

Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

Introduction

7.6.1 Ministry of Communications and Information Technology has three departments under its control, namely,

- i) Department of Telecommunications
- ii) Department of Posts
- iii) Department of Information Technology

7.6.2 Each of the three departments is headed by a Secretary. Department of Telecommunication has Telecom Commission headed by Secretary, Telecommunication at its apex. Department of Posts has Postal Services Board comprising Secretary (Post) as its Chairman and three Members in the grade of Rs.24050-26000.

Organizational structure

7.6.3 Number of posts in various grades in the Ministry is as under:-

Group	Sanctioned Strength	In Position
A	4840	4201
B	10637	8121
C	220652	185281
D	50742	42485
Total	286871	240088

Department of Telecommunication

Telecom Commission

7.6.4 Earlier, Department of Telecommunication was the sole telecom service provider in the country. Subsequently, the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) has been hived off from this Department as a separate Public Sector Undertaking. Consequently, the Department has ceased to be a service provider and is presently functioning as a conventional department and its role is limited to Policy Planning, Licensing and Coordination matters relating to telegraphs, telephones, wireless, data, facsimile and telematic services and other like forms of communications. **No need, therefore, exists for retaining a separate Telecom Commission in this Department. The Government should review the necessity of persisting with this Commission.** It is further observed that earlier

Indian Telecom Service (Group A), an organized technical service under Central Government, was performing the role of providing telecom services. These functions have since been corporatised. Continued necessity of retaining Indian Telecom Service (Group A) does not, therefore, exist. The Government should discontinue this service. All the existing officers of this service should either be absorbed in BSNL/MTNL (Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited) or else sent to the surplus pool.

Junior Wireless Operators

7.6.5 Junior Wireless Operators have demanded a higher pay scale. It has been contended that Fifth CPC had recommended three tier pay structure (Rs.5500-9000; Rs.6500-10500 & Rs.7450-11500) which could not be implemented for operational reasons. Accordingly, the higher scale of Rs.7450-11500 has been demanded for this post. As the post will automatically be upgraded to Rs.6500-10500, no further upgradation is necessary.

Common Category Posts

7.6.6 Higher pay scales have been demanded by various common category posts like Draughtsman, Official Language Staff, Group D Staff, Engineers, etc. All these posts will be covered by the recommendations made in Chapter 3.8 relating to common category posts.