

SMS

Sub : Clarification in regard to entitlement on Privilege/Duty Pass to Assistant Audit Officers (AAO) of Railway Audit Department.

Ref : U.O.I. No.74-Rly/Passes-PTOs/17-11/2005 KW dated 23.04.2019.

With reference to above cited U.O., the issue has been examined in consultation with Pay Commission Directorate of Railway Board. As the staff and officers of Railway Audit Department are eligible for Pass/PTO facility on the same scale as admissible to their counterpart railway servants in Railways [i.e. SSO(Accounts)], their status, post implementation of 7<sup>th</sup> CPC recommendations, was sought from Pay Commission Directorate. It has been confirmed by them that in the Railways, the post of SSO(Accounts) still continues to be in Group 'C'. Accordingly, in terms of revised travel entitlement issued vide Board's letter No.E(W)2016/PS5-1/8 dated 31.01.2019, as like SSO(Accounts), AAOs of Railway Audit Department are not entitled to First Class 'A'/Bronze Pass on Privilege/Duty accounts. A copy of clarification dated 31.10.2011 sent to Director General (Railways), Office of Comptroller and Auditor General of India containing detailed reasons for maintaining parity, is also enclosed for information.

V. Muralidharan

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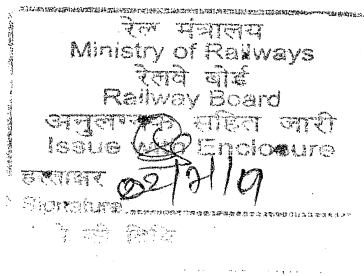
Dy. Director Estt. (Welfare)-I  
Railway Board

Encl : As stated.

Principal Director (Railways), Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, 9 Deen Dayal Upadhyay Marg, New Delhi.

U.O. No.E(W)2019/PS5-2/9 dated 28/06.2019.

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Ministry of Railways  
(Railway Board)  
Rail Bhawan, Raisina Road  
New Delhi - 110001

Sub.: Grant of Ist 'A' Pass to Asstt. Audit Officers (AAOs).

Reference is invited to Director General (Railways) U.O.I. No.686-Rly/Passes-PTOs/17-11/2005 dated 24-2-2011 & 26-4-2011 regarding grant of Ist 'A' Pass to Asstt. Audit Officers (AAOs) working in the Railway Audit.

The matter has been examined in the Ministry of Railways. It has been observed that AAOs are comparable to their counterparts in railway accounts department viz. SSO(Accounts) whose Grade Pay has also been fixed at ₹4800/- in pursuance of 6<sup>th</sup> CPC recommendations. They, however, continues to be in Group 'C' category and hence not eligible for 1<sup>st</sup> class 'A' Pass: -1

II Apex Court in one of its Judgements had earlier observed that if the contentions of the Assistant Audit Officers are accepted, they would lead to unjust results on the Indian Railways as the persons belonging to foreign Department would enjoy higher privileges as compared to their own employees performing comparable functions.

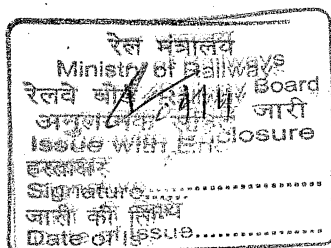
It is pertinent to mention that Railway Servants(including Accounts staff) are granted benefits of railway passes as a part of their service conditions as per provisions of Railway Servant Pass Rules whereas the benefit of passes to the staff of CAG has been extended purely as a goodwill gesture.

Accordingly, extending the benefit of passes to staff of CAG which are not admissible to their counterpart accounts staff/analogous supervisors of other core departments of the Railways would be anomalous.

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Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) I.D. No. E(W) 2001/PS 5-1/1  
dated 31.10-2011.



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