CHAPTER IV INDIAN STATISTICAL SERVICE

- 4.1 The Indian Statistical Service (ISS) was constituted on 1 November 1961 by pooling together posts in various Ministries in statistical discipline which were offered for inclusion in the ISS at the initial constitution of Service. The initial constitution of the Service was made on 15 February 1964 and the posts were encadred in Grade IV, Grade III, Grade II and Grade I. The strength of the Service at initial constitution stood at 185.
- 4.2 The first examination for direct recruitment in Grade IV of the Service was held in 1967 and the first batch of direct recruits to Grade IV of the Service was appointed in 1968 who were placed below the initial constitution/maintenance stage appointees in that grade. Till date, 21 batches of direct recruits have come into the Service no direct recruitment was made (in the years 1987, 1988, 1989 & 1990, due to the phenomenal increase in the strength in Grade IV of the Service following implementation of the Hon'ble Supreme Court judgment in Narendra Chadha's case which resulted in induction of 365 persons at Grade IV level, who had been appointed on adhoc basis as Assistant Directors, etc. in various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India.) Examinations for direct recruitment were subsequently held in the years 1991 & 1992. Thereafter, there was again a gap of two years i.e. 1993 & 1994. Once again examinations were conducted in 1995, 1997 & 1998. The Department has placed a requisition for filling up of 50 vacancies in Grade IV of ISS by direct recruitment through the IES/ISS Examination 1999, to be conducted by the Union Public Service Commission.
- 4.3 The Department of Personnel and Training had been functioning as the Cadre Controlling Authority of ISS upto October, 1984 when this responsibility was transferred to the erstwhile Department of Statistics. As Cadre controlling Authority, the Ministry is concerned with the centralised aspects of managing ISS and all matters pertaining to recruitment, promotion, training, career planning and manpower planning for the Service. Day-to-day administrative matters of ISS officers are taken care of by the concerned Ministries/Departments in which the officer is posted at a given time.
- 4.4 In the initial constitution, there were, as stated above, only four grades, the highest grade being Grade I in the scale of Rs.1800-2000/- (3rd Pay Commission scale). In December, 1986, 13 posts in the Selection Grade (Rs. 2000-2250, 3rd Pay Commission Scale), one post in Super Time Scale Level II (Rs. 2250-2500) and one post in Super Time Scale Level I (Rs. 2500-2750) were encadred into the Service. Just before that, 36 posts were upgraded from Grade III to Grade II in November,1986. Pursuant to the decision taken on the recommendations of the Fourth Central Pay Commission, Grades I & II of ISS were merged into the Junior Administrative Grade (Rs.3700-5000). Similarly, Super Time Scale Levels I and II were merged in the Senior Administrative Grade (Rs.5900-6700). Simultaneously, grades IV and III of Service were redesignated as Junior Time Scale and Senior Time Scale respectively. The next landmark development, also pursuant to Fourth Pay Commission recommendations, related to abolition of 13 Functional Selection Grade posts by upgrading eight of them to the Senior Administrative Grade and downgrading remaining five to the Junior Administrative Grade, viz., that of Chief Executive Officer, NSSO was upgraded to the Higher Administrative Grade (Rs.7300-7600).
- 4.5 The number of posts encadred into the service at initial constitution and at present, after the first ever cadre review of ISS completed in February 1998, as well as their distribution in different grades is given in the following table:-

Table: Distribution of posts in different Grades in ISS

As on 1.11.61			As on 1.1.99	
Grade	No.of posts	Grade	No.of posts	
Grade I	8	HAG	3	
Grade II	7	SAG	19	
Grade III	54	JAG	138	
Grade IV	116	STS	213	
		JTS	243*	

^{*} Exclusive of 73 leave, deputation and training reserve.

4.6 During the year the following promotions have been made in the ISS:-

S.No.	Grade	No. of Officers promoted
1	SAG	11
2	JAG	55
3	STS	62

Besides 43 JAG officers have been promoted to NFSG.

4.7 The composition of Senior Selection Committee for promotion to NFSG of the ISS has also been changed. The new composition of the Committee is as indicated below:-

Secretary, Ministry of Statistics & PI Chairman
 Secretary, Department of Personel & Training Member
 Secretary , Department of Industrial Development Member
 DG/CEO, NSSO, Ministry of Statistics & PI Member
 Addl. Secretary (Admn.)/Joint Secy. (Admn.)

Ministry of Surface Transport Member

- 4.8 A transfer/posting policy has been formulated in resspect of ISS officers. The aim of this policy is to enable the officers to have wide exposure to various stastistical disciplines to enhance their professional competence.
- 4.9 This Ministry has also started action on the constitution of Subordinate Statistical Service. Discussions are being held with Ministries/Departments in this connection. A cadre management committee has also been constituted. The functions of committee are to go through the various aspects of the Service especially training needs, cadre-related problems and issues relating to bilateral training programmes and Memorandum of Understanding.
- 4.10 The ISS Rules initially provided for appointment in Grade IV of the Service to the extent of 75 percent by direct recruitment and 25 percent by promotion from recognised feeder posts. Subsequently, Rules were amended in 1981 to provide for 60 percent of the vacancies in Grade IV to be filled up by direct recruitment and 40 percent by promotion from the recognised feeder posts. There were also provisions for lateral entries (i.e., direct recruitment) in Grade III, and in erstwhile Grades II and I. At present, there is no direct recruitment except in Grade IV of the Service. All vacancies in other grades are required to be filled up by promotion.
- 4.11 The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation had issued an integrated eligibility list of feeder post holders for effecting promotions from feeder category to Grade IV of the ISS in terms of Rule 8 (1) (a) (ii) of ISS Rules, 1961 on 7.3.1997. Based on this eligibility list, 136 feeder post holders have been appointed to Gr.IV(JTS) on adhoc basis. UPSC has also been approached to make regular promotions to Gr. IV of ISS as per the promotee quota.