

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH

OA 1879/2001

New Delhi this the 7th day of January, 2003

Hon'ble Smt. Lakshmi Swaminathan, Vice Chairman (J)
Hon'ble Shri V. Srikantan, Member (A)

1. Shri M.L.Parashar,
working as Technical Officer(B),
Laser Science and Technology
Centre, Metcalfe House, Delhi
2. Shri V.K.Dass,
Technical Officer (B),
Laser Science and Technology
Centre, Metcalfe House, Delhi
3. Shri P.L.Mehrotra,
Technical Officer (B),
Laser Science and Technology Centre,
Metcalfe House, Delhi.
4. Shri O.P.Hooda,
Technical Officer (B),
S.S.P.L.Lucknow Road, Timarpur,
Delhi.
5. Shri Praveen Kumar,
Technical Officer (A),
S.S.P.L.Lucknow Road,
Timarpur, Delhi-548.
6. Mrs.Krishna Kohli,
Technical Officer (C),
Laser Science and Technology
Centre, Metcalfe House, Delhi.

. . . Applicants

(None for the applicants)

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1. Union of India through
Secretary, Ministry of
Defence, South Block, New Delhi.
2. Scientific Advisor to P.M.
Department of Defence Research
and Development Organisation,
South Block, New Delhi.

. . . Respondents

(By Advocate Shri Bhaskar Bhardwaj)

O R D E R (ORAL)

(Hon'ble Smt. Lakshmi Swaminathan, Vice Chairman (J))

In this application which has been filed by six
applicants, they have impugned the letter issued by the

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respondents dated 13.9.2000. This letter is in compliance with the directions of the Tribunal in M.L.Parashar and Ors Vs.UOI and Ors.(OA 942/2000) dated 11.8.2000. By that order, the OA was disposed of with a direction to the respondents to dispose of the representations filed by the applicants within a period of three months. Accordingly, the respondents have issued letter dated 13.9.2000 which has been impugned in the present application.

2. As none has appeared for the applicants, we have perused the relevant documents on record and heard Shri Bhaskar Bhardwaj, learned counsel for the respondents. Applicant No.1 had submitted a representation dated 12.2.1999 on the subject of incentive to DRDO Technical Officers, to which category, we note, the applicants belong in the Grades 'A', 'B' and 'C'. In this representation, the applicant No.1 who is a Technical Officer (B) has requested the respondents that the discrimination created by the order dated 3.2.1999 granting incentives to Scientists may be removed by extending the same benefits to all Technical Officers. In the impugned order dated 13.9.2000, the respondents have explained the reasons why the same cannot be done as requested by the applicants. They have stated that the category of applicants is distinguishable and distinct from other categories of personnel. They have also refuted the contentions of the applicants that as they are also important to the —

organisation as such, they should be allowed similar incentive.

2. It is settled law that under Article 14 of the Constitution, classification based on reasonable basis for eg. on cadres and categories of staff can be made subject to the classification having a reasonable nexus with the objectives sought to be achieved. In the present case, it is noticed that the applicants are Technical Officers ('A' 'B' and 'C'). They are seeking parity with another category of officers, namely, Scientists regarding incentives which have been afforded to them. As the two categories of staff i.e. Technical Officers and Scientists are separate and distinct cadres and governed by separate Recruitment Rules, the claim of the applicants for parity with Scientists is untenable. It is also relevant to note that in a similar case in Solid State Physics Laboratory Karamchari Union and Ors Vs. UOI & Ors (OA 1552/1999), the Tribunal had found no merit to intervene in the matter. We find no good reasons to differ from that order dated 12.7.1999.

3. In the result, for the reasons given above, we find no merit in this application. The same is accordingly dismissed. No order as to costs.

V. Srikantan
(V. Srikantan)
Member (A)

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Lakshmi Swaminathan
(Smt. Lakshmi Swaminathan)
Vice Chairman (J)