

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH: NEW DELHI

OA No. 1607/97

New Delhi, this the 27th day of November, 1998

HON'BLE SHRI T.N. BHAT, MEMBER (J)
HON'BLE SHRI S.P.BISWAS, MEMBER (A)

In the matter of:

1. Ashwani Kumar
S/o N.L. Agarwal
Aged 37 years
Secretary,
Doordarshan Cameramen Association,
Doordarshan Kendra
New Delhi
(Working as Cameraman Grade II in the
Doordarshan Kendra, New Delhi and
R/o 74-C Pkt A-3, DDA Flats,
Mayur Vihar Phase II,
Delhi-96.
2. Y.K. Mehta.
Aged 56 years,
S/o Late Ramsharan Shastri
Working as Video Executive
Doordarshan Kendra,
New Delhi
R/o 150 Akash Darshan,
Mayur Vihar Phase I,
Delhi-110091.
3. Suresh Chandra Sharma
Aged 41 years
S/o late Rewati Prasad Sharma,
Cameraman Grade II
Doordarshan Kendra,
New Delhi
R/o 229, Akash Darshan
Mayur Vihar Phase I,
Delhi-110091.

..... Applicants

(By Advocate: Sh. B.B.Raval)

Vs.

1. Union of India
through Secretary
Ministry of Information & Broadcasting
Shastri Bhawan
New Delhi.

2. The Director General,
Doordarshan Kendra,
New Delhi.

3. The Engineer-in-Chief,
Doordarshan, Mandi House,
New Delhi.

..... Respondents

(By Advocate: Sh. S.M.Arif)

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delivered by Hon'ble Shri T.N.Bhat, Member (J)

The applicants in this OA are working as Cameramen Grade-II in Doordarshan Kendra, New Delhi and they have come to the Tribunal against the order dated 2.7.97 passed by the Engineer-in-Chief, Doordarshan, Mandi House, New Delhi, Resp. No.3 herein, whereby some Engineers working in Doordarshan Organisation have been detailed for undergoing training for operation of Robotic camera and associated equipment installed in the T.V. set up in Parliament House, New Delhi. The first batch of the Engineering staff were scheduled to undergo training commencing from 14.7.97 and the second from 27.8.97. It is not disputed that the aforesaid two batches have already undergone the training. The precise grievance of the applicants is that they should have been imparted the training and not the engineering staff as the work of operating cameras is that of the cameramen and not of the Engineers.

2. The respondents have resisted the OA, firstly, on the ground that operation and maintenance of robotic camera is not an exclusive activity of the Programme Wing of Doordarshan and that it is a major engineering activity to operate and maintain the same. Elucidating this contention further the respondents have contended that in a Robotic camera system no cameraman is required to be present at the site for camera operation as the Robotic camera is remotely controlled, memorised and retrieved as and when required. According to the respondents, the need for training Engineers from operational and maintenance points of view is necessary.



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3. The second contention of the respondents is that the question of imparting training to the cameramen and other programme personnel had been left by the higher authorities to the Programme Division who were asked to nominate suitable officers, including cameramen for being imparted the necessary training.

4. We have heard the learned counsel for the parties and have gone through the documents annexed by them to the pleadings. At the time of making submissions the learned counsel, for the respondents also produced before us the copy of the letter dated 11.7.97 from the office of Director, Doordarshan Kendra, New Delhi addressed to the Director General Doordarshan wherein it is stated that since the Director Engineering had called for a separate list of programme personnel for being imparted training the names of cameramen Grade-I and Grade-II may be included in the next list prepared for the purpose of imparting training to the personnel of the Programme Wing.

5. On going through the documents annexed to the OA we find that the job of camera control which includes checking electrical and mechanical working of all the cameras for proper operation of the same and the checking of all the controls of the camera, the main control panel and the remote control panel has been entrusted to the Engineering Wing under the heading "Organisation and Duties" of different wings of the Directorate General of Doordarshan. These wings are the Programme Wing, the Engineering Wing, the Administrative

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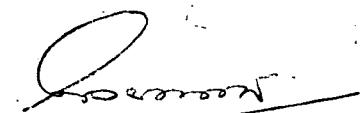
and Finance Wing and the INSAT Project. Robotic camera is admittedly a new addition to the equipment of Doordarshan Kendra, New Delhi, and therefore, the applicants can have no grievance if persons belonging to the Engineering Wing are imparted training relating to the operation of the Robotic camera. In this regard it is important to note that for operating the Robotic camera it is not necessary for any cameramen to be present in the Parliament House where the Robotic Camera has been installed as the operation of the camera is remote-controlled.

6. The case set up by the applicants in the instant OA is also liable to be rejected on another ground. As already mentioned, the respondents have not excluded the programme personnel, more particularly the cameramen Grade-II (or even Grade-I), from undergoing training. It is contended by the respondents in clear and unambiguous terms in their counter that training to the cameramen will be imparted as soon as a decision is taken as to which persons from amongst the programme personnel should be included in the list. From the letter dated 11.7.97 ibid we find that a decision has already been taken that cameramen Grade-I and Grade-II shall be included in the list of people to whom training to operate Robotic camera is to be imparted and for this purpose the Director General has already been approached by the Director, Doordarshan Kendra, New Delhi to furnish the names of the cameramen who are to be detailed for the aforesaid training.

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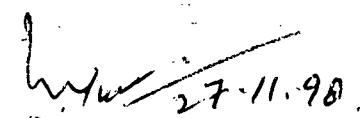
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7. For the foregoing reasons we are convinced that the applicants have no cause of action nor any valid grievance against the respondents. In this view of the matter the OA is liable to be dismissed. We accordingly dismiss this OA, leaving the parties to bear their own costs.



(S.P. BISWAS)
Member (A)

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27.11.98

(T.N. BHAT)
Member (J)