Serial Circular No. 124/2019

EASTERN RAILWAY

No. E.95/0/Vol. VIII

Kolkata, dated, the 14th June,2019

All Concerned.

Sub: Clarification regarding re-delegation of power to sanction air travel by other than Air India flights.

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A Copy of Railway Board's letter No. F(E)I/2019/AL-28/25 dated 27.05.2019 on the above mentioned subject is forwarded for information, guidance and necessary action. Board's earlier letter dated 16.05.2016 mentioned therein was circulated under this office serial circular no. 108/2017.

DA: As above.

(A. Ray)
Dy. Chief Personnel Officer/Gaz
for Pr. Chief Personnel Officer

Index No.1030: The power to accord exemption for air travel by airlines other than Air India is vested only with Financial Advisor of the Ministry which is non-delegable and can not be delegated further at zonal level.

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Government of India/ Bharat Sarkar
Ministry of Railways / Rail Mantralaya
(Railway Board)

No. F(E)I/2019/AL-28/25 **New Delhi, dated 27.05.2019**

The General Manager,
All India Railways / PUs etc.
(As per Standard Mailing List)

Sub: Clarification regarding re-delegation of power to sanction air travel by other than Air India flights..

Ref: (i) GM/Western Railway's D.O.letter No. G/635/3/L, dated 09.05.2019.
(ii) Board's letters of even number dated 16.05.2016 and subsequent letters on the subject matter of Air-Travel.

In accordance with the instructions contained in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure's O.M. No. 13.07.2009 as amended from time to time vide subsequent O.M.s on the subject matter of air-travel, guidelines regarding competent authority to sanction air travel, seeking relaxation to travel by airlines other than Air India flights, procedure of purchase of air ticket form authorized travel agents etc. were circulated on Indian Railways vide Board's letter of even number dated 16.05.2016 and subsequent letters on the subject matter of Air-Travel. In terms of these guidelines, the power to accord exemption for air travel by airlines other than Air India for Railway officers is vested only with Financial Advisor of the Ministry of Railways.

2. A reference has however been received from Western Railway seeking further delegation of this power to accord exemption for air travel by airlines other than Air India for Railway officers at zonal level.

3. As per Secretary, Ministry of Civil Aviation's D.O. letter No.18011/05/2012-AI, dated 07.03.2016, addressed to all Secretaries to the Government of India, in all cases of official air travel (both domestic and international) including air travel for the purpose of LTC, where the Government of India bears the cost of air passage, the officials concerned shall travel only by Air India.

4. In the above connection, it is also clarified that in terms of MoF OM No. 19024/1/2009-E.IV dated 07.06.2016 & subsequent clarification vide MoF OM No. 19024/1/2009-E.IV dated 26.07.2016, the power to accord exemption for air travel by airlines other than Air India is vested only with Financial Advisor of the Ministry. As clarified by MoF & as also clear from the proforma far seeking relaxation, the said power vested with Financial Advisor of the Ministry is non-delegable. As such, these powers cannot be delegated further at zonal level, being quite contrary to MoF instructions on the subject.

5. This disposes of the Western Railway's letter under reference.

(Basant K. Singh),
Executive Director Finance (Estt.),
Railway Board.

Copy to: PPS/PS/PAs to CRB, FC, MS, MT, ME, MTR, MRS, MMM, MS&T, DG(RHS), DG(RPF), All AMs / PEDs / EDs .