



CC/ATCG/Welfare/2021/03

17.05.2021

The Chairman  
Airports Authority of India  
Rajiv Gandhi Bhwan  
New Delhi – 110003

**Sub: Request for appointment of dependent family members of deceased officials on compassionate grounds—reg.**

**Ref: DoPT O.M.No.14014/6/94-Estt(D) dt. 09.10.1988, Compassionate Appointment under Central Government Scheme.**

Sir,

Air Traffic Controllers, the frontline workers who perform the sovereign functions for Government of India, have played a significant role during COVID-19 pandemic. The operational nature of job of ATCOs requires their physical presence for manning channels to provide Air Traffic Services 24/7 and do not have any scope of work from home for which they are the most vulnerable group of officials in AAI who are prone to get infected by this deadly disease. Their physical presence at work place/ATC Channels could ensure the safe movements of aircrafts for passengers as well as for the essential medical supplies, successful flights of Vande Bharat mission, mission Oxygen of Indian Air Force etc. In the process, many ATCOs have got infected with this deadly virus. The recent media reports have already shown that 30 – 40 % of ATCOs of major airports are infected by COVID-19.

Unfortunately, during this second deadly wave of COVID-19, AAI has lost many of our colleagues and most of them have left us in a very young age leaving their small kids and other family members without any source of livelihood.

The welfare measure of 'Compassionate Appointment Scheme' was the best social security measure continued in NAA/AAI till 2007/08 which had the provision to assist family members in case of unfortunate demise of the employee in harness. This welfare scheme was inherited from the Central Government when sizable percentage of employees were transferred en-masse to National Airports Authority of India (1986) and later on to Airports Authority of India. At the time of formation of National Airports of Authority, it was a firm commitment that service condition and benefits in NAAI would not be inferior to that of Central Government. Gradual erosion of these values need serious introspection for AAI. At this juncture, all of us feel, whatsoever the quantum of money is given to the family members is not enough compared to an employment to family member. Therefore, it is imperative to revive the 'Compassionate Appointment Scheme', considering the devastation caused by the COVID-19.

Also, as per DoPT O.M.No.14014/6/94-Estt(D), dated 09.10.1988, the Compassionate Appointment Scheme for Central Government employees is well defined. Ministry of Finance/Department of Revenue, Government of India vide their letter No. F.No. 610/01/2021-TCB, dated 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2021 have advised its offices to assist family members of deceased employees due to COVID-19 in filling up forms and process all such cases expeditiously. It is worth to mention that some of the organizations like SBI have implemented it with

retrospective effect to cover the deaths due to COVID-19. In view of the devastating post effects of COVID-19 on the families of deceased AAI employees, we request your good office for revival/implementation of 'Compassionate Appointment scheme' for the dependents of AAI officials who expired during this pandemic.

In view of the above, it is requested to revive the "Compassionate Appointment scheme" which has been discontinued in AAI to give a psychological boost and in still confidence amongst the Air Traffic Controllers, the most vulnerable category of employees in this pandemic times,

Assuring you of our full cooperation,

Best regards



(Alok Yadav)

General Secretary