

No. 21011/1/2005-Estt (A) (Pt-II)
 Government of India
 Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
 (Department of Personnel and Training)

North Block, New Delhi, 14th May, 2009

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Maintenance and preparation of Annual Performance Appraisal Reports- communication of all entries for fairness and transparency in public administration.


The undersigned is directed to invite the attention of the Ministries/Departments to the existing provisions in regard to preparation and maintenance of Annual Confidential Reports which inter-alia provide that only adverse remarks should be communicated to the officer reported upon for representation, if any. The Supreme Court has held in their judgement dated 12.5.2008 in the case of Dev Dutt vs Union of India (Civil Appeal No.7631 of 2002) that the object of writing the confidential report and making entries is to give an opportunity to the public servant to improve the performance. The 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission in their 10th Report has also recommended that the performance appraisal system for all services be made more consultative and transparent on the lines of the PAR of the All India Services.

2. Keeping in view the above position, the matter regarding communication of entries in the ACRs in the case of civil services under the Government of India has been further reviewed and the undersigned is directed to convey the following decisions of the Government:-

- (i) The existing nomenclature of the Annual Confidential Report will be modified as Annual Performance Assessment Report (APAR).
- (ii) The full APAR including the overall grade and assessment of integrity shall be communicated to the concerned officer after the Report is complete with the remarks of the Reviewing Officer and the Accepting Authority wherever such system is in vogue. Where Government servant has only one supervisory level above him as in the case of personal staff attached to officers, such communication shall be made after the reporting officer has completed the performance assessment.
- (iii) The Section entrusted with the maintenance of APARs after its receipt shall disclose the same to the officer reported upon.
- (iv) The concerned officer shall be given the opportunity to make any representation against the entries and the final grading given in the Report within a period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of the entries in the APAR. The representation shall be restricted to the specific factual observations contained in the report leading to assessment of the officer in terms of attributes, work output etc. While communicating the entries, it shall be made clear that in case no representation is received within the fifteen days, it shall be deemed that he/she has no representation to make. If the concerned APAR Section does not receive any information from the concerned officer on or before fifteen days from the date of disclosure, the APAR will be treated as final.

- (v) The new system of communicating the entries in the APAR shall be made applicable prospectively only with effect from the reporting period 2008-09 which is to be initiated after 1st April 2009.
- (vi) The competent authority for considering adverse remarks under the existing instructions may consider the representation, if necessary, in consultation with the reporting and/or reviewing officer and shall decide the matter objectively based on the material placed before him within a period of thirty days from the date of receipt of the representation.
- (vii) The competent authority after due consideration may reject the representation or may accept and modify the APAR accordingly. The decision of the competent authority and the final grading shall be communicated to the officer reported upon within fifteen days of receipt of the decision of the competent authority by the concerned APAR Section.

3. All Ministries/Departments are requested to bring to the notice of all the offices under them for strict implementation of the above instructions.


 (C.A. Subramanian)
 Director

To

All Ministries/Departments of Government of India

Copy to:-

1. Chief Secretaries of All State Governments/U.T.s
2. The President's Secretariat, New Delhi.
3. The Prime Minister's Office, New Delhi.
4. The Cabinet Secretariat, New Delhi.
5. The Rajya Sabha Secretariat.
6. The Lok Sabha Secretariat.
7. The Comptroller and Auditor General of India, New Delhi.
8. The Union Public Service Commission, New Delhi.

Copy also to:-

- (a) All Attached offices under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
- (b) Establishment Officer and Secretary, ACC (10 copies).
- (c) All officers and Sections in the Department of Personnel and Training.
- (d) Secretary, Staff Side, National Council (JCM), 13-C, Ferozeshah Road, New Delhi.
- (e) All Staff Members of Departmental Council (JCM).
- (f) All Staff members of the Departmental Council (JCM), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions.
- (g) NIC (DoP&T) for placing the Office Memorandum on the web-site of DoP&T.
- (h) Hindi Section for Hindi version of the O.M.

Annexure-I

Guidelines regarding filling up of APAR with numerical grading

- (i) The columns in the APAR should be filled with due care and attention and after devoting adequate time.
- (ii) It is expected that any grading of 1 or 2 (against work output or attributes or overall grade) would be adequately justified in the pen-picture by way of specific failures and similarly, any grade of 9 or 10 would be justified with respect to specific accomplishments. Grades of 1-2 or 9-10 are expected to be rare occurrences and hence the need to justify them. In awarding a numerical grade the reporting and reviewing authorities should rate the officer against a larger population of his/her peers that may be currently working under them.
- (iii) APARs graded between 8 and 10 will be rated as 'outstanding' and will be given a score of 9 for the purpose of calculating average scores for empanelment/promotion.
- (iv) APARs graded between 6 and short of 8 will be rated as 'very good' and will be given a score of 7.
- (v) APARs graded between 4 and 6 short of 6 will be rated as 'good' and given a score of 5.
- (vi) APARs graded below 4 will be given a score of zero.

No. 21011/02/2009-Estt(A)/PT-II
Government of India
Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
(Department of Personnel and Training)

North Block, New Delhi.
25th July, 2009

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject:- Preparation and maintenance of Annual Performance Assessment Reports (APAR).

The undersigned is directed to invite the attention of the Ministries/Departments to the instructions contained in this Department's O.M. No. No. 21011/02/2009-Estt.(A) 16/02/2009 and O.M. of even number dated 14.05.2009 on the subjects of timely preparation and proper maintenance of APAR and making the APAR transparent for representation for upgradation, if any, by the officer reported upon. The matter of preparation and maintenance of APAR has been further reviewed in this Department keeping in view the system in this regard in respect of All India Services (AIS) and the undersigned is directed to convey the following decisions:-

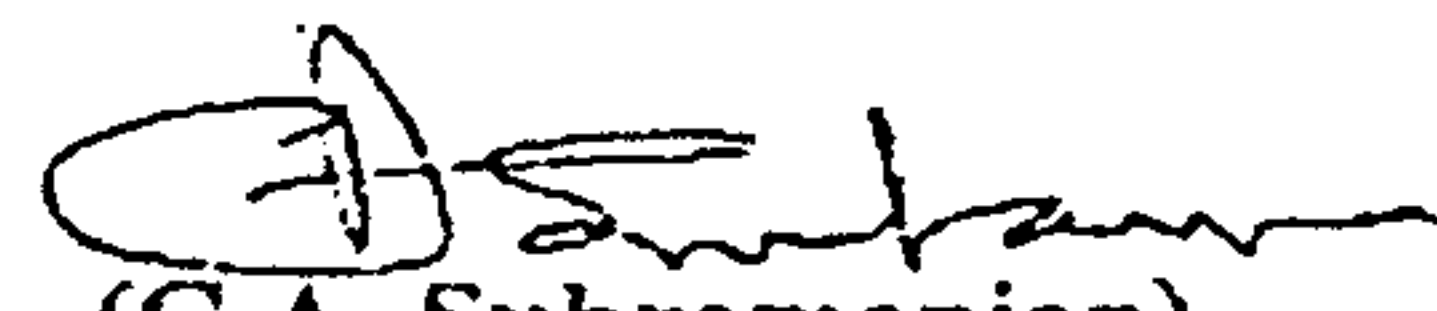
- (i) All cadre authorities shall include a box in the APAR for reflecting by the reporting officer the pen picture of the officer reported upon where the reporting officer will be required to indicate his comments on the overall qualities of the officer including areas of strengths and lesser strength and his attitude towards the weaker sections. A column will also be added in the section relating to the reviewing authority for giving the reviewing authority's remarks on the pen picture reflected by the reporting officer. There will be no other separate column in the APAR for overall assessment apart from the pen picture.
- (ii) A provision may be made in the APAR in the relevant section for remarks by the reviewing officer to indicate specifically the differences, if any, with the assessment made by the reporting officer, and the reasons therefor.
- (iii) Numerical grading are to be awarded by reporting and reviewing authorities for the quality of work output, personal attributes and functional competence of the officer reported upon. These should be on a scale of 1-10, where 1 refers to the lowest grade and 10 to the highest. The guidelines given in Annexure-I shall be kept in mind while awarding numerical gradings.
- (iv) The format for the purpose of numerical grading in the three areas of work output, assessment of personal attributes and assessment of functional competency is in Annexure-II. For Group 'B' and 'C' officials however, suitable changes may be made by the concerned cadre authorities in the items of assessment as per functional requirements of the job and the next promotional post for them. The overall grade on a score of 1-10 will be based on 40% weightage on assessment of work output, and 30% each for assessment of personal attributes and functional competency. The overall grading will be based on addition of the mean value of each group of indicators in proportion to weightage assigned.

(v) Whenever 'accepting authority' has been prescribed in the existing system in the cadre, columns may also be provided for such authority to give his comments on the remarks of the reporting/reviewing authority and details of difference of opinion, if any, with reasons for the same. In such cases, the accepting authority will also give overall grade on a score of 1-10.

(vi) A schedule for completion of all activities relating to the APAR is given in Annexure-III.

2. The above provisions would be applicable for the APAR from the reporting year 2009-10 onwards. The concerned authorities may accordingly make necessary changes in the APAR format for numerical grading to be given by reporting and reviewing officer. This O.M. does not in any way affect the part to be filled in by the officer reported upon and other existing columns in the APAR format like attitude towards SC/ST/OBC, relations with public (wherever applicable), integrity, training requirement etc. for descriptive remarks.

3. All Ministries/Departments are requested to bring to the notice of all the offices under them for strict implementation of the above instructions.


(C.A. Subramanian)
Director

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- (v) All Staff Members of Departmental Council (JCM).
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