भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
वित्त मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF FINANCE
राजस्व विभाग DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE
प्रधान आयुक्त का कार्यालय
OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL COMMISSIONER
केन्द्रीय कर एवं केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क
CENTRAL TAX & CENTRAL EXCISE
कोच्चि, KOCHI
केन्द्रीय राजस्व भवन, CENTRAL REVENUE BUILDING
आई. एस. प्रेस रोड, कोच्चि, I.S. PRESS ROAD, KOCHI-682 018
E-mail: cexcochi@nic.in Fax: 0484-2390608 Phone: 0484-2390404

C.No.II/7/2/2014-Estt Date: 27.11.2017

ESTABLISHMENT CIRCULAR NO. 15/2017

Attention is invited to the following letter received from the Ministry of Finance:

Sl. No.	Letter No. and date	Subject
1.	F.No.A-26017/218/2016.Ad.II.A dated 31.10.2017	Proposal for seeking relaxation of guidelines on Air Travel on Tours
2.	File No. 296/12/2017-CX-9 (Part-III) dated 20.10.2017	Expansion of Speed post network

Copy of the mentioned letters may be downloaded from the website of Kochi commissionerate - www.cenexcisekochi.gov.in for information/compliance.

27/11/17

[C D Jose]
Assistant Commissioner [P&V]

To

1. **The DC/AC of divisions under Cochin commissionerate.**
2. **All Section Heads in Headquarters Kochi.**
3. **The Superintendent (EDP) for uploading in website.**
4. **Notice Board, Hqrs Kochi.**
5. **Notice Board, Central Excise Bhavan, Kathrikadavu.**

Copy to:

1. **The Joint Commissioner (CCO), Hqrs Kochi for information.**

ICNO-341
14/11/17

F. No.A-26017/218//2016.Ad.II.A
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs

pl circulate to all the formations in the zone for strict compliance

New Delhi, the 31st October, 2017

Office of the Chief Commissioner of Central Excise, Customs & Service Tax
10 NOV 2017
Cochin-18
कोच्चिन-18



To

All Principal Chief Commissioner of GST and Central Excise,
All Principal Chief Commissioner of Customs,
All Principal DG/Directors General in CBEC.

Subject:- Proposal for seeking relaxation of guidelines on Air Travel on Tours.

Sir,

Department of Expenditure has vide Office Memorandum No.19024/22/2017-E.IV dated 19.07.2017 issued guidelines on purchase of Air ticket from authorized travel agent on official tour.

2. Para 2 and 3 of said O.M. dated 19.07.2017 is reproduced below:-

"2. This Department is receiving a large number of proposals from various Ministries/Departments seeking ex-post-facto relaxation of the prescribed procedure for purchase of air tickets from authorized travel agents only.

3. The matter has been reconsidered in this Department. All Ministries/Departments are again directed to:-

(i) Ensure strict compliance of extant guidelines for purchase of air ticket directly from Airlines(at Booking counters/office/Website of Airlines) or from three authorized Travel Agents viz M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited, M/s Ashok Travels & Tours and IRCTC only by all offcials/offices under their control. Henceforth relaxation on account of ignorance/unawareness of these guidelines will not be considered by this Department.

(ii) In case of non-availability of authorized agent at a particular place, ticket may be booked from website of Airlines or web portal of Balmer Lawrie & Company Ltd., M/s Ashok Travels & Tours and IRCTC.

(iii) In respect of Non-officials of Committees/Boards/Panels, the concerned Ministry/Department have to mention in the meeting notice that the Non-official Member has to purchase the ticket from authorized travel agent only otherwise his claim will not be settled by that Ministry/Department."

3. The Board has been receiving a number of cases from the various Commissionerate/Directorates, in a routine manner, seeking relaxation of guidelines in respect of travel by airlines other than Air India and also seeking relaxation of rules allowing purchase of tickets from sources other than those specified in Department of Expendtirue O.M.No.19024/22/2017-E.IV dated 19.07.2017 (copy enclosed). On examination, references are further sent to the IFU for their concurrence, wherever necessary.

4. On one such proposal, the Department of Expenditure has advised this Department to ensure strict compliance of extant air travel guidelines by all officials/offices under their administriative control, as relaxation on account of ex-post facto will not be considered in future except in exceptional circumstances.

5. Accordingly, all Chief Commissioners/Director Generals are requested to bring the extant guidelines of Department of Expenditure on air travel, to notice of all concerned, for strict compliance. Non compliance of these guidelines will be treated as lapse on part of the concerned Chief Commissioner/Director General.

Yours faithfully,

A.K. Qasim

(A.K. Qasim)
Director (Ad.II.A & B)
Ph. No. 011-23095530

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No. 19024/22/2017-E.IV
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Expenditure
***

North Block, New Delhi
Dated the 19th July, 2017

Office Memorandum

Subject: - Guidelines on Air Travel on Official Tours – Purchase of air ticket from authorized agent.
***

The undersigned is directed to refer to this Departments' O.M. No. 19024/1/2005-E.IV dated 24.03.2006, O.M. No. 19024/1/2009-E.IV dated 16.09.2010 and O.M. No. 19024/1/2012-E.IV dated 09.07.2013 regarding guidelines on Air travel. As per these guidelines, in all cases of Air Travel where the Government of India bears the cost of air passage, Air Tickets may be purchased directly from Airlines (at Booking counters/office/Website of Airlines) and if needed, by utilizing the services of three Authorized Travel Agents viz. M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited (BLCL), M/s Ashok Travels & Tours (ATT) and Indian Railways Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd. (IRCTC).

2. This Department is receiving a large number of proposals from various Ministries/Departments seeking ex-post-facto relaxation of the prescribed procedure for purchase of air tickets from authorized travel agents only.

3. The matter has been reconsidered in this Department. All Ministries/Departments are again directed to:

(i) Ensure strict compliance of extant guidelines for purchase of air ticket directly from Airlines (at Booking counters/office/Website of Airlines) or from three authorized Travel Agents viz. M/s Balmer Lawrie & Company Limited, M/s Ashok Travels & Tours and IRCTC only by all officials/offices under their control. Henceforth relaxation on account of ignorance/unawareness of these guidelines will not be considered by this Department.

ii) In case of non-availability of authorized agent at a particular place, ticket may be booked from website of Airlines or web portal of Balmer Lawrie & Company Ltd., M/s Ashok Travels & Tours and IRCTC.

iii) In respect of Non-officials of Committees/Boards/Panels, the concerned Ministry/Department have to mention in the meeting notice that the Non-official Member has to purchase the ticket from authorized travel agent only otherwise his claim will not be settled by that Ministry/Department.

iv) All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, etc. have to widely circulate this O.M. in all offices including attached/subordinate offices/ autonomous bodies under their control with specific instructions to Heads of Departments concerned for strict compliance of these guidelines. Non-compliance of these guidelines by Ministries/Departments will be treated as lapse on the part of the concerned Ministry/Department.

(Nirmala Dev)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India

To,

All Ministries/Departments of the Government of India as per standard distribution list

Copy O/o C&AG, UPSC etc. as per standard endorsement list.

ICNO. 343.
14/11/17

File No. 296/12/2017-CX-9 (Part-III)
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue
Central Board of Excise & Customs
*****

New Delhi, dated 20th October, 2017

— pl circulate to all the formations and the zone to utilize these facility

To,

i) All Pr. Chief /Chief Commissioner of CBEC,
ii) All Director General, CBEC
iii) All Joint Secretary /Commissioner (Policy wing), CBEC



Office of The Chief Commissioner of Central Excise, Customs & Service Tax
10 NOV 2017
Cochin-18
कोच्चिन -18

Subject:- Expension of Speed post Network.

Supdt/Inspr I

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of OM F. No. O-21030/3/2017-Coord. dated 17.10.2017 alongwith enclosures received from Coordination Section Department of Revenue on the above mentioned subject for necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(V.Ganesh Kumar)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India (CX-9)
Tel: 23092413

Encl: As above

No. O-21030/3/2017-Coord.
Government of India
Ministry of Finance
Department of Revenue

O/o Commissioner (Coord)/CBEC
Dy/File No. 2389/2017
Date 17-X-17
FTS No.

New Delhi, dated 17 October, 2017

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Expension of Speed Post Network.

The Undersigned is directed to enclose a copy of D.O No. 51-12/2017-BD&MD dated 27th September, 2017 received from Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications on the above mentioned subject for necessary information and action.

Encl: As Above

(Anu Narayanan)
Section Officer (Coord.)
Telefax No: 23095372

1. Chairperson, CBEC
2. Chairman, CBDT
3. Director, Enforcement Directorate
4. DG, CEIB
5. Director, FIU-IND
6. DS (Hqrs), Revenue Hqrs
7. DS (NC), Revenue Hqrs

Copy to:

1. Commissioner (Coord. & system), CBDT
2. Commissioner (Coord), CBEC
3. US(GAR.)

We may issue instructions
DS (NC)
Maps
Top

Dy. No. 1957-CX9
18-10-17

US
pr. pushup with draft
18/10
SO(CX)
18/10

ए. एन. नन्दा
सचिव
A. N. Nanda
Secretary
फोन / Tel. : (+91-11) 2309 6060
फैक्स / Fax. : (+91-11) 2309 6077
ई–मेल / E-mail : secretary-posts@indiapost.gov.in

RIGHT TO INFORMATION

सत्यमेव जयते

डाक विभाग
संचार मन्त्रालय
भारत सरकार
डाक भवन, संसद मार्ग
नई दिल्ली–110001
Department of Posts
Ministry of Communications
Government of India
Dak Bhawan, Sansad Marg
New Delhi-110001

OFFICE OF REVENUE SECRETARY

OFFICE OF ADDL. SECRETARY (REV.) Recd. on 10/10/17 at .....

D.O. No. 51-12/2017-BD&MD

27th September, 2017

Dear Sir,

Department of Posts has been entrusted with the privilege of providing postal communications in the country and a range of services have been made available by the Department to this end. Of these, Speed Post is a premium service providing time-bound and express service which ensures delivery of letters and parcels weighing upto 35 kg between across the country.

2. At present, the Speed Post network has expanded even further. The reach of the network is unmatched and the service has become even more customer-friendly. The booking facility is available in all departmental Post Offices across the country. In major cities, booking facility is available round the clock from select offices. Similarly, the delivery of Speed Post is ensured in every nook and corner of the country. In addition to this, the following features have been introduced from time to time to make it more customers-friendly:

- Free pick-up from customer premises
- Credit facility under Book Now Pay later (BNPL) scheme
- Additional discount on advance payment of Speed Post charges
- Attractive discounts for high volume customers
- Complete end-to-end Track and Trace through Internet & android based mobile application
- Delivery information through SMS without any extra cost
- Centralized billing under National Account Facility
- Cash on Delivery (CoD)

3. As you can see, it makes good business sense to use Speed Post instead of private couriers, which are not regulated by any rules or norms, unlike Department of Posts, which is legally bound by the provisions of the Indian Post Office Act, 1898 to see that the best care is bestowed on mails.

Contd...2/-

4. Additionally, I would also like to mention here that in a test check conducted by Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) in order to compare the performance/quality of Speed Post Service of Department of Posts with private courier agencies for delivery of mails, it was found that the delivery through Speed Post is better than private couriers. Chapter-III of CAG Report No. 20 of 2015 – Union Government, Communications and IT Sector laid in the Parliament and available with link http://www.cag.gov.in/content/report-no-20-2015-union-government-communications-and-it-sector may be seen for reference. The Times of India clipping covering the results of the CAG test check is also enclosed.

5. I shall be grateful if you could direct Departments/PSUs/organisations under you to use Speed Post while also bringing to their notice the statutory position in this regard. The Chief Postmasters General/ Postmasters General located in their station/area will be happy to offer all cooperation, advice and also work out customized packages for any special requirements.

6. I shall also be grateful if a copy of the directions issued by you and the Department /autonomous bodies/PSUs etc. is endorsed to Shri Brajesh Kumar, General Manager, Business Development and Marketing Directorate, 5th Floor, Dak Bhawan New Delhi-110 001.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,

Encl: as above

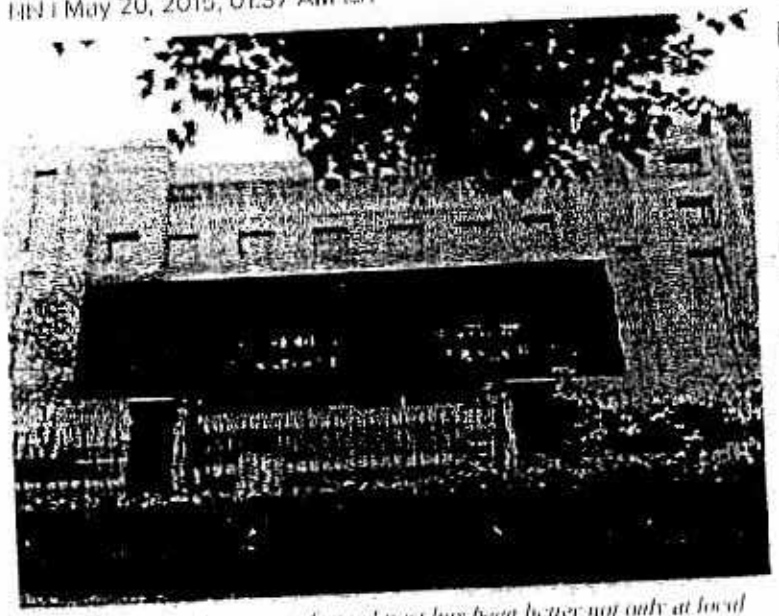
27-9-2017
(A.N. Nanda)

Shri Hasmukh Adhia
Secretary
Department of Revenue
Ministry of Finance
North Block
New Delhi-110001

Printed from
THE TIMES OF INDIA

Speed post faster, more reliable than private couriers: CAG

TNN | May 20, 2015, 01.37 AM IST



...it's said the performance of speed post has been better not only at local ... l and in major cities, but it is ... Read More

NEW DELHI: Should we depend on private courier services? A Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) study has found private couriers deliver only 90% of letters compared to 99% by speed post.

In major cities, the performance of speed post is faster and more reliable. The postal service delivers 99% of letters through speed post within 1-9 days as compared to 92% by private courier services that take up to 10 days.

At the local level, the delivery by speed post is 98% compared to 93% by courier services. While the time taken by speed post is 1-11 days at local level, it is 1-12 days in case of private couriers.

In a report on department of posts, tabled in Parliament recently, the official auditor has said the performance of speed post has been better not only at local level and in major cities, but it is the only reliable service at the tehsil and village level.

To compare the performance and quality of speed post with private courier agencies for delivery of mails, a test check was conducted by CAG in eight postal circles -- Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh. Checks were conducted by posting hundreds of letters.

At the tehsil level only speed post could reach 100% addressees that too within 1-7 days while private couriers could deliver only 83% letters and time ranged from 1-23 days.

Based on the results, it could be concluded that the speed post service of the department of posts (DoP) was better than the services provided by the private couriers," the auditor said.

Speed post was introduced in 1986 to provide a faster and time-bound mail delivery service in major cities. However, due to late delivery of mails people had stopped relying on the department. But the auditor says the perception is wrong and speed post still remains most reliable and account for more than 10% of the total revenue of the DoP.

In the test check, the auditor had posted 284 letters by speed post and 287 by different private couriers. The performance was judged based on the number of letters sent, letters actually delivered, and time taken for delivery of test letters.