

## भारतीय प्रतिरक्षा मजदूर संघ

Bharatiya Pratiraksha Mazdoor Sangh

(AN ALL INDIA FEDERATION OF DEFENCE WORKERS)

(AN INDUSTRIAL UNIT OF B.M.S.)

(RECOGNISED BY MINISTRY OF DEFENCE, GOVT. OF INDIA)

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REF: BPMS/ DGEME/ TA/ 49(7/2/R)

Dated:13.08.2020

To, The DGEME Dte of EME, MGO's Branch Army HQ, New Delhi- 110011

## Sub: Payment of Transport Allowance (Conveyance Allowance) during Lockdown/ Quarantined/ Falling under Containment Zone.

Respected Sir,

With due regards, it is submitted that some of unions affiliated to this federation and functioning in establishments working under your kind control have approached to this federation with grievance of non-payment of Transport Allowance during Lockdown/ Quarantined/ Falling under Containment Zone.

As you know that to contain spread of Covid-19, the whole country was put under lockdown in the months of March, April & May 2020 under the directives of Central Govt and State Govts. Though the same was relaxed with some restrictions, but, in view of severe conditions it was extended beyond above months in many places.

Further, as per directives of Ministry of H&FW, DoP&T and State Govts, employees were/ are quarantined in various situations or allowed to work from home if their residences fall under Containment Zone.

In all above circumstances, employees were/ are allowed to work from home with direction that they must be available on telephone and electronic means of communication at all times and they must attend Office if called for, in case of any exigencies of work.

In other words, they were/ are on duty without any relaxation and Transport Allowance is granted irrespective of distance between place of duty and residence.

Under Rule 3 of Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure letter No. 21/5/2017-E.II(B) dated 7<sup>th</sup> July 2017, **Only following circumstances are mentioned for non**admissibility of Transport Allowance-

**3(a) During leave-** The allowance will not be admissible for the calendar month(s) wholly covered by leave.

(b) During deputation abroad- The allowance will not be admissible during the period of deputation abroad.

(c) During tour- If an employee is absent from the Headquarters/ Place of Posting for full calendar month(s) due to tour, he/she will not be entitled to Transport Allowance during that/ those calendar month(s). However, if the absence does not cover any calendar month(s) in full, Transport Allowance will

## be admissible for full month.

(d) During training treated as duty- The allowance may be granted during such training, if no Transport Facility/ Travelling Allowance/ Daily Allowance if provided for attending the training institute. During official tour in the training course, the allowance will not be admissible when the period of the tour covers the whole calendar month. Also, during training abroad, no Transport Allowance will be admissible when the period of such training covers the whole calendar month.

(e) During inspections /survey duty by Members of Special Parties within the city but exceeding 8 kms. From the Headquarters or during continuous field duty either in or outside the Headquarters:

Transport Allowance is given to compensate for the expenditure incurred for commuting for both to and fro between the place of duty and residence. In case when one gets Road Mileage/Daily Allowance or free transportation for field/inspections/survey duty or tour for a period covering the whole calendar month, he/she will not be entitled to Transport Allowance during that calendar month.

(f) To vacation staff: Vacation staff is entitled to Transport Allowance provided no free transport facility is given to such staff. However, the allowance shall not be admissible when such vacation spell, including all kinds of Leave, cover the whole calendar month(s).

(g) During Suspension: As a Government employee under suspension is not required to attend office, he/she is not entitled to Transport Allowance during suspension where suspension covers full calendar month(s). This position will hold well even if the suspension period is finally treated as duty. Where suspension period covers a calendar month partially, Transport Allowance payable for that month shall be reduced proportionately.

It is crystal clear from the above that work from home has not been included in the list of conditions for non-admissibility of Transport Allowance.

Therefore, you are requested to issue necessary instructions to competent authorities of subordinate establishments regarding payment of Transport Allowance except conditions mentioned under above Rule- 3, so that employees may not suffer from financial loss.

Thanking you

Sincerely Yours

(MÜKESH SINGH) General Secretary/ BPMS & Member JCM II Level Council (MoD)