

File No: X-20/42/2020-SPN-II

Government of India  
Ministry of Communications  
Department of Posts  
(Personnel Division)

Dak Bhawan, Sansad Marg  
New Delhi – 110 001  
July 09th , 2021

To,

1. All Head of Circles
2. Chief General Manager, BD / Parcel /PLI Directorate / CEPT
3. Director, RAKNPA / Director, All Postal Training Centres

**Subject: Regularization of absence during COVID – 19 pandemic period.**

Madam / Sir,

Instructions for regularisation of absence of officers / officials of Department of Posts during lock-down / quarantine period, etc have been issued vide letter no. X-20/42/2021-SPN-II dated 24.05.2021.

2. Taking into consideration the instructions issued by Department of Personnel and Training, vide O.M. No. 13020/1/2019-Estt.(L) dated 07.06.202, matter has been reviewed and the Competent Authority has decided to revise the instructions issued vide aforesaid letter dated 24.05.2021, as under:-

Sl No	Issue	Decision
a.	Period of quarantine / isolation as prescribed by authority from time to time on coming into contact with a Covid positive person while in office or while carrying out official duty or while on official tour / transfer / deputation.	Period mentioned in (a), (b) and (c) shall be treated as duty for all purposes.
b.	Period of absence due to restrictions on movement and travel imposed by the Central Government, State/UT Govt/District authorities, local authorities, residential society etc. and due to residential area concerned notified as containment zone and due to suspension of public transport due to which the employee is not able to attend office or return to his/her headquarters after availing sanctioned leave/ sanctioned LTC, permitted to leave HQ / official tour / transfer /	

	deputation.	
c.	All the period during which the employee worked from home as per the orders of controlling / competent authority.	
d.	Period of quarantine / isolation as prescribed by authority on return to headquarters from leave, LTC, personal travel.	Period mentioned in (d), and (e) shall be regularised by sanction of leave applied for to the extent due and admissible.
e.	Period of absence due to quarantine / isolation / restrictions on movement / travel etc. while away from HQ unauthorised.	
f.	Period of absence due to the official / officer is COVID positive and is in home isolation / quarantine but not hospitalized.	(i) Shall be granted commuted leave of 20 days, if due and admissible, on production of his COVID positive report.  (ii) If commuted leave is not available, Special Casual Leave (SCL) for 15 days shall be granted, followed by Earned Leave (EL) or Half Pay Leave (HPL) of 5 days and, in case EL and HPL is not available, Extra Ordinary Leave (EOL) shall be given without insisting on production of medical certificate, and the period shall also be counted for qualifying service.
g.	Period of absence due to the official / officer is COVID positive and is in home isolation / quarantine / hospitalized.	(i) Shall be granted commuted leave/SCL/EL for a period upto 20 days starting from the time having tested COVID positive, if the period of home quarantine / discharge from hospital falls within 20 days, as per Sl. No. f above.  (ii) In case of hospitalization beyond 20 <sup>th</sup> day from testing COVID positive, commuted leave shall be granted, on production of documentary proof of hospitalization.  (iii) If, however, after discharge from the hospital, the officer / official is required to remain at home for post-COVID recovery, leave of any kind due and admissible may be granted, with the approval of the concerned Competent authority, as per the CCS (Leave) Rules, 1972. It is only when commuted leave is not available that SCL of 15 days or EL or EOL shall be considered.