



A farewell Message

*There is time for everything, a season for every activity under the heavens,
A time to be born and a time to die.....¹
A time to come and a time to go,
There was a time join and now, it is the time to leave for me.*

It was in the month of December 1981, that soon after the school annual examinations were over, I got a letter through the address of my maternal uncle. On the top corner of the brown envelope, it was neatly printed ' **On Government of India Service**'. I was obviously excited having cleared the previous Civil Services Examination of 1980 but yet to get any call letter. When I opened it, it was an offer letter to join **Indian Defence Accounts Service** by a specified date. Though I didn't know anything about the service, the mood was definitely upbeat since I would be able to put **IDAS** after my name. I informed the Principal of the School where I was teaching. He congratulated me but seemed to get an impression that I could have been hiding this information till the Annual examinations were over and the December's salary was disbursed... I got prepared to plunge into the unknown land and life. On the way, I stopped over in Delhi in Karol Bagh area in the residence of personal friend from Ghaziabad. After spending New Year Day with him, I went to join at NIMA Meerut on 2nd of January 1982. At the end of the month I got a salary of about Rs.1200. This was a hefty jump from Rs. 450 as a teacher in private school. Today, I am retiring with the last pay of Rs.2,25,000. What a change and largely a change for the better I believe?

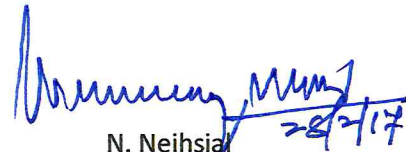
Thirty years may not be a long period for a nation or society. But it is not very short period for an individual. During these 35 years, our department has undergone tremendous positive changes. The intervention of technology has made our lives much easier with improved quality of service. We have ventured into games and sports and other related ventures. The office and residential accommodation including Guest Houses have come up in almost in all important stations. The conservativeness in spending of office contingency fund on administrative and welfare related items has become more liberal. Transportation facilities for senior officers and general administration are now comfortably available. These are almost unthinkable 30 years ago. I also found myself that I have become more accommodative. The thought that heavens would fall if a thing is done or not done has gradually disappeared. Perhaps, I have become much more passive. People should be given more and more space unless it is disturbing or nuisance to others is my mantra.

¹ Ecclesiastes 3:1

Notwithstanding all these, I found that my loyalty to the department has not waiver even now. I consider that the reputation, credibility and the wellbeing of the department as of my own. This will continue in future as well. As every parent wishes and desires that their children should be taller than themselves in every aspect, so is my sincere wishes for the department. May DAD become more and more an effective and indispensable partner in the defence management of the country? May it continue to grow and shine like the bright star in the clear blue sky in the years to come? I feel extremely fortunate to have come met each and every one of you through the department. If I have not joined Defence Accounts Department, there was no way I could have met wonderful people like every one of you. I am sure that the department and its future are safe and secured in your strong hands. With these few words may I say?

*We are in the office; I may not let tears out of my eyes,
But I want you all to know that my heart will silently weep and cry,
Remembering and cherishing the time that we spent together in one accord.*

Dated 28th Feb 2017.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'N. Neihsia', with a date '28/2/17' written next to it.

N. Neihsia
CGDA