Sub: Promotion of Superintending Surveyor on Ad-hoc Basis.

Sir,

This office has received a number of representations, addressed to Secretary DST/SGI, from some Officer Surveyors on the subject matter. In the above context, the following facts related to the issues raised in the representations are furnished below:

(i) This office is not aware of any guidelines of DoP&T under which the eligibility period for promotion of Deputy Superintending Surveyor to Superintending Surveyor has been raised to five years and that of Officer Surveyor to Superintending Surveyor has been reduced from eight years to six years. However, even if there is any change in the eligibility period, it will be operative only when it is incorporated in the Recruitment Rules.

(ii) As per “Survey of India (Group ‘A’) Service Rules, 1989”, the sanctioned strength of Superintending Surveyor Civil Stream and Superintending Surveyor Defence Stream was 90 and 70 respectively. The sanctioned strength was revised vide DST’s letter No. SM/01/030/2000 dated 10-07-2001, SM/01/030/2000 dated 12-07-2004 and SM/01/15/2016/Vol (1) dated 11-03-2019. As per latest orders of DST dated 11-03-2019, the sanctioned strength of Superintending Surveyor (Civil) is 50 and that of Superintending Surveyor (Defence) is 28. Out of 28 sanctioned posts of Superintending Surveyor (Defence), 21 posts are downgraded to the post of Deputy Superintending Surveyor (Defence). As such, the combined effective sanctioned strength of Superintending Surveyor (Civil + Defence) is 57 (50+28-21). At present, 14 Superintending Surveyor of Civil stream and no Superintending Surveyor of Defence Stream are posted. Thus, the combined regular vacancies of Superintending Surveyors of both the streams
are 57-14 = 43. As such, the contention of the applicants that 83 posts of Superintending Surveyors are still vacant is not correct. However, DPC has been conducted for promotion of Officer Surveyor to the post of Superintending Surveyor purely on ad-hoc basis for 62 vacancies by temporarily diverting 10 vacancies out of above 43 vacancies and vacancies from Deputy Director of both Civil and Defence stream.

(iii) The contention of the applicants that the Executive Order of DST bearing No. SM/01/15/2016/Vol(1) dated 11-03-2019, SM/01/030/2000 dated 10-07-2001 and SM/01/030/2000 dated 12-07-2004 vide which the sanctioned strength of Group ‘A’ cadre was revised (since these have not been approved by the UPSC & Legal Department) are invalid, is not correct. It is submitted that with regard to revision of sanctioned posts, the advice of DoP&T was sought by DST. As per para 2(ii) of DST’s letter No. SM/01/03/2013 dated 10-08-2015, the DoP&T had advised that the change in number of posts would not require issue of any notification. It is further submitted that it is not correct that DST’s letter No. SM/01/030/2000 dated 12-07-2004 is not approved by the UPSC as DPCs of Group ‘A’ are being conducted by the UPSC on the basis of the sanctioned strength revised vide this letter of DST.

The Officer Surveyors of your zones may be informed accordingly.

Copy to: The Secretary to the Govt of India, Ministry of Science & Technology (Department of Science & Technology), New Delhi (Kind Attention: Shri V K Sharma, Under Secretary, SMP) for information, please.