

**RAILWAY CLAIMS TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH
13/15, Mall Road, Delhi-54**

No. RCT/DLI/Admin Policy /2019

Dated: 17.04.2020

To,

The Addl. Registrars,
Railway Claims Tribunal,
All Benches

Sub: Reporting of Officials in Railway Claims Tribunal during Lockdown Period

Ref.: (i) This office letter of even no. dated 14.04.2020
(ii) Ministry of Home Affairs order no. 40-3/2020-DM-I(A) dated 15.04.2020
(iii) Railway Board's office order no. 25 of 2020(No. 2020/O&M/9/1 dated 16.04.2020

Kindly refer to this office letter of even no. dated 14.04.2020 under reference (i) whereby instructions were issued regarding functioning of RCT Benches during lockdown period upto 03.05.2020. The Vice-Chairman of the Zones in respect of Benches falling under their jurisdiction and Administrative Members of RCT Allahabad, Amravati, Chandigarh, Gorakhpur & Lucknow were authorized to issue orders for permitting officers and staff to work from home instead of attending office so that spread of COVID-19 is prevented.

Subsequently, Revised Guidelines dated 15.04.2020 under reference (ii) were issued by Ministry of Home Affairs including instructions regarding attendance of officers and staff in the office of different Ministries and their subordinate offices during the lockdown period from 20.04.2020 onwards. In view of Para 18 of the order of Ministry of Home Affairs, Railway Board vide order dated 16.04.2020 under reference (iii) (copy enclosed) have further issued orders regarding attendance of officers and staff during the lockdown period from 20.04.2020 onwards.

In compliance with the above instructions, Hon'ble Chairman is pleased to authorize Vice-Chairman of the Zones in respect of Benches falling under their jurisdiction and Administrative Members of RCT Allahabad, Amravati, Chandigarh, Gorakhpur & Lucknow Benches to ensure opening of the office subject to compliance with the guidelines and instructions issued by Government of India and Railway Board instructions dated 16.04.2020. Hon'ble Vice-Chairmen and Administrative Members are also advised to ensure all preparatory arrangements with regard to social distancing in offices so that the permitted activities are implemented in a phased manner after strict implementation of the guidelines. They are also advised to assess the local prevailing situation regularly so as to ensure compliance of the guidelines.

Since RCT is a quasi judicial body and has to comply with instructions issued by Hon'ble Supreme Court and Hon'ble High Court, therefore, as far as functioning of court is concerned, the same shall remain suspended up to 03.05.2020. The directive of the Hon'ble Supreme Court with regard to provision of urgent hearing through Video Conferencing if requested by any of the advocates may be complied with as already advised earlier vide order dated 14.04.2020. For this purpose, Hon'ble Member(Judicial) and/or Hon'ble Member(Technical) of the Bench should be available if need be.

While implementing the instructions regarding attendance of officers and staff in office, it may be ensured that Para 3.1 of Railway Board order dated 16.04.2020 is followed so that staff residing in Hotspot areas/containment zones as demarcated by states/district administration will not attend office. They will work from home and will be available at all times on Mobile phones.

This has the approval of the Hon'ble Chairman.

Sd/-
(Sarah Jayal Sawkmie)
Additional Registrar

DA: As above