

**MANAGEMENT PROGRAMME  
(MP)**

**Term-End Examination  
December, 2023**

**MS-23 : HUMAN RESOURCE PLANNING**

*Time : 3 Hours*

*Maximum Marks : 100*

*(Weightage 70%)*

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**Note :** (i) Attempt any **three** questions from Section A. Each question carries 20 marks.

(ii) Section B is compulsory and carries 40 marks.

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**Section–A**

1. What is human resource inventory ? Explain the factors affecting internal HR inventories citing examples.
2. What is human resource forecasting ? Discuss various forecasting techniques with relevant examples.

3. Define Human Resource Information System (HRIS). Discuss the effectiveness of HRIS and its role in organisational effectiveness.
4. What is job evaluation ? Discuss any *two* methods of job evaluation showing their strengths and weaknesses with the help of examples.
5. Discuss the objectives of performance appraisal. Describe any *two* methods of performance appraisal highlighting their advantages and disadvantages.

### **Section-B**

6. Read the following case and answer the questions given at the end :

Popat Engineering Company was a large heavy engineering unit. It attached great importance to the recruitment and training of its senior supervisors. Apart from selecting them from within the organization, the company recruited, every alternate year, about ten young engineering graduates and offered them training for a period of two years, before they were appointed as senior supervisors. Such appointments were made to about 40 per cent of the vacancies of senior supervisors that

occurred in the organization. This was considered necessary by management as a planned programme of imparting vitality to the organization. Besides, many of the old-timers, who had risen from the ranks, did not possess the necessary academic background with the result that they could not keep pace with the technological changes. Management also believed that in the rapidly changing conditions of industry, a bank of technically competent supervisors played a pivotal role, besides serving as a pool from which to select future departmental managers.

Engineering graduates were selected from amongst those who applied in response to an all-India advertisement. For the selection of one engineer, on an average, eight applicants were called for interview. A selection committee consisting of the General Manager, the Production Manager, the Personnel Manager and the Training Officer interviewed and selected the candidates. The selection interview was preceded by a written test and only those who secured 40 per cent marks qualified for interview.

The engineers thus selected had to undergo a two-year intensive theoretical and practical training. A well-staffed and equipped Training Institute was directly responsible for the training of the graduate engineers, besides training trade apprentices and operatives required by the company. Lectures on theoretical subjects were given at the Training Institute and practical training in all the works departments under the guidance of qualified and experienced instructors. A few lectures by senior officers of the company were also arranged to acquaint them with the company policies on different matters. During the last quarter of their two-year training programme they were deputed to work full-time to familiarize themselves with the conditions in departments where they were to be absorbed eventually.

On successful completion of training, the graduate engineers were offered appointments, depending on their performance and aptitude as revealed during training. On placement in the works departments however, most of them faced some difficulty or the other.

According to management, some of the heads of departments, who were themselves not qualified engineers, did not have sufficient confidence in these younger men. They preferred the subordinates who came up from the ranks to hold positions of responsibility. A few discredited them saying that it would take years before these youngsters could pick up the job. Besides, some of the employees, whose promotional opportunities were adversely affected by the placement of graduate engineers, tried their best to run down the latter as a class, sometimes working on the group feelings of the workers. Some of the supervisors who were not graduate engineers also spoke derisively of them as "the blue-eyed boys" of the organization. Management knew that many of the graduate engineers were not utilized according to their capacity or training, nor was any attempt made to test or develop their potentialities. They also knew that many of the graduate engineers were, therefore, dissatisfied with their work life. Some of them who did not get equal promotional opportunities as their colleagues placed in other departments, were looking for better jobs elsewhere.

On the other hand, according to management, the young graduate engineers were themselves partly responsible for the hostile attitude of others in the organization. Some of them failed to appreciate that a newcomer invited hostility in the beginning and it took time before he was accepted as a member of the work-group. They did not realize that they would be fully productive only after gaining about five to seven years' experience in the organization. A few thought that they belonged to a superior cadre and threw their weight around. They did not bother to understand and appreciate the problems of the rank-and-file of employees who worked under them.

In spite of these drawbacks, the General Manager of the company felt that these men were a set of disciplined supervisors. They had a sense of pride in their profession, and with the extensive training they had received, they would be able to take up any responsible position in the organization in course of time.

The General Manager could not allow the situation to continue especially when it was a difficult and costly process to recruit and train young engineering graduates of the requisite

type and calibre. He knew that the prosperity of the company, to a large extent, depended on these young men. In addition, a large number of lucrative employment opportunities were available to these young engineers elsewhere and there was a systematic raid on them. He, therefore, called a meeting of all heads of departments to review the situation.

*Questions :*

- (a) Identify the issues related to manpower planning as evident in the case.
- (b) Discuss the strategies to tackle the percentage of internal promotion at the organizational level.
- (c) What type of additional training programmes should be imparted for direct entrants ?
- (d) Suppose you are the head of the personnel division, what would be your suggestions in the meeting, which has been called by the General Manger ?