File No.A-52011/49/2020-ESTT-III

Government of India
Department of Water Resources, RD & GR
Central Water Commission
Estt. III Section

3rd Floor (S), Sewa Bhawan, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066 Dated, the th February, 2021

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

A few representations have been received from ADs/AEEs of Engineering Services Examination 2018 Batch regarding grant of HRA during training at NWA, Pune along with / or transfer grant and joining time. Also representation was received for consideration of the period from 7th February to 10th February, 2020 as Official Tour i.e. period upto Valedictory Function. These representations have been considered and the following has been decided with the approval of Chairman, Central Water Commission:-

i. Request for House Rent Allowance during training at NWA, Pune has not been acceded to.

ADs/AEEs of ESE 2018 Batch have vide their Letters dated January, 2020 claimed themselves admissible for HRA at the rates applicable at Headquarters during training program in India even when no DA is drawn for the period beyond 180 days as per Clause No. 12 (ii) mentioned on page No. 82 of Swamy's Handbook 2019. However the Officers have ignored Clause No. 15 and 21 on the same page of Swamy's Handbook 2019. The following is given under these two clauses.

"HRA not admissible to those provided with Government Accommodation, female employees staying in Government run hostels, employees allotted hostel accommodation run by Autonomous and Semi-Autonomous Organizations at subsidized rent and Officers staying in inspection quarters." {Swamy's FRSR Part IV Para 4 / Clause 15 of Handbook 2019}

"HRA not admissible if an employee shares rent-free accommodation allotted to another government servant." {Swamy's FRSR Part IV Para 5(c)(i) / Min. of Fin. O.M. No. 21011/13/89-E.II (B) dated 20.12.1989./ Clause 21 of Handbook 2019}

As all the ESE 2018 Batch Officers were granted Rent Free Accommodation at NWA, Pune, the grant of HRA cannot be made to these officers.

ii. Request for Transfer Grant and Joining Time to be rejected :-

Both transfer grant and joining time are given when someone gets transferred on public interest from one place of posting to another place of posting. In this case, the ESE 2018 officers were not working as AD/AEE in NWA, Pune but were merely on induction training as probationers. Their Initial Place of Joining was NWA, Pune and later on after completion of their training, they were assigned Initial Place of Posting as either CWC (HQ), New Delhi or some field office. All the trainees except for those on extension are required to join their initial place of posting only after completion of induction training. Hence, the concept of

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Initial Place of joining at Training Centre and Initial Place of Posting to work as AD/AEE after successful completion of induction training are separate. As it is a case of assigning of first place of posting after successful completion of essential induction training and not a transfer from one place of posting to another, No joining time and transfer grant is admissible.

Also, all the ESE 2018 Officers were Probationers at NWA, Pune and they were given furnished rent free accommodation along with free meals at NWA, Pune. Other than their cloths and some daily consumables, the probationers were neither required nor allowed to buy anything else which The could definitely be transported along with Bharat Darshan Tour as personal luggage and hence, no transfer grant can be given to the ESE 2018 officers.

iii. Request for considering 7th to 10th February, 2020 as Tour :-

It has been decided that the period from 7th to 10th Feb., 2020 is to be treated as official tour only for those officers who were given initial place of posting outside CWC HQ and the period of 7th Feb, 2020 only is to be treated as official tour for officers who were given Initial place of posting in CWC (HQ), New Delhi. All the officers may be allowed payment of daily allowance along with boarding and lodging expenses as per rules on a case to case basis. The Officers were given accommodation in CSMRS Guest Houses from 7th Feb, 2020 till their own needs.

(Sachin Dev Varma) Under Secretary Tel. No. 2958 3319

Copy to:-

- 1. All Concerned Chief Engineers, CWC, New Delhi.
- 2. Director (Coord.), D&R Wing, WP&P Wing, RM Wing, CWC, New Delhi.
- 3. Director (A. & C.), NWA, Pune w.r.t. Letter No. 3/51/31st ITP/2019-20/NWA/215 dt. 14/1/2020.
- 4. All Concerned Directors, CWC.
- 5. All Concerned SE(C), CWC.
- 6. SE (C), B&BBO, Shillong w.r.t. Letter No. 1 / 4 (G)2019-BBB/192-195 dt. 22.01.2020.
- 7. SE (C), LGBO, Patna w.r.t. Letter No. A-19011/2/2020-Prashashan/735-36 dt. 23.04.2020.
- 8. Under Secretary, E-I, DoWR, RD & GR, New Delhi.
- 9. Officers concerned (through CWC website).
- 10. PAO, CWC, New Delhi.
- 11. Accounts Officer, CWC, New Delhi.
- 12. Section Officer, Accounts III, CWC, New Delhi w.r.t. Note No. Nil dated 11.08.2020.