

to ensure consistency and fairness in various areas of administration. This is not to say that we will have to live with all of the existing regulations with a new set stacked on top. Clearly the Department must ensure that neither of parsimonious nor a Rolls Royce approach prevails. But instead of saying like most of the regulations "thou shalt not", the budgetary system says "agreed, go ahead". Departmental administrative policies we must have but they will be stated in permissive terms; there will be an end to the "guilty until proven innocent" tone associated by many with the regulatory practices at present. We enlarge briefly below on government-wide regulations and on departmental regulations.

The various government-wide regulations are not always to our complete liking but changes can be effected by the sustained efforts of concerned public servants. Appropriate officials at headquarters make our views known to the central agencies and participate in committees of revision from time to time. Your support and suggestions can make these efforts more effective. In the case of Government Contract Regulations and others of this kind, the Department is a relatively small consumer and therefore our representations have proportionately slight impact. Other departments and the central agencies want to move in the same general direction that we do and expect that more and more revised regulations will appear that exhibit the qualities described in the preceding paragraph. There is evidence that this process of permissiveness and delegation from central authorities is beginning already. In other cases (Head of Post Regulations or