CIRCULAR

It is once again brought to the kind notice of all concerned that guidelines contained in the Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure Office Memorandum No. 19024/22/2017-E.IV dated 19th July, 2017 relating to reimbursement of air travel claim are to be strictly observed for booking of air ticket. A copy of the guidelines in this regard is once again enclosed for under circulation amongst all concerned in the Hqrs. as well as peripheral institutes of CCRAS. It should also be ensured that while nominating the non-official members for Committees/Boards/Panels etc. they should be instructed to purchase the air ticket only from authorized travel agents as mentioned in the said Govt. order, otherwise settlement the claim may not be possible. Further it should also be ensured that the air travel on official tour etc. should be through air India only and in case of non availability of air ticket in air India, prior permission to travel by private airlines should be obtained before undertaking the journey.

This issues with the approval of Director General, CCRAS.

Encl: As above

(A.K. Meena)
Ado-cum-Accounts officer

To

1. All incharges of peripheral institutes of CCRAS.
2. Dy. Director General, CCRAS.
3. Ado (A) / Ado(E&R), CCRAS.
4. All Programme Officer, CCRAS.
5. All Officers/Officials of CCRAS.
6. Incharge IT cell to up-lodge the same in Council Website.

For strict compliance.

Copy to:- PPS to DG for information.

(A.K. Meena)
Ado-cum-Accounts officer
Office Memorandum

Subject: Guidelines on Air Travel on Official Tours – Purchase of air ticket from authorized agent

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Department's O M No. 19024/1/2009-E IV dated 16.09.2009 and O M No. 19024/1/2012-E IV dated 09.07.2013 regarding guidelines on Air Travel. As per these guidelines, in all cases of Air Travel where the Government of India bears the cost of air passage, Air Tickets may be purchased directly from Airlines (at Booking counters of office/Website of Airlines) and if needed by utilizing the services of three Authorized Travel Agents viz. M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited (BLCL), M/s Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT) and Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC).

1. This Department is receiving a large number of proposals from various Ministries/Departments seeking ex-post facto relaxation of the prescribed procedure for purchase of air tickets from authorized travel agents only.

2. The matter has been reconsidered in this Department. All Ministries/Departments are again directed to

(i) Ensure strict compliance of extant guidelines for purchase of air ticket directly from Airlines (at Booking counters/office/Website of Airlines) or from three authorized Travel Agents viz. M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited, M/s Ashok Travels & Tours and IRCTC only by officials/offices under their control. Henceforth relaxation on account of ignorance/unawareness of these guidelines will not be considered by this Department.

(ii) In case of non-availability of authorized agent at a particular place, ticket may be booked from website of Airlines or web portal of Balmer Lawrie & Company Ltd., M/s Ashok Travels & Tours and IRCTC.

(iii) In respect of Non-officials of Committees/Boards/Panel, the concerned Ministry/Department have to mention in the meeting notice that the Non-official Member has to purchase the ticket from authorized travel agent only otherwise his claim will not be settled by that Ministry/Department.

(iv) All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India etc. have to widely circulate this O M in all offices including attached/ordinate offices/autonomous bodies under their control with specific instructions to Heads of Departments concerned for strict compliance of these guidelines. Non-compliance of these guidelines by Ministries/Departments will be treated as lapse on the part of the concerned Ministry/Department.

(Nirmala Dev)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

To,
All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India as per standard distribution list

Copy Office of C&AG, UPSC etc. as per standard endorsement list.