What people say about us !

Kudos even during LOCKDOWN whispers in the corridors site is active and is updated with all aspect.

Anil Mehta

This is History (2102)

Since a politician never believes what he says, he is quite surprised to be taken at his word.

**This is the difference between Nadda and Shah !**

BJP President J P Nadda has told party leaders to refrain from giving any “communal colour” or create any “division or differences” over the Covid-19 outbreak. Political observers say”,  “Had Amit Shah been the President he wouldn’t have given any such message to party leaders”.

**PM to interact with floor leaders of political parties over COVID-19**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will reportedly interact with floor leaders of various political parties over COVID-19 via video conference on Wednesday.

**Is something big in store for the nation ?**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s talking with leaders of all hues, two days ago, has given vent to the feeling that something big is in store for the nation if the situation - as far as COVID-19 is concerned – does not improve. Government may have to adopt more severe measures if people do not mend their ways. There are reports that lockdown is not seriously followed at many places.

**Cabinet meeting via video link**

For the first time, union cabinet meeting was held via video link. PM Modi chaired the meeting from his official residence while other ministers were connected via video link. According to information only two ministers: Rajnath Sing and Amit Shah and some senior officials were present at PM's official residence while other ministers were sitting in their home or office.

**States will decide exit plans ?**

Centre has reportedly asked the States that by an large they will decide the exit plan - from Lockdown - for their respective states. Many states are understood  to have urged the Centre in this regard. It is said that Maharashtra and Telangana want Lockdown to continue for some more time. Final picture will  emerge after April 13.

BUREAUCRACY

**Only urgent appointment files being opened in PMO**

Whispers are that PMO has become like a War Room where maximum focus is on COVID-19 control and only urgent appointment files are being opened for discussion and clearance.

**DA likely to be deferred**

As per available indications, govt is likely to defer DA and some other Allowances of Central staff for one year. If this  happens, DA won't be announced during the current FY in July and January. Sources said that the way the PM has taken bold decision to meet the Corona crisis, possibility of some other strict steps can not be ruled out.

**Tenure of Banks Board Bureau (BBB) to extend ?**

Tenure of all Members and Chairman of the Banks Board Bureau (BBB) which is coming to an end on April 11 is likely to be extended for one year. BBB is an autonomous body of the Government of India tasked to improve the governance of Public Sector Banks, recommend selection of chiefs of government owned banks and financial institutions and to help banks in developing strategies and capital raising plans.Current BBB Chairman is Bhanu Pratap Sharma. .The Govt reportedly is not in favour of selecting new Members in this COVID-19 situation.

**Will Buch be Chairperson of SEBI ?**

The sudden extension to  Madhabi Puri Buch as a whole time member  of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) on April 5 has fuelled speculations of her appointment as Chairperson of the SEBI. The only question is will the IAS lobby allow her appointment ?

**Rlys now flooded with backlog of routine official transfer orders**

Whispers are that the Railway Board has been flooded with a backlog of orders on routine transfer of officers to be released which have been postponed since March 24, 2020 due to COVID-19 outbreak.

**Anurag Srivastava assumes charge as MEA Spokesperson**

Anurag Srivastava has assumed charge as Spokesperson of Ministry of External Affairs on April 6, 2020.He is an Indian Foreign Service officer of 1999 batch.

**Three DG level vacancies in GoI**

At present, three DG level vacancies exist in the Government of India - BSF, Internal Security and  Secretary Security.

**Saurabh Garg to join GoI**

Saurabh Garg is all set to join the Government of India. He is 1991 batch IAS officer  of Odisha cadre.

**39 UP cadre IAS officers on deputation**

Presently 39 UP cadre IAS officers are on deputation. Among them 4 IAS officers are on Inter- State deputation , one officer is posted on foreign deputation and the  remaining 34 IAS officers are posted on central deputation.

**Four vacancies of CAT Administrative Members coming up**

There will be four vacancies of Administrative Members in Central Administrative Tribunal in 2020.

**Ramesh Babu to take over as Director (Ope), NTPC Ltd on May 1**

Ramesh Babu V, Executive Director, NTPC, will be taking over the charge as Director (Operations), NTPC Limited on May 1, 2020. He will succeed present incumbent Prakash Tiwari retiring in April this year.

**S K Jha to succeed Dr Likhi as CMD, MIDHANI on May 1**

Sanjay Kumar Jha, Director, MIDHANI, whose appointment as Chairman-cum-Managing Director (CMD), Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited (MIDHANI), has been approved by the Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC), will be taking over the charge on May 1, 2020 as tenure of present incumbent Dr D K Likhi is ending on April 30, 2020.

**SBI officer S T Borde succumbs to COVID-19**

S T Borde, Chief Manager, State Bank of India (SBI), Churchgate, Mumbai, succumbed to COVID-19 in his line of duty.

**Ms Kanchan Jain, Addl Registrar, Supreme Court to screen papers seeking relief in urgent matters for April 2020**

Ms Kanchan Jain, Additional Registrar , Supreme Court has been deputed for the month of April 2020 for accepting application of any advocate seeking relief in urgent matters, either on court holidays or after Court hours. The advocates have been asked to first approach a senior officer of the Registry specially deputed for the said purpose, who after screening the papers, shall seek directions from the Competent Authority and thereafter inform the advocate concerned about the directions.

**Many ADRMs working from home**

Whispers are that many ADRMs across the country are working from home as Railways has considerably reduced on-duty officers in the current COVID-19 situation till normal rail services resume.

**IFS 2019 batch officers handling COVID-19 Control Room tasks at MEA**

The officers from Indian Foreign Service 2019 batch are handling the COVID-19 Control Room tasks at Ministry of External Affairs.

**GoI’s advisory regarding spread of COVID-19 among animals**

The Government of India has issued advisory regarding possibilities of spread of COVID-19 amongst animals in National Park/sanctuaries/Tiger Reserves and also transmission of the virus from human to animals and vice-versa. The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change has written to Chief Wildlife Wardens of all States and UTs.

**IRCTC serves community meals to underprivileged in country**

The Indian Railway Catering And Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC), the Miniratna PSU of Indian Railways and one of the largest tourism and hospitality service companies of the country, is extending all possible assistance to the central and state governments in their fight against the COVID-19 pandemic which is knocking the door of India at present. During the 21 days lockdown period announced by the Central from 22nd March onwards to combat COVID-19, IRCTC has opened up its kitchen units in 28 towns and cities around the country for serving community meals to poor and needy at the time of this grave and unprecedented health emergency which the country is facing for the first time after independence.  The company has mobilized all its requisite resources including material and logistics with its able team of catering professionals to ensure that meals reach the destinations on time. The food is being prepared with the minimum staff maintaining proper hygienic standards, nutritional value and all health protocols including social distancing. Ever since the starting of meal production from March 28, 2020,  from its quantity kitchens based across 28 locations in the country including New Delhi, Bengaluru, Hubli, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Bhusawal, Howrah, Patna, Gaya, Ranchi, Katihar, Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Nagar, Balasore, Vijaywada, Khurda, Katpadi, Tiruchirapalli, Dhanbad, Guwahati, Samastipur, Prayagraj,  Itarsi, Vishakhapatnam, Chengalpatu, Pune, Hajipur, Raipur and Tatanagar. IRCTC has so far served 328375 community meals to underprivileged people in this grave situation with active assistance from Railway Protection Force, State Administration and NGOs. IRCTC being an integral part of Railways understands the importance of selfless service to the underprivileged section of the society and is taking all possible steps to ensure that more and more needy people are served with nutritious community meals at this time.

##### CORPORATE

**REC Ltd reaches out to over 36,500 needy people with food & ration**

From Srinagar to Chennai, Ahmedabad to Kolkata, starvation is as much a threat as Covid-19 for daily wagers, many of them migrants from different parts of India. Concerned over their plight, REC Foundation, the CSR arm of REC Limited, a Navratna CPSE and the country’s leading financier of the power-sector projects under the administrative control of Ministry of Power has started distributing cooked food, rations, utility packets, masks, sanitizers and even providing shelter during the lockdown to over 36,500 daily wagers and their families. REC Foundation has already release funds upwards of Rs 3.26 crores for these activities and more such funds are already in the pipeline. It is to be mentioned that REC has already donated Rs 150 crore to the Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations (PM CARES) Fund to support India's fight against coronavirus. REC Foundation in association with respective state-owned power distribution utilities is providing food grain packets and other utility packets like masks and sanitizers. REC has also tied up with Delhi Police to provide 500 ration kits on a daily basis with over 2000 beneficiaries. REC Foundation has also released funds to the offices of Distribution Companies, Collector and/or District Magistrates of various districts across India to provide cooked meals twice a day for 10-30 days. Talks are on with many other districts for execution of the same in their areas. In addition to these, food kits are also being provided in these districts to those who have facilities to cook at home. Around 300 workers and daily wagers engaged in construction of REC World Head Quarters, Gurugram belonging to various states like Bihar, West Bengal, Odisha, Gujarat etc.  & other needy people from vicinity areas are also being provided ration items like Atta, Rice, Dal, Edible Oil, Soap, Sanitizers etc. on a bi-weekly basis.

**Ms Solanki quits as CS of Kotia Enterprises**

Ms Pooja Solanki has quit as Company Secretary of Kotia Enterprises.

**Ms Luthra appointed Non Exec Director of Trident Ltd**

Trident Limited has appointed Ms Pooja Luthra as Non-Executive Non Independent of the company.

Infosys COO UB Pravin Rao is new NASSCOM Chairman

UB Pravin Rao , Chief Operating Officer of Infosys Ltd has been elected as Chairman of NASSCOM.

FORUM

**Causing damage to recruitment process**

Apropos to news that UPSC needs three more directors UPSC has been mandated to recruit Civil servants , group A services and other bunch of services like IES, ISS and IFOD besides the faculty of doctors to be posted in various Government Hospitals but the delay in the procedural overstretching with curious conflation is causing big damage in recruitment process which to common wisdom , appears to be avoidable and appalling Recruitment success last year has been dismally low around 2200 as against 2900 Approx observed year before that . There is gargantuas staff strength their with Honble Chairman , battery of esteemed members , Sec . Addl Sec ,many joint secs and big staff quarantined in the grandeur building Called UPSC Bhawan . Delay in appointments is profound ,despite overstuffed is over elastic fatigued . Many of the staff are finding sinecure job and the legacy of British rhetoric speaks loudly there . Rules are too archaic that many of of the aspiring students have to go for legal remedy thereby justifying many existing posts as justified . Govt of India should make a very vivid social audit of such constitutional body to ascertain the need based requirement of postings particularly in this technologically enabled working environment and every human capital should be gainfully utilized . It is only social concern with malice towards none but requirements of staff in overstaffed institutions should be avoided

Mahendra Goel

Rti

**Compulsory retirement under Rule 56(j) of CCS (Pension), Rules, 1972**

The appellant was compulsorily retired under FR 56(j) vide Order No. A-47012/2/2016-HRD-I dated 10.05.2018 and sought the copies of complete notes and correspondent portions of the relevant file/files in regard to decision taken for his retirement. The PIO refused to provide the requisite information u/s 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act alleging that since the total information contains a combined report of the Committee regarding all the persons who had been considered and recommended for Compulsory Retirement under Rule 56(j) of CCS (Pension), Rules, 1972. The Appellant submitted that the PIO could have provided the information after applying the doctrine of severability as embodied in Section 10(1) of the RTI Act. He claimed that the information would enable him to represent his case before the Representation Committee or to seek redressal before the Court of Law against the decision to retire him under FR 56(j).

The CIC perused the relevant files during the hearing. While the CIC was in agreement with the contentions of the PIO that every single note-sheet is related to all the four employees who were subjected to compulsory retirement, however, the CIC observed that the portion of the notesheet in which a final decision was taken can be supplied to the appellant, since he himself was one of the employees who were subjected to Compulsory Retirement as he was retired on the basis of a report of the Review Committee. With regard to the correspondence portion of the files, the CIC held that the material on the basis of which a decision was taken to compulsory retire the appellant can be supplied to him as such material/documents would be in relation to an individual employee only. The CIC instructed the PIO to obliterate the name/s of Review Committee members and/or details of other employees who have similarly been retired under FR 56(j) of CCS (Pension), Rules, 1972 and Rule 48 of the Rules and supply the portion relevant and referring to the appellant.

**Comments**

Compulsory retirement under FR 56(j) has often been challenged before the Courts. Even though it is prerogative of the competent authority to decide about the compulsory retirement of an employee in public interest, the employee is well within his/her rights to obtain details/factual background which led to such an action. Such information cannot be denied to him, in terms of principle of natural justice.

**Citation:** R C Kalra v. Dy. Director General of Foreign Trade/CPIO(HRD - I), Ministry of Commerce & Industry in Decision no.: CIC/MOCMI/A/2018/155663/03171, Date of Decision: 31/03/2020