

**No. G-20/1/2017-GA
Government of India
Ministry Jal Shakti
Department of Water Resources, RD and GR
(General Administration)**

**Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi
Dated 24.03.2021**

Subject: Forwarding of Audit Notes received from visiting audit party of O/o Principal Director of Audit for FY 2019-20.

Please find enclosed the **Audit Note No. 3** dated 24.03.2021 received from visiting audit party of O/o Principal Director of Audit (Agriculture, Food and Water Resources) for FY 2019-20 regarding "Irregular Payment on Air Journey".

2. It is requested that concerned officer(s) may be deputed to have one-to-one interaction with the Audit Party along with the draft reply to the observations to avoid any audit observation positively by 26.03.2021. The Audit Party is seated at Room No. 19A, Ground Floor, 'B' Wing, Shram Shakti Bhawan, Rafi Marg, New Delhi.

Encl: As above.


(S. B. Pandey)

**Under Secretary to the Govt. of India
Ph: 011-23738126**

To

Deputy Secretary (Admn.), DoWR, RD & GR, Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi.

Copy to:

Chief Controller of Accounts, DoWR, RD & GR, Shastri Bhawan.





INDIAN AUDIT & ACCOUNTS DEPARTMENT
Office of the Principal Director of Audit, (Agriculture, Food
and Water Resources), New Delhi, at 8th and 9th floor,
CAG Annexe building, 10 Bahadur Shah Zafar Marg,
New Delhi - 110002



Dated: 24/03/2021

Audit Note - 3

Sub: Irregular Payment on Air Journey .

As per Ministry of Finance Department of Expenditure, OM No. F.No. 19024/1/2009-E.IV, and SR 48-B, GIO (14), in all cases of air travel, both domestic and international, where the Government of India bears the cost of air passage, the officials have to travel only by Air India. If travel stations are not connected by Air India, the officials may travel by Air India to the hub/point closet to their eventual destination beyond which they may utilize the services of another airline which should preferably be an alliance partner of Air India.

Further as per SR 48-B, GIOs(16),(18) and OM dated 09.07.2013, air tickets may be purchased directly from Airlines Booking Counters/Website or from Authorized Agents viz. M/s Balmer Lawrie and Company, M/s Ashok Travels and Tours and IRCTC. Powers are delegated to the financial advisors of the ministries/departments to accord exemption for air travel, both domestic and international by airlines other than Air India vide OM 19024/1/2009-E.IV

On test check of few cases of air journey bills during audit it has been observed that in the below mentioned cases air journey has been performed by other airlines and exemption/prior approval was also not taken from FA.

S.no	Name of officials	Tour	Air line
1	Mukesh kumar	Delhi -doha -rabat- abudhabi-delhi	Qatar airways, etihad,
2	Vaseem ashraf	Delhi- paro Bhutan - delhi	Druk air royal Bhutan airlines
3	Gaurav Burman	Delhi to Doha	Jet Airways

These cases are illustrative only and similar cases may please be reviewed and necessary steps may please be taken to recover the amounts from the incumbents under intimation to Audit.

Facts may please be confirmed and comment if any may please be offered.


Sr. Audit Officer

To,
The Deputy Secretary/Under Secretary (G. Admn)
M/o JAL SHAKTI,
Department of water Resources,
River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation,
Sharam Shakti Bhawan,