

भारत सरकार (GOVERNMENT OF INDIA)
रेल मंत्रालय (MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS)
रेलवे बोर्ड (RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 2020/E(LL)/PMNRF/1

New Delhi, Dated 30.03.2020

**General Managers
All Zonal Railways, PUs etc
including Metro Railway,
Kolkata**

Sub.: Contribution to "Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund" (PM CARES Fund): COVID-19 Pandemic.

Ref: Railway Board's letter of even no. dated 27.03.2020 and 'Press Information Bureau(PIB)'s release on PM CARES Fund dated 28.03.2020.

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As you are aware that the pandemic of COVID-19 has engulfed the entire world and has posed serious challenges for the health and economic security of millions of people worldwide. In India too, the spread of coronavirus has been alarming and is posing severe health and economic ramifications for our country.

2. In this connection, Board has taken note of PIB's release on the subject. As per the release, the Prime Minister's office has been receiving spontaneous and innumerable requests for making generous donations to support the government in the wake of this emergency. Distress situations, whether natural or otherwise, demand expeditious and collective action for alleviating the suffering of those affected, mitigation/control of damage to infrastructure and capacities etc. Therefore, building capacities for quick emergency response and effective community resilience must be done in tandem with infrastructure and institutional capacity reconstruction/enhancement. Use of new technology and advance research findings also become an inseparable element of such concerted action.

3. Therefore, keeping in mind the need for having a dedicated national fund with the primary objective of dealing with any kind of emergency or distress situation, like posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and to provide relief to the affected, a public charitable trust under the name of '**Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund**' (PM CARES Fund)' has been set up. Hon'ble Prime Minister is the Chairman of this trust and its Members include Defence Minister, Home Minister and Finance Minister. It may be noted that donations to this fund will be exempted from Income Tax under section 80(G) of the Income Tax Act, 1961 for those taxpayers who wish to opt for benefit of deduction(s).

4. Our Hon'ble PM has made an appeal to all citizens to generously donate to this fund. Hence, in partial supersession of the Board's referred letter dated 27.03.2020, it has been decided, with Board's approval, that contributions received from Railway Servants shall be remitted to aforesaid 'PM CARES Fund' instead of 'Prime Minister's National Relief Fund'.


30/3/20.

(Alok Kumar)
Executive Director Estt(IR)
Railway Board