

### 8.30 Air Travel by Officials working in Government Departments / undertakings in other Private airlines also apart from Indian (formerly Indian Airlines) within the Country

Finance (Allowance) Department

G.O. (Ms) No. 660

Dated : 04.12.2006

Read :

1. G.O. (Ms) No. 1118, Finance (OP-Misc) Department, dated.9.12.1986.
2. G.O. (Ms) No. 602, Finance (OP-III) Department, dated.16.10.1998.
3. G.O. (Ms) No. 668, Finance (OP-III) Department, dated.18.11.1998.
4. Government of India, Ministry of Finance, M.M.No. 7(2)/E.Co.ord/2005, dated 23.11.2005.

#### ORDER

In the Government orders read above, Officers are permitted to travel by Indian (formerly Indian Airlines) availing exchange order credit facilities and the bills are settled after receipt of bills from Indian (formerly Indian Airlines) through 8 Nodal Departments and by making necessary budget provisions in their respective Sub-heads of accounts for settlement of credit bills. The Hon'ble Ministers are also permitted to travel by 'Indian' only by availing exchange order facility and the bills are being settled by Public Department.

2) At present the officers are permitted to fly by other airlines only when Indian Airlines flights are not available in the prescribed time. Considering the flight timings, airfare, convenience and services offered by other airlines such as Jet airways, Sahara and Air Deccan Airlines, the Officers have sought permission to utilise the services of the Private airlines apart from Indian Airlines.

3) At present the normal rates of Indian, Jet, Sahara and Air Deccan are one and the same. The Private airlines sell the tickets at competitive fares and offer special fares for advance purchase and during lean periods. It is also noticed that in some sectors the frequency of flights of Private airlines is far better compared to Indian flights. Moreover, the flight timings of 'Indian' are not convenient to the Officers in certain sectors like Chennai – Bangalore, Chennai-Madurai vice versa, where as the services offered by private airlines are more convenient.

4) In the reference fourth read above, the Government of India have permitted the Officers to travel both domestic and overseas, on official account on airlines other than Air India/Indian (formerly Indian airlines) provided the criteria for selecting the alternative airline is based on better and more competitive fares being offered by other airlines.

5) As the Government of India permits their officials to travel by all private airlines, Government after careful consideration, have decided to permit the Hon'ble Ministers/Senior officials of this Government to travel by Jet, Sahara, Air Deccan airways and other Private Airlines also, apart from Indian (formerly Indian Airline) within the State or outside the State, but within the country subject to the following conditions stated below.

- a) All the State Government officials working in Government Departments/Undertakings/ Public Sector Undertakings/Boards shall be permitted to travel by all private airlines, in addition to other modes of purchase of air tickets as per existing Government orders, subject to their eligibility.
- b) The trip should be an authorized one and the choice of airlines is left to the officer concerned depending upon the convenient timings of departure and arrival as well as reliability of flights.
- c) The mode of purchase of tickets could be either by cash/credit card to be settled in T.A. Claims.

## 8. MISCELLANEOUS

Necessary funds will be provided under 04-Travel Expenses in the respective sub-heads of accounts in RE / FMA 2006-07. Wherever necessary Departments of Secretariat are requested to propose additional provision required in their proposals for RE 2006-07 and BE 2007-08, under the new arrangement, the cost of air ticket can be drawn by an advance of Tour T.A. and shall be adjusted in the T.A. bill after completion of tour.

6) Necessary amendments to the Tamil Nadu Travelling Allowance Rules 2005 will be issued separately.

7) Legislative Assembly Secretariat shall amend the Tamil Nadu Ministers Travelling Allowance Rules accordingly.

(By order of the Governor)

**K. GNANADESIKAN**  
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT