors at the level of Additional Secretary and one post of Joint Secretary. Subsequently, 25 other posts at the lower level were also created for IEO. Presently, only the post of Joint Secretary is filled up at the senior level. It was agreed that NITI Aayog would work out a restructured evaluation organization after rationalizing and redefining the existing posts available with PEO and IEO keeping in mind optimal utilization of human resources and revenue neutrality. This organization would be headed by a DG level officer of the level of Additional Secretary (HAG or HAG plus scale) and the post of DG, IEO created earlier in the rank and status of Member, Planning Commission would be abolished.

5. It was observed that as recommended in the COS meeting held on 08.08.2014, Ministries/Departments would continue to carry out evaluation studies of their own schemes. However, as already recommended in the earlier CoS, to make the terms of reference more robust, these would be vetted by inter-Ministerial Group comprising CEO, NITI Aayog, Secretaries of Ministries of Statistical and Programme Implementation, Expenditure, concerned administrative Ministry. In case of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Chief Secretaries of two States (or State Secretaries nominated by them) may also be involved in the IMG.

6. M/o Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) brought out issues regarding three functions presently being carried out by the Ministry under Programme Implementation viz., Twenty Point Programme (TPP), MPLADS and Online Centralised Monitoring System (OCMS) for review of infrastructure projects costing above ₹ 150 crore. It was informed that keeping in view the mandate of NITI Aayog to monitor and evaluate programmes and initiatives, NITI Aayog has agreed to take over the function of OCMS from MoSPI. Regarding the TPP, it was agreed that MoSPI would review the need for its monitoring and send a Note accordingly for approval. It was highlighted that since MoSPI does not have a particular sectoral mandate, transferring MPLADS to M/o Parliamentary Affairs could be considered. It was observed that MoSPI would take necessary action this regard.

Secret

7. After detailed deliberations, the CoS recommended the following:

- (i) The IEO be discontinued. PEO be renamed and restructured to handle the monitoring and evaluation mandate of NITI Aayog and could be headed by an officer of the level of DG (Additional Secretary to Government). It may be an attached office of the NITI Aayog.
- (ii) NITI Aayog may work out the restructured organization by rationalizing and redefining posts currently available with IEO PEO to suit the requirements keeping in mind optimal utilization of human resources and revenue neutrality.
- (iii) The Ministries/Departments will continue to carry out evaluation studies of their own schemes as per the terms of reference vetted by an inter-Ministerial Group of Secretaries as described at Para 5 above.

Old aged people below poverty line

1314. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has an authentic data of old aged persons living below poverty line in the country, if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

(b) whether Government has conducted/proposes to conduct fresh surveys to ascertain the number of such persons and if so, the details and outcome thereof; and

(c) the funds allocated by Government during each of the last three years for the welfare of old aged persons, State/UT-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (RAO INDARJIT SINGH): (a) Erstwhile Planning Commission estimated the incidence of