

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
DIRECTORATE GENERAL DEFENCE ESTATES

Subject: Meeting of Expert Committee on Working of Cantonment Boards.

An Expert Committee has been constituted by MoD vide OM No. 14(12)/2018-D(Q&C) dated 31.08.2018.(copy enclosed) under the Chairmanship of Shri Sumit Bose, IAS(Retd.) to address the issues relating to working of Cantonments.

2. During the first meeting of the Expert Committee held on 17.09.2018, it was decided to seek views of all stakeholders on the Terms of Reference stated in the said OM, through the website of DGDE.

3. Any comments/views/suggestions may be sent at the following address not later than 20.10.2018:-

Shri Rakesh Mittal
Addl DG
Member Secretary, Expert Committee
Room No. 105
Raksha Sampada Bhawan,
Ulaan Baatar Marg,
Delhi Cantt – 110 010.

14(12)/2018-DtQ&C)
Government of India
Ministry of Defence

Sena Bhawan, New Delhi
31st August, 2018

Office Memorandum

Sub: Constitution of an Expert Committee on working of Cantonment Boards.

Attention of the Government has been drawn from time to time on various issues related to Cantonments which inter-alia include renewal/extension of expired/expiring leases, Building Bye Laws & FSI, transfer and mutation of Old Grant properties, freehold, service charges payable to Cantonments. These issues also come into focus during the meeting of Raksha Mantri with Members of Parliament and elected Vice Presidents of 62 Cantonments held on 4 May 2018. To address these issues relating to the working of Cantonments, it has been decided to constitute an Expert Committee to make recommendations on the issues posed to it.

2. Accordingly, an Expert Committee comprising of the following members is constituted to undertake this exercise:

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Remarks
1.	Shri Sumit Bose, IAS(Retd.)	Ex. Revenue Secretary	Chairman
2.	Shri T.K Vishwanathan	Ex. Secretary, MoLJ	Member
3.	Lt. Gen. Amit Sharma, PVSM, AVSM, VSM	Ex. C-in-C, SFC	Member
4.	Shri Jayant Sinha	Joint Secretary, MoD	Member
5.	Ms Devika Raghuvanshi, IDAS	PCDA, (Air Force)	Member
6.	Dr. Madhumita Roy	Professor, Department of Architecture, Jadavpur University	Member
7.	Shri Rakesh Mittal	Additional DG, DGDE	Member Secretary

3. The Terms of Reference of the Committee shall be as below:

- i. To study the existing Cantonment Act and to make specific recommendations for suitably amending the Act to impart modernization and democratisation of the governance structure of Cantonment Boards.
- ii. To make specific recommendations in connection with building bye-laws in Cantonments to align them with the best practices and create an incentive structure particularly with respect to energy efficiency, green building, water conservation/ rain water harvesting, fire safety standards, disaster resilience, sanitation including zero liquid discharge, etc. and initiation of on-line clearances of building norms.
- iii. To review the existing Floor Space Index (FSI) across Cantonments, and make recommendations on future rationalization.
- iv. To make recommendations on the procedural modalities for transfer and mutation of property, including Old Grants Bungalows, freehold and leasing of property including its extension etc.
- v. To make recommendations in respect of municipal services being provided to the residents of the Cantonment, incorporating e-Governance practices and also providing 'Smart Solutions' in respect of sewerage and drainage system, water supply, citizen safety, clean environment etc.
- vi. To make recommendations on levy of Service charges by Cantonment Boards from all entities.
- vii. To make recommendations after review of orders relating to Cantonment administration, so as to weed out such orders that are out of date.


4. The Committee will be empowered to call for records, interview officers and visit Cantonments across the country.

5. The Committee shall submit its Reports within four months.

6. All Secretariat assistance, travel arrangements etc, will be coordinated by DGDE.

7. The amount of honorarium payable to the Non-Official members of the Committee will be communicated in due course.

8. This issues with the approval of Raksha Mantri.


(Rajesh Kumar Sah)
Dy. Director(Q&C)
Tel: 23016258

To,

1. Shri Sumit Bose, Chairman
2. Shri T.K Vishwanthan, Member
3. Lt. Gen. Amit Sharma, Member
4. Shri Jayant Sinha, Member
5. Ms Devika Raghuvanshi, Member
6. Dr. Madhumita Roy, Member
7. Shri Rakesh Mittal, Member Secretary

Copy to:

1. VCOAS
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3. AO(Cash), MoD