

Panel questions new appraisal system for empanelling officials

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New Delhi: A parliamentary panel has raised serious questions on the new mechanism of empanelling bureaucrats under the “360 degree appraisal system” and has termed it as “opaque, non-transparent and subjective”. It has also said that the procedure followed for this has no statutory backing and is based on executive instructions only.

The adverse observations on issues including the process of creating “secretary equivalent” posts have come at a time when several bureaucrats are complaining about the new regime of empanelment. The House panel on personnel and public grievances headed by Congress MP Anand Sharma has said, “Feedback in this process is obtained informally, making the process susceptible to being manipulated. Further, the feedback received from sub-

PM to address all DCs, collectors on 75th anniv of Quit India movement

P rime Minister Narendra Modi will address over 1,000 IAS and senior officers including collectors, deputy commissioners of all districts and secretaries at Centre on Wednesday evening to mark the 75th anniversary of Quit India movement. The first such PM’s live address through webcast will have the “New India Manthan” as its theme. PM directly addressing the administrative heads of all districts gains importance considering that they are the actual implementing authorities of all welfare schemes of the Central government. TNN

ordinates and stakeholders may be biased and lack objectivity, particularly if the officer had to discipline his subordinates or he was unable to meet the unjustified demands of stakeholders.”

It has said acting on feedback received from subordinates puts the concerned officer in a disadvantageous position. “Acting on such feedback behind the back of the officer may not be legally tenable particularly if it adversely affects his empanelment prospects,” the report says.

The panel has recommended the government frame guidelines and notify the process to make it more transparent and rule-based. The report submitted in Parliament has also made critical observation on the clubbing of batches for empanelment and has recommended government refrain from such practices. It mentions that there have been allegations that the process has led to superseding of officers of the senior batches by their juniors.