Potential

Appraisal

Potential Appraisal

- The potential appraisal refers to the appraisal *i.e. identification* of the hidden talents and skills of a person.
- The person might or might not be aware of them. Potential appraisal is a future – oriented appraisal whose main objective is to identify and evaluate the potential of the employees to assume higher positions and responsibilities in the organizational hierarchy.
- Many organisations consider and use potential appraisal as a part of the performance appraisal processes.

Purposes of a Potential Review

- To inform employees of their future prospects
- To enable the organisation to draft a management succession programme
- To update training and recruitment activities
- To advise employees about the work to be done
 - to enhance their career opportunities.

Techniques of Potential Appraisal

- Self appraisals
- Peer appraisals
- Superior appraisals
- MBO
- Psychological and psychometric tests
- Management games like role playing
- Leadership exercises etc.

Requirements and Steps

- Role Description
- Qualities Required
- Indicators of Qualities
- Organising the System
- Feedback

Potential Appraisal Vs. Performance Appraisal

Potential Appraisal is forward looking process whether **performance appraisal** is backward looking process.

Any good or worse assessment results of performance appraisal may not be a good factor for potential appraisal.

But current performance of an employee could show evidence somewhere whether he/she is flexible for new working conditions.

Performance Appraisal	Potential Appraisal
Performance appraisal is an	whereas potential appraisal is an
assessment of a person given a job	appraisal of his capabilities to handle
	higher level jobs
Performance Appraisal is appraised	whereas Potential Appraisal is a
by his superiors as well is asked to	confidential form, not even shown to
self appraised himself	the appraisee to avoid expectation
Observation on the past performance	whereas no such data is available to
is available to the performance	potential appraiser
appraiser	
A performance appraisal system	A potential appraisal system is done
judges the performance of an	to judge the capability of the person
employee over a given period of	for a future role.
time.	

CONCLUSION

A good potential appraisal system provides opportunities continuously for the employee to know his strengths and weaknesses.

These are done through periodic counseling and guidance sessions by either the personnel department or the managers concerned. This should enable the employee to develop realistic self-perceptions and plan his own career and development.