

Role of Performance Appraisal System on Employees Motivation

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ABSTRACT: In many organizations, reward decisions depend on subjective performance evaluations. However, evaluating an employee's performance is often difficult. In this paper, we develop a model in which the employee is uncertain about his own performance and about the manager's ability to assess him. The manager gives an employee a performance appraisal with a view of affecting the employee's Self perception, and the employee's perception of the manager's ability to assess performance. We examine how performance appraisals affect the employee's future performance. The predictions of our model are consistent with various empirical findings. These comprise (i) the observation that managers tend to give positive appraisals, (ii) the finding that on average positive appraisals motivate more than negative appraisals, and (iii) the observation that the effects of appraisals depend on the employee's perception of the manager's ability to assess performance accurately.

Key Words: Subjective Performance Appraisal, Credibility, Cheap Talk

I. INTRODUCTION:

1.1 MEANING AND DEFINITION OF PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

Performance appraisal is a formal system that evaluates the quality of an employee's performance. An appraisal should not be viewed as an end in itself, but rather as an important process within a broader performance management system that links:

- Organizational objectives
- Day to day performance
- Professional development
- Rewards and incentives

In simple terms, appraisal may be understood as the assessment of an individual's performance in a systematic way, the performance being measured

against such factors as job knowledge, quality and quantity of output, initiative, leadership abilities, supervision, dependability, cooperation, judgment, versatility, health and the like. Assessment should not be confined to past performance alone. Potentials of the employee for future performance must also be assessed.

1.1.1 A formal definition of performance appraisal is:

"It is the systematic evaluation of the individual with respect to his or her performance on the job and his or her potential for development."

1.1.2 A more comprehensive definition is:

"Performance appraisal is a formal, structured system of meaning and evaluating an employee's job related behaviors and outcome to discover how and why the employee is presently performing on the job and he the employee can perform more effectively in the future so that the employee, organization and society and all benefit."

1.2 OBJECTIVE OF STUDY

1.2.1(A) Primary Objectives:

- 1) To study the performance appraisal system in different organization.
- 2) To study the transformation of performance appraisal from traditional to modern.
- 3) To get an insight into the relative importance of performance appraisal in organization.

1.2.2 (B) Secondary Objectives:

- 1) To observe the work environment in organization.
- 2) To get experience and expertise in making projects.

1.3 LIMITATION OF STUDY

- 1) To get contacts of HR managers for interviews was difficult.

- 2) Getting the views and opinion of the interviewee (HR Manager) was a difficult task.

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

Performance appraisals are a systematic way of evaluating the standard of an employee's performance.

2.1 Steps for developing a systematic performance appraisals

2.1.1. Identify key performance criteria

Development of key performance criteria should be based on a comprehensive job description and undertaken in consultation with employees.

2.1.2. Develop appraisals measure

In order to obtain accurate and valid performance appraisals, appraisals measures should be tailored to the specific job or "job family" (i.e., groups of similar jobs). An evolution of factors in the work environment which help or hinder performance is also recommended. This ensures that realistic expectations are set for employee's performance. And is also likely to increase the perceived fairness and acceptability of performance appraisals.

2.1.3 Collect performance information from different sources

Traditionally, it has been the sole responsibility of managers/supervisors to assess performance. However, other organizational members (e.g., clients, co-workers, and subordinates) can be valuable source of information as they are likely to have exposure to different aspects of an employee's performance. Collecting information from multiple sources can increase the accuracy of performance evaluation (i.e., reduce bias), and increase employee's perceptions of fairness.

2.1.4 Conduct an appraisal interview

The two central purposes of the appraisal interview are to:

1. Reflect on past performances to identify major achievement, areas for further improvement, and barriers/facilitators to effective are performance.

2. Identify goals and strategies for future work practice.

The appraisal interview should be a constructive, two-way exchange between the supervisor and employee, with preparation for the interview done by both parties beforehand.

2.1.5. Evaluate the appraisal process

The performance appraisal process should undergo regular review and improvement. For example, focus groups or surveys could be conducted to gauge employee's perceptions of the appraisal process. A success performance appraisal process should demonstrate a change in

Both the rating of employee's performance and aspects of the work environment that impact upon work performance.

2.2 Best practice in performance appraisal

In essence, best practice in performance, appraisals involves:

- Integrating performance appraisal into a formal goal setting system
- Basting appraisals on accurate and current job descriptions
- Offering adequate support and assistance to employees to improve their performance (e.g., professional development opportunities)
- Ensuring that appraisers have adequate knowledge and direct experience of the employee's performance
- Conducting appraisals on a regular basis.

2.3 TRADITIONAL PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

The history of performance appraisal is quite brief. Its roots in the early 20th century can be traced to Taylor's pioneering Time and Motion Studies. But this not very helpful, for the same may be said about almost everything in the field of modern human resources management.

During the First World War, appraisal concept was adopted by US army which was in the form of merit rating. It was man-to-man rating system for evolution of military personnel. From the army this concept entered the business field and was

restricted to hourly-paid workers. During 1920 relational wage structures for hourly paid workers were adopted in industrial units and each worker were used to be rated in comparison to other for determining wages rates. This system was called merit rating. The process was firmly linked to material outcomes. If an employee's performance was found to than the supervisor expected, a pay rise was in order.

MODERN APPRAISAL

Performance appraisal may be defined as a structured formal interaction between a subordinate and supervisor, that usually takes the form of a periodic interview (annual or semi-annual), in which the work performance of the subordinate is examined and discussed, with a view to identifying weakness and strengths as well as opportunities for improvement and skills development.

In many organization – but not all - appraisal results are used, either directly or indirectly, to help determine reward outcome. That is, the appraisal results are used to identify the better performing employees who should get the majority of available merit pay increases, bonuses, and promotions. By the same token, appraisal results are used to identify the poorer performers who may require some form of counseling, or in the extreme cases, demotion dismissal or decreases in pay. (Organizations need to be aware of laws in their country that might restrict their capacity to dismiss employees or decrease pay.)whether this is an appropriate use of performance appraisal – the assignment and justification of rewards and penalties – very uncertain and contentious matter.

2.4 OBJECTIVES OF PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

2.4.1 Salary increase

Performance appraisal plays a role in making decision about salary increase. Normally salary increase of an employee depends upon on how he is performing his job. There is continuous Evolution of his performance either formally or informally. This may disclose how well an employee is performing and how much he should be compensated by way of salary increase.

2.4.2 Training and Development

Performance appraisal tries to identify the strengths and weakness of an employee on his present job. This information can be used for devising training and development programmes appropriate for overcoming weakness of employees.

2.4.3 Feedback

Performance appraisal provides feedback to employees about their performance. A person works better when he knows how he is working. This works in two ways, firstly, the person gets feedback about his performance. Secondly, when the person gets feedback about his performance, he can relate his work to the organizational objectives.

2.4.4 Pressure on Employees

Performance appraisal puts a sort of pressure on employees for better performance. If the employees are conscious that they are being appraised in respect of certain factors and their future largely depends on such appraisal.

2.4.5 Others

- a) Identifying systemic factors that are barriers to, or facilitators of, effective performance.
- b) To confirm the services of probationary employees upon their completing the probationary period satisfactorily.

2.5 HOW TO CONDUCT A PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL PROCESS

The following five-step approach to conducting a systematic performance appraisal is recommended:

- 1) Identify key performance criteria
- 2) Develop appraisal measures
- 3) Collect performance information from different sources
- 4) Conduct an appraisal interview
- 5) Evaluate the appraisal process.

2.5.1 STEP 1: IDENTIFY KEY PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Perhaps one of the most challenging aspects of setting up a performance appraisal is deciding what to *assess*. In the essence, four key dimensions of performance should be considered in a performance appraisal.

To ensure that the performance criteria are relevant to work practice and acceptable to appraisers and employees:

- i. Base the performance criteria on an up-to-date job description
- ii. Develop criteria in consultation with appraisers and employees.

i) Base the performance criteria on an up-to-date job description:

clear and explicit links between performance appraisal and a job description will ensure the relevance of the appraisal. If a detailed job description is not available or is out-of-date, it is strongly recommended that an accurate job description be developed prior to conducting a performance appraisal.

ii) Develop criteria in consultation with appraisers and employees

Linking performance appraisals with job descriptions can help to focus the appraisal process on the key competencies, behaviours and outcomes associated with a particular role or position. It can also be useful to consult with employee to:

Ensure that key aspects of a role / position are represented in the job description, for example:

- Conduct assessments
- Plan interventions
- Manage cases
- Liaise with and refer to other providers
- Keep up-to-date service records and case notes
- Write reports
- Develop a clear understanding of the relative importance of various competencies,
- Behaviours and outcomes

Identify how these key competencies, behaviours and outcomes can be fairly and accurately assessed. Employees are more likely to accept and be satisfied with the appraisal system if they participate in the development of appraisal criteria and measures, and in the process of conducting appraisals.

Strategies for facilitating employee's participation include:

- Engagement in formal meetings or informal discussions with supervisors to seek input and / or feedback on appraisal measures and criteria
- Representation on groups/ committees involved in the design and implementation of performance appraisals
- Inclusion of self-appraisals in the appraisal process
- Providing opportunities for employees to contribute to the performance appraisal of co-workers and managers/ supervisors.

It is also important that employees perceive the appraisal system to be equitable and fair.

2.3.2 STEP 2: DEVELOP APPRAISAL MEASURES

- Once clear and specific performance criteria have been developed, the next step is to decide how to assess employee's performance. It is recommended that a structured and systematic approach is taken to assessing performance. Problems that arise when an unstructured "blank sheet" approach is used include:
 - Increased chance to appraiser errors (i.e., reduced accuracy)
 - Knowledge, skills and abilities most critical to job performance may be overlooked (i.e., feedback may have limited impact on performance effectiveness)
 - Reduced consistency between appraisal (i.e., evaluations may reflect differences between appraisers rather than actual difference in a employee's performance)
 - Perceptions of "subjectivity" in evaluations, which may in turn, reduce employee's satisfaction with, and acceptance of appraisals.
 - Generic versus individually tailored measures
 - Objective versus subjective assessments
 - Assessing the impact of the work environment on performance.

i. Generic versus individually tailored measures

Many workplaces use a generic rating form for all employees irrespective of their role or position within the organization. Although this approach can save time and minimize cost, the accuracy and relevance of appraisals may be significantly diminished. The “one size fit all” approach of generic measures may overlook important performance criteria that are relevant to particular jobs, and may also include criteria that are irrelevant to others.

Where time and other resources permit, it is more appropriate to construct appraisal formats tailored to specific jobs or “families” of jobs. If the development of job-specific (i.e., individually tailored) appraisal formats is beyond the resource capacity of the organization, an alternative would be to develop two groups of criteria:

- 1) Core competencies that have applicability to the performance appraisal of all employees within the organization.
- 2) Additional competencies applicable only to some jobs and included in the performance appraisal if relevant.

ii) Objective versus subjective assessments

A basic distinction between different types of appraisal measures concerns the use of objective or subjective criteria.

□ Objective assessments of work performance

Objective measures of job performance involve counts of various work-related behaviours. Some common objective job performance measures include

Absenteeism (number of days absent)

Accidents (number of accidents)

Incidents at work (number of incidents/ assaults/ altercations)

Lateness (day late)

Meeting deadlines.

Objective measures can be relatively quick and easy to obtain (give good organizational record-keeping). However, it can be unwise to place too much emphasis on these types of objective measures. An exclusive focus on results/ outcomes may mask factors that impact on employee’s performance that are beyond their control (e.g., client workload).

□ Subjective assessments of work performance

Subject measures rely on the judgment of an appraiser (self, coworkers or supervisor). Subjective assessments are commonly used in performance appraisals and often involve the use of rating scales. Subjective assessments are more likely to provide accurate performance appraisals, when:

- The behaviours and outcomes being assessed are stated in clear behavioural terms
- The employee understands the measures (e.g, rating scales) being used to evaluate their performance, and agree that the measures are fair and accurate (i.e., measures what it is supposed to)
- Measurement is as brief as possible whilst addressing essential behaviours and outcomes (frustration with long and unwieldy questionnaires may introduce error in responses).

ii. Assessing the impact of the work environment on performance

The goal of a performance appraisal is to support and improve employee’s performance and effectiveness. Therefore, it makes sense for an appraisal to include an assessment of factors in the work environment that help or hinder a employee’s capacity to perform effectively. Explicit assessment of environmental factors is also likely to increase the perceived fairness and acceptability of performance appraisals.

For examples, an employee’s capacity to provide effective treatment interventions is influenced by factors such as:

- Access to private, soundproofed, adequately sized rooms for counseling
- Availability of validated, user-friendly assessment tools
- Availability of reliable and approachable management/ administration

2.5.3 STEP 3: COLLECT PERFORMANCE INFORMATION FROM DIFFERENT SOURCES

Once the appraisal measures are developed, the next step involves collection of accurate performance information. A common trap

is to begin noting observations of employees just before conducting appraisals. This is likely to give an inaccurate picture of a employee's performance. Ideally, employee's performance should be observed in a systematic way overtime (e.g. in a diary). This method ensures the accuracy of information about their performances. Many employees in the organization operate with a relatively high degree of autonomy. This combined with the heavy workload of most managers/supervisors may limit opportunities to conduct regular observation of employee's performance. In addition, perceptions of ongoing monitoring may foster a sense of surveillance which can damage staff morale.

A more suitable approach may be to keep critical incident reports that note specific examples of both excellent and unsatisfactory performances. Supervisors can also encourage employees to keep track of their own performance records such as emails or letters that commend them on their achievements.

Traditionally, it has been the sole responsibility of managers/ supervisors to assess performance. However, other organizational members can be valuable source of information as they are likely to have exposure to different aspects of a employee's performance. This approach is known as 360 degree feedback. For instance, coworkers can provide valuable information on teamwork skills, and subordinates can provide useful information on leadership style.

There are many advantages to obtaining feedback on performance from sources other than supervisors or managers. Key benefits include:

- Accuracy and reduced bias (incorrect information from one source can be corrected from another)
- Increased likelihood that employees will perceive the performance appraisal system to be a fair and accurate reflection of their performance compared to relying on supervisor ratings alone).

If time and resources are limited, it is recommended that supervisor appraisals be conducted in conjunction with self-assessment. Including self-assessments as part of the appraisal process is likely to enhance employee's commitment to, and

satisfaction with, the appraisal process. It also provides employees with an opportunity to identify barriers and facilitators to effective performance in their work environment. Five different sources of performance appraisal information are considered here:

- i) Manager/ supervisor appraisals
- ii) Self-appraisals
- iii) Coworker appraisals
- iv) Subordinate appraisal
- v) Client appraisals.

i) Manager/ supervisor appraisals

Managers/ supervisor play a central role in the appraisal process, and should always be included as one of the main appraisers. In essence, managers and supervisors have two roles in performance appraisal:

1. "Judge" assessing performance
2. "Coach" providing constructive feedback and identifying areas for improvement.

Performing both roles simultaneously can be difficult. Employees may be reluctant to admit areas for improvement if performance assessment is linked with desired outcomes such as pay, promotion or opportunities to work in desired areas. One solution is to separate the judge and coach roles by conducting separate appraisal meetings.

ii) Self appraisals

The process of evaluating one's own performance can help to increase employee's commitment to the appraisal process, perceptions of appraisal fairness, and satisfaction with the appraisal process. Self-appraisal

can also be useful for identifying areas for development. Not surprisingly, self-appraisals are usually biased towards leniency. Strategies to increase the accuracy of self-appraisals include:

- a. Using clear definitions of performance criteria linked to specific, observable behaviours
- b. Information employees that their ratings will be checked and compared to other sources of appraisal (i.e., for accuracy)
- c. Ensuring employees receive regular feedback on their performance.

It is recommended that self-appraisals are used for professional development purposes, rather than for making administrative decisions (i.e., pay increases, promotion)

iii) Co-worker appraisals

Co-workers can provide valuable feedback on performance, particularly where teamwork occurs. Co-workers are often aware of different aspects of a employee's performance that managers/supervisors may not have the opportunity to observe. In addition as there is usually more than one co-worker who rates a worker's performance their evaluations tend to be more reliable. Co-worker's evaluations, however, may be biased towards those individuals most well liked in an organization (i.e., friendship bias). Furthermore, Co-worker appraisals may have a negative impact on teamwork and cooperation if employees are competing with one another for organizational incentives and rewards. It is recommended that Coworker appraisals are used for professional development rather than administrative decisions

iv) Subordinate appraisal

Subordinates are a valuable source of information regarding particular aspects of a supervisor or leader's performance such as communication, team building or delegation. Subordinates can provide feedback to help managers/supervisors develop their skills in these areas. The focus should be on aspects of managerial performance that subordinates are able to comment upon. This source of appraisal may only be appropriate in larger organizations where there are sufficient subordinates to allow anonymity.

v) Client appraisals

Clients may also offer a different perspective on a employee's performance, particularly for jobs that require a high degree of interaction with people. For example, client appraisals can be a valuable source of feedback regarding the quality of service provision (e.g. the quality of interaction, degree of empathy, level of support, degree of professionalism).

Organizations often have performance contracts that specify goals and deliverables for client outcomes. Whilst it is important that organizational goals and deliverables are reflected in the appraisal criteria for individuals and teams, it

is recommended that particular care be taken if incorporating client outcomes.

Relying on client outcomes as an indicator of performance can have undesirable effects due to the complex and sensitive nature of work. A range of factors may influence client outcomes, many of which are outside the control of an individual employee. It is rare for a successful (or otherwise) outcome to be the sole result of one person's efforts. This makes client outcomes a poor reflection of the quality of treatment provided by the employee. For example, "good" employee performance will not always bring about client improvement, and client relapses may not be due to "poor" employee performance.

2.5.3.1 Strategies to support appraisers and enhance appraisal accuracy

Rating another person's performance is not an easy task, particularly with complex jobs or performance criteria. Strategies to support appraisers and increase the likelihood accurate assessments include:

- Providing practical training in rating techniques, which includes opportunities to practice appraising performance and providing feedback
- Limiting the assessment to performance criteria that an appraiser has observed/experienced in regard to the employee
- Providing structured assessment tools with clear explanations regarding the criteria to be assessed, and performance standards.

2.5.4 STEP 4: CONDUCT AN APPRAISAL INTERVIEW

The next step in a performance appraisal is to conduct the appraisal interview. The two central purposes of the appraisal interview are to:

- Reflect on past performance to identify major achievements, areas that require further development, and barriers/facilitators to effective performance

- Identify goals and strategies for further work practice.

As discussed below, supervisors and managers can use a range of strategies to ensure that the appraisal interview is positive, constructive and of greatest benefit for employee's effectiveness.

2.6 HYPOTHESIS:

To know the extent of accuracy and perfection of the Performance Appraisal to motivate the employees in the organization.

H0 To motivate the employee in our organization. **H1** Don't motivates the employee in our organization.

2.7 DATA COLLECTION

I have collected for this research from different websites, articles, newspaper and through the questionnaire. Data collected through the website such as, Wikipedia, Data collection from, library, Concerned Management Books and also touch the some Newspaper such as Daily Down, the magazines, the daily Jang. It is good sources to providing help to data collection

METHODOLOGY

3.1 METHOD OF PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

SECONDARY DATA COLLECTION:

A) 3.1.1 Past-oriented methods

1) 3.1.1 Rating Scales:

The rating scale method offers a high degree of structure for appraisal. Each employee trait or characteristic is rated on a bipolar scale that usually has several points ranging from "poor" to "excellent" (or some similar arrangement).

The traits assessed on these scales include employee attribute such as corporation, communications ability, initiative, punctuality and technical (work skills) competence. The nature and

scope of the traits selected for inclusion is limited only by the imagination of the scale's designer, or by the organization's need to know.

The one major provision in selecting traits is that they should be in some way relevant to the appraiser's job

□ Advantages

The greatest advantage of rating scales is that they are structured and standardized. This allows ratings to be easily compared and contrasted – even for entire workforces.

Each employee is subjected to the same basic appraisal process and rating criteria, with the same range of responses. This encourages equality in treatment for all appraises and imposes standard measures of performance across all parts of the organization.

Rating scale method are easy to use and understand. The concept of the rating scale makes obvious sense; both appraisers and appraises have an intuitive appreciation for the simple and efficient logic of the bipolar scale. The result is widespread acceptance and popularity for this approach.

□ Disadvantages

Are the selected rating- scale traits clearly relevant to the jobs of all the appraises? It is inevitable that with a standardized and fixed system of appraisal that certain traits will have a greater relevance in some jobs than in others.

For example, the trait "initiative" might not be very important in a job that is tightly defined and rigidly structured. In such cases, a low appraisal rating for initiative may not mean that an employee lacks initiative. Rather, it may reflect that fact that an employee has few opportunities to use and display that particular trait. The relevance of rating scales is therefore said to be context- sensitive. Job and workplace circumstances must be taken into account.

3.1.1 (i) Systemic Disadvantage

Rating scales, and the traits they purport to measure, generally attempt to encapsulate all the relevant indicators of employee performance. There is an assumption that all the true and best indicators of performance are included, and all false and

irrelevant indicators are excluded. This is an assumption very difficult to prove in practice. It is possible that an employee's performance may depend on factors that have not been included in the selected traits. Such employees may end up with ratings that do not truly or fairly reflect their effort or value to the organization. Employees in this class are systemically disadvantaged by the rating scale method.

3.1.1 (ii) Perceptual Errors

This includes various well-known problem of selective perception (such as the horns and halos effect) as well as problems of perceived meaning. Selective perception is the human tendency to make private and highly subjective assessments of what a person is "really like", and then seek evidence to support that view (while ignoring or downplaying evidence that might contradict it).

This is common and normal psychological phenomenon. All human beings are affected by it. In other words, we see in others what we want to see in them

3.1.1.1. (iii) Perceived Meaning

Problems of perceived meaning occur when appraisers do not share the same opinion about the meaning of the selected traits and the language used on the rating scales.

For example, to one appraiser, an employee may demonstrate the trait of initiative by reporting work problems to a supervisor. To another appraiser, this might suggest an excessive dependence on supervisory assistance – and thus a lack of initiative.

As well, the language and terms used to construct a scale – such as "performance exceeds expectations" or "Below average skill" – may mean different things to different appraisers.

3.1.1.1. (iv) Rating Errors

The problem here is not so much errors in perception as errors in appraiser judgment and motive.

Unlike perceptual errors, these errors may be (at times) deliberate.

The most common rating error is central tendency. Busy appraisers, or those wary of confrontations and repercussions, may be tempted to dole out too many passive, middle-of-the-road ratings (e.g., "satisfactory" or "adequate"), regardless of the actual performance of a subordinate. Thus the spread of ratings tends to clump excessively around the middle of the scale.

This problem is worsened in organizations where the appraisal process does not enjoy strong management support, or where the appraisers do not feel confident with the task of appraisal.

2) 3.1.2 Check- list Method:

Under this method, checklist of "Statements of Traits" of employee in the form of YES or No based questions is prepared. Here, the rater only does the reporting or checking and HR department does the actual evaluation. The rater concerned has to tick appropriate answers relevant to the appraises. When the check-list is completed, it is sent to HR department for further processing. Various questions in the check list may have either equal weightage or more weightage may be given to those questions which are more important. The HR department then calculates the total scores which show the appraisal result of an employee.

- Advantages:** Economy, ease of administration, limited training required, standardization.
- Disadvantages:** Rater's biases, use of improper weights by HR Dept., do not allow rater to give relative ratings.

3) 3.1.3 Force Choice Method:

A series of statements arranged in the blocks of two or more are given are rater indicates which statement is true or false. The rater is forced to make a choice. HR department does actual assessment.

- Advantages:** Absence of personal biases because of forced choice.
- Disadvantages:** Statements may not be correctly framed.

4) 3.1.4 Force Distribution Method:

One of the problems faced in large organizations is relative assessment tendencies of raters. Some are too lenient and others too severe. This method overcomes that problem. It forces everyone to do a comparative rating of all the employees on a predetermined distribution pattern of good to bad. Say 10% employees in Excellent Grade, 20% in Good Grade, 40% in Average Grade 20% in Below Average Grade and 10% in unsatisfied grade. The real problem of this method occurs in organizations where there is a tendency to pack certain key departments with all good employees and some other discards and laggards. Relatively good employees of key departments get poor rating and relatively poor employees of laggards' departments' get good rating.

5) 3.1.5 Critical Incident Method:

In this method, only critical incidents and behaviour associated with these incidents are taken for evolution. This method involves three steps. A test of noteworthy on the job behaviour is prepared. A group of experts then assigns scale values to them depending on the degree of desirability for the job. Finally, a checklist of incidents which define good and bad employees is prepared.

□ **Advantages:** This method is very useful for discovering potential of employees who can be useful in critical situation.

□ **Disadvantages:**

- a) Negative incidents are, generally, more noticeable than positive ones.
- b) The recording of incidents is a core to the superior and may be put off and easily forgotten.
- c) Overly close supervision may result.

6)3.1.6 Essay Method:

In the essay method approach, the appraiser prepares a written statement about the employee being appraised. The statement usually concentrates on describing specific strengths and weakness in job performance. It also suggests courses of action to remedy the identified problem areas. The statement may be written and edited by the appraiser alone or it be composed in collaboration with the appraisee.

□ **Advantages**

The essay method is far less structured and confining than the rating scale method. It permits the appraiser to examine almost any relevant issuer or attribute of performance. This contrasts sharply with methods where the appraisal criteria are rigidly defined. Appraisers may place whatever degree of emphasis on issues or attributes that they feel appropriate. Thus the process is open- degree of emphasis on issues or attributes that

they feel appraisal system the limits expression or assumes that employee traits can be neatly dissected and scaled.

□ **Disadvantages**

Essay methods are time- consuming and difficult to administer. Appraisers often find the essay technique more demanding than methods such as rating scales. The techniques greatest advantage- freedom of expression – is also its greatest handicap. The varying writing skills of appraisers can upset and distort the whole process. The process is subjective and, in consequence, it is difficult to compare and contrast the results of individuals or to draw any broad conclusions about organizational needs.

7) 3.1.7 Grading:

In this method, certain categories of abilities of performance are defined well in advance and person is put in particular category depending on their traits and characteristics. Such categories may be definitional like outstanding, good, average, poor, very poor or may be in terms of letter like A, B, C, D etc. with A indicating the best and D indicating the worst. This method, however, suffers from one basic limitation that the rater may rate most of the employees at higher grades.

8) 3.1.8 Performance Test & Observations:

This is based on the test of knowledge or skills. The test may be written or an actual presentation of skills. Tests must be reliable and validated to be useful.

□ **Advantage:** Test only measure potential and not attitude. Actual performance is more a function of attitude of person than potential.

□ **Disadvantage:** Some times costs of test development or administration are high.

9) 3.1.9 Confidential Reports:

Though popular with government departments, its application in industry is not ruled out. Here the report is given in the form of Annual Confidentiality Report (ACR). The system is highly secretive and confidential. Feedback to the assessee is given only in case of an adverse entry. Disadvantage is that it is highly prone to biases and regency effect and ratings can be manipulated because the evolutions are linked to future rewards like promotions, good postings, etc.

10) **3.1.10 Comparative Evolution Method (Ranking & Paired Comparisons):**

These are collection of different methods that compare performance with that of other coworkers. The usual techniques used may be ranking methods and paired comparison method.

- **3.1.10.1 Ranking Method:** Superior ranks his worker based on merit, from best to worst. However how best and why best are not elaborated in this method. It is easy to administer.
- **3.1.10.2 Paired Comparison Method:** In this method each employee is paired with every other employee in the same cadre and then comparative rating done in pairs so formed. The number of comparisons may be calculated with the help of formula – $N \times (N-1) / 2$. The method is too tedious for large departments and often such exact details are not available with rater.

B) 3.2 Future –Oriented Methods

4) 3.2.1 MBO (Appraisal by Results):

The use of management objectives was first widely advocated in the 1950s by the noted management theorist Peter Drucker. MBO (management by objectives) methods of performance appraisal are results-oriented. That is, seek to measure employee performance by examining the extent to which predetermined work objectives have been met. Usually the objectives are established jointly by the supervisor and subordinate. Once an objective is agreed, the employee is usually expected to self-audit; that is, to identify the skills needed to achieve the objective. Typically they do not rely on others to locate and specify their strengths and weaknesses. They are expected to monitor their own development and progress.

- **Advantages**

The MBO approach overcomes some of the problems that arise as a result of assuming that the employee traits needed for job success can be reliably identified and measured. Instead of assuming traits, the MBO method concentrates on actual outcomes. If the employee meets or exceeds the set objectives, then he or she has demonstrated an acceptable level of job performance. Employees are judged according to real outcomes, and not on their potential for success, or on someone's subjective opinion of their abilities. The guiding principle of the MBO approach is that direct results can be observed, whereas the traits and attributes of employees (which may or may not contribute to performance) must be guessed at or inferred. The MBO method recognizes the fact that it is difficult to neatly dissect all the complex and carried elements that go to make up employee performance. MBO advocates claim that the performance of employees cannot be broken up into so many constituent parts – as one might take apart an engine to study it. But put all the parts together and the performance may be directly observed and measured.

- **Disadvantages**

MBO methods of performance appraisal can give employees a satisfying sense of autonomy and achievement. But on the downside, they can lead to unrealistic expectations about what can and cannot be reasonably accomplished. Supervisors and subordinates must have very good “reality checking” skills to use MBO appraisal methods. They will need these skills during the initial stage of objective setting, and for the purposes of self-auditing and self-monitoring. Unfortunately, research studies have shown repeatedly that human beings tend to lack the skills needed to do their own “reality checking”. Nor are these skills easily conveyed by training. Reality itself is an intensely personal experience, prone to all forms of perceptual bias. One of the strengths of the MBO method is the clarity of purpose that flows from a set of well-articulated objectives. But this can be a source of weakness also. It has become very apparent that the modern organization must be flexible to survive. Objectives, by their very nature, tend to impose certain rigidity. Of course, the obvious answer is to make the objectives more fluid and yielding. But the penalty for fluidity is loss of clarity. Variable objectives may cause employee confusion. It is also possible that fluid objectives may be distorted to disguise or justify failures in performance.

4) 3.2.2 Assessment Center Methods

This technique was first developed in USA and UK in 1943. An assessment center is a central location where managers may come together to have their participation in job related exercises evaluated by trained observers. It is more focused on observation of behaviors across a series of select exercises or work samples. Assesses are requested to participate in in-basket exercises, work groups, computer simulations, role playing and other similar activities which require same attributes for successful performance in actual job.

□ Advantages

Well- conducted assessment centre can achieve better forecasts of future performance and progress than other methods of appraisals. Also reliability, content validity and predictive ability are said to be high in Assessment Centers. The tests also make sure that the wrong people are not hired or promoted. Finally, it clearly defines the criteria for selection and promotion.

□ Disadvantages

Concentrates on future performance potential No assessment of past performance Costs of employees travelling and lodging, psychologists. Rating strongly influenced by assesses interpersonal skills. Solid performers may feel suffocated in simulated situations.

3.5 USING PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL TO ADDRESS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES

Regular performance appraisals provide a useful opportunity to conduct a “check-up” on various work force development issues that may impact on employee’s effectiveness and well-being. Performance appraisals can be used to:

- Recognize, reward and support effective performance
- Develop and reward effective teamwork
- Identify and manage issues likely to impact on retention
- Monitor and support employee’s well-being.
- **3.5.1 Recognize, reward and support effective performance**

Ensuring employees receive adequate rewards and recognition is a key workforce development issue for the performance. Performance appraisals provide a good opportunity

to formally recognize employee’s achievements and contributions to the organization, and to ensure a clear link is maintained between performance and rewards. The appraisal interview can also be used as a vehicle to demonstrate supervisory and organizational support for employees by discussing barriers and supports to effective performance, and strategies to address problems or difficulties.

□ 3.5.2 Develop and reward effective teamwork

The appraisal interview is also a useful vehicle for recognizing and rewarding employee’s contributions to various teams in the organization, especially if appraisal information is gained from team members. An appraisal of the team as a whole can also be a useful strategy to recognize and reward team performance, and to identify strategies to improve team functioning.

□ 3.5.3 Identify and manage issues likely to impact on retention

Open and constructive performance appraisals can be useful to identify issues that are likely to impact on employee’s willingness to stay with organization in the longer-term. Key factors associated with retention

include salary and remuneration, professional development opportunities, and work-related demands and stress. The appraisal interview provides a good opportunity for a “check- up” regarding employee’s satisfaction with their working conditions and environment, and a discussion of strategies to address any problem or issues.

3.5.4 Monitor and support employee’s well-being.

Performance appraisal interviews are a good opportunity to discuss employee’s health and well-being in the workplace, particularly in regard to factors that contribute to feelings of stress and experiences that promote satisfaction with their work.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

□ Performance appraisal should not be perceived just as a regular activity but its important should be

recognized and communicated down the line to all the employees

□ There should be a review of job analysis, job design and work environment based on the performance appraisal.

□ It should bring more clarity to the goal and vision of the organization.

□ It should provide more empowerment to the employees.

□ New methods of appraisal should be adopted so that both appraiser and the appraise take interest in the appraisal process.

□ The employees who have excellent performance should be used as a mentor for other employees who would motivate others to perform better.

□ Employees should be given feedback regarding their appraisal. This will help them to improve on their weak areas.

□ Financial and non-financial incentive should be linked to the annual appraisal system

so that employees

would be motivated to perform better.

□ New mechanisms should be evolved to educe the time factor involved in the procedure of appraisal. Introducing online-appraisal can do this.

□ The frequency of training program for the appraiser should be increased and these sessions should be made interactive.

□ The awareness sessions for the employees/appraises should be made more interactive and the views and opinion of the appraises regarding appraisal should be given due to consideration

□ □ Assistance should be sought from specialists for framing a proper appraisal system that suits the □ organization climate. Constant monitoring of the appraisal system should be done through discussions,

□ suggestions, interactions.

□ □ Combing the different methods of appraisal can minimize the element of biasness in an appraisal.

□ Like the rating method combined with assessment center method would give an evidence of poor

□ /unfavourable or outstanding behaviour of the appraise if any.

□ Use of modern appraisal techniques like 360 degree appraisal, assessment centers which are more effective.

□ More transparency should be brought about in the appraisal system.

□ The appraisal system should cover all employees in the organization both white collar and blue-collar jobs.

□ Recognizing the good performers i.e., appraises who have accomplished the targets for the year can help

in getting more commitment from the employees.

□ Information regarding the performance of the employees should be kept in proper manner.

□ Some of the performance appraisals should be conducted by the top management so that they can understand the employees and their needs, behaviour better and to find out the loopholes.

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