

भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो

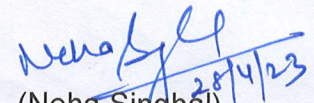
(सामान्य सेवाएँ विभाग)

परिपत्र

Sub:- Booking of air-tickets – reg.

This has reference to the Circulars No. BIS/HQ/GSD/10/2022 & BIS/HQ/GSD/17/2022 & BIS/HQ/GSD/18/2022 issued by GSD on the captioned subject. GSD has been arranging to book air tickets (domestic and international) for all officials of BIS through M/s. Balmer & Lawrie Co. Ltd. in line with the instructions laid down in the OM No. 19024/03/2021-E.IV dated 16.06.2022 of Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance (copy enclosed).

2. Few of the conditions as has been modified in the OM states as under:-
 - a) Officials to submit request for booking flight tickets at least 21 days prior to the intended date of travel on tour, to
 - b) Officials to provide the 3 hours slot (on the day of travel in the desired 3 hours of time band viz. 00.00 to 03.00, 03.00 to 06.00, 06.00 to 09.00, 09.00 to 12.00, 12.00 to 15.00, 15.00 to 18.00, 18.00 to 21.00, 21.00 to 24.00 of their proposed journey and the tickets to be booked by M/s Balmer Lawrie (The authorised travel agent appointed by BIS) in line with the para 3 of the above mentioned OM.
 - c) In cases where the request for booking of Air Tickets is submitted less than 72 hours of intended travel on tour, the same should be submitted with the approval of next higher authority along with the submission of self-declared justification by the employee.
 - d) Officials to avoid unnecessary cancellations. Cancellations made less than 24 hours before intended travel should be submitted with the approval of next higher authority along with submission of a self-declared justification by the employee.
3. Vide the said O.M, it has also been directed to ensure strict compliance of the order, however, it has been observed that requests for booking of air tickets are not being received in line with the circulated instructions. It has also been observed that requests for **booking of air tickets for the same day** are being received, without providing proper justification for the same.
4. Keeping in view the above, all the concerned officers and tour sanctioning authorities are requested to comply with the guidelines circulated vide MoF OM No. 19024/03/2021-E IV dated 16.06.2022.
5. This issues with the approval of DG:BIS.


(Neha Singhal)
Director (GSD)

- Circulated to all the officers/officials at HQ, ROs/BOs, Labs, NITS for compliance.

No. 19024/03/2021-E.IV
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure

North Block, New Delhi.
Dated the 16th June, 2022

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Modification of instructions regarding Booking of Air Tickets on Government account.

In view of the decision of the Government for disinvestment of Air India, it has already been decided that in all cases of air travel where the Government of India bears the cost of air passage, air tickets shall be purchased only from the three Authorized Travel Agents viz.

- (i) M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited (BLCL),
- (ii) M/s Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT)
- (iii) Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC),

2. The choice of the travel agent for booking of ticket for tour and LTC from those in Para 1 is left open to the Ministry/Department and to the official in case of self booking, based on convenience and service quality. Tickets for all employees for a single tour should be done through one selected travel agent only. No agency charges/convenience fees will be paid to these three booking agencies.

3. Employees are to choose flight having the **Best Available Fare** on their entitled travel class which is the **Cheapest Fare** available, preferably for Non-stop flight in a given slot at the time of booking :-

(a) On the day of travel in the desired 3 hours slot of following time band - 00.00 to 03.00, 03.00 to 06.00, 06.00 to 09.00, 09.00 to 12.00, 12.00 to 15.00, 15.00 to 18.00, 18.00 to 21.00, 21.00 to 24.00

(b) With provision of optimizing within a 10% price band, for convenience and comfort.

4. Employees are encouraged to book flight tickets at least 21 days prior to the intended date of travel on tour and LTC, to avail the most competitive fares and minimize burden on the exchequer. Bookings may be made even if the approval of the tour programme is still under process.

5. Any bookings made within less than 72 hours of intended travel on Tour, will require the submission of self-declared justification by the employee.

6. Employees are also encouraged to avoid unnecessary cancellations. Cancellations made less than 24 hours before intended travel, will require the submission of a self-declared justification by the employee.

7. Employees should preferably book only one ticket for each leg of intended travel. Holding of more than one ticket is not allowed. However, in case of special exigencies or exceptional circumstances, a maximum of two tickets for the alternative flights for different time-slot may be booked for same leg of travel with the self-declared justification for the same.

8. (a) While tickets may be arranged by the office through the travel agent, employees are encouraged to make ticket booking digitally through the Self Booking Tool/online booking website/portal of these 3 authorized agencies only.
(b) Employees must register their official Government Email-Id with these 3 agencies to book their air tickets digitally through above modes for travel by any airlines.
9. Ministries/Departments should ensure the availability of sanctioned Budget for Domestic and Foreign travel for their employees.
10. In case of unavoidable circumstances, where the booking of ticket is done from unauthorized travel agent/website, the Financial Advisors of the Ministry/Department and Head of Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary in subordinate /attached offices are authorized to grant relaxation.
11. All Ministries/Departments are to clear their dues on account of air ticket to the concerned travel agent within a maximum of 30 days from completion of journey.
12. To ensure timely payment of air ticket to the travel agents, to confirm the performance of journey, the employee has to submit a certificate/undertaking in prescribed proforma (enclosed as Annexure-1) within 72 hours of completion of journey. TA bill may be submitted later as per the existing rules.
13. Ministries/Departments must clear all previous outstanding dues to the travel agents by 31st August, 2022.
14. No Mileage Points will be generated against travel on Government account.
15. All Ministries/Departments are directed to ensure strict compliance of the order and to widely circulate this O.M. in all offices including Attached/Subordinate Offices/Autonomous Bodies under their control.
16. This O.M. is issued in supersession of all existing instructions on the subject.
17. This is issued with the approval of the Finance Secretary & Secretary (Expenditure).


(Nirmala Dev)
Director

To,

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

Copy : O/o C&AG, UPSC etc. as per standard endorsement list.

Annexure-1

Self-declaration Certificate for Completion of Journey

(Annexure to O.M. No. 19024/03/2021-E.IV dated 16.06.2022)

1. I (Name of the employee.....) hereby declare and certify that :

2. I have actually performed the onward journey from..... toon.....(date) and return journey from.....to.....on.....for the purpose of Tour/Training.

OR

3. I/We have actually performed the onward journey from..... toon.....(date) and return journey from.....to.....on.....for the purpose of Transfer/LTC/Retirement. The particulars of the self and family members who have performed journey either with the Government servant or separately are as under :-

S.No.	Name	Age	Relationship with Govt. servant

4. In case the above declaration given by me is not found true at any stage, I shall be liable to disciplinary action under Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965, as amended from time to time.

(Signature)

Name of the Government servant.....

Designation.....

Name of the Ministry/Department.....

To

Admin/Establishment Section

Ministry/Department.....