Shiva Gopal Mishra Secretary Ph.: 23382286 National Council (Staff Side)

Joint Consultative Machinery for Central Government Employees

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No.NC-JCM-2021/48th NC

July 30, 2021

The Secretary,
Department of Personnel & Training,
North Block,
New Delhi

Sub:- Immediate out-of-turn Compassionate Appointment to the dependents of the employees who died of COVID-19 infection over and above the 5% ceiling limit

Ref:- Item No. NC-48/1/21 of the 48th meeting of the National Council –JCM held on 26/06/2021

Dear Sir,

The Staff Side in the 48th meeting of the National Council – JCM held under the Chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary demanded that a large number of Central Government Employees succumbed to death due to COVID-19 virus infection and hence an out of turn Compassionate appointment over and above the normal 5% quota for grant of Compassionate Appointment may be considered favorably. Secretary DOP&T stated in the meeting that data in this regard is being collected from different departments and the matter would be examine thereafter. The office of the Staff Side are also taking efforts to collect the data in this regard from various Ministry and Departments.

It has been brought to our notice that many of the state governments while issuing Death Certificate to the persons who died due to COVID-19 virus infection treatment and post COVID treatment etc, are not mentioning in the death certificate the reason for death. In some cases it is mentioned that the death was due to other reasons such as cardiac arrest, lungs failure, Internal Bleeding and Pneumonia etc. In very few cases only the reason for death is given as COVID-19 positive.

You are aware that the Government of India has notified that the COVID-19 virus spread is a National Pandemic. It is also declared as a notified disaster so as to provide relief from the State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF). Persons infected due to COVID-19 virus died due to various reasons such as non-availability of beds in the hospitals waiting in long queues inside the Ambulance, no supply or short supply of oxygen, non-availability of ventilators, non-availability of life saving medicine and in many cases due to delay in testing the patients etc. Apart from this many patients died after becoming COVID-19 negative due to post COVID-19 treatment complications.

In view of the above situations to avoid any ambiguity it will be prudent to treat the death of the employees between 14th March 2020 and the date of issue of Government orders in this regard to as deemed to be due to the cause of COVID-19 pandemic and Compassionate Appointment may be granted to the dependents as a part of relief under the National Disaster Management Act. This relief should be over and above the 5% ceiling fixed for Compassionate Appointment to the regular death cases.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

(Shiva Gopal Mishra) Secretary