Ministry of Public Service, Administrative and Institutional Reforms
Circular Letter No. 10 of 2022
E/260/72/04/07/01

From: Secretary for Public Service
To: Supervising Officers in Charge of Ministries/Departments

Encashment of 90% of Passage Benefit

In accordance with paragraphs 16.3.10 and 16.3.11 of the 2021 PRB Report, eligible public officers are allowed to make use of their accumulated passage benefit for several purposes, other than travel, such as medical treatment, renovation/construction of their primary residence, to meet costs of quarantine, to pay fees for examinations and to meet expenses incurred in hotels/inland recreational resorts etc.

2. The 2021 Report has also recommended that officers be allowed to cash up to 90% of their accumulated passage benefit for any other purpose other than travel, provided that the balance standing to their credit is not less than Rs10000.

3. However, in the context of COVID-19 pandemic which impacted negatively on public finance, it was decided that encashment of passage benefit would be limited to travelling abroad, local tourism, meeting medical expenses and for educational purposes.

4. Following consultation with the Ministry of Finance, Economic Planning and Development and the Pay Research Bureau, it has now been decided that eligible public officers be allowed to cash up to 90% of their accumulated passage benefit for any other purpose other than travel and those mentioned at paragraph one above, provided that the balance standing to their credit is not less than Rs 10000. The remaining 10% would be kept as the balance standing to their credit in their passage benefit account.

5. The cost of the above should be met from Vote 23-1: Centrally Managed Expenses of Government, Item 21111350: Allowance in lieu of Passages.

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6. Supervising Officers are requested to bring the content of this Circular to the attention of all eligible officers, as well as Heads of Parastatal Bodies, Local Authorities and State-Owned enterprises falling under the aegis of their respective Ministry/Department.

B. Boyramboli
Secretary for Public Service

Copy to:

(i) Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service
(ii) Financial Secretary
(iii) Accountant General