

ALL INDIA
RESERVE BANK
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No. GS.Spl/15/2020

31st March 2020

The Chief General Manager-in- charge (Sri Vivek Deep ji)
Human Resource Management Department
Reserve Bank of India, Central Office, Mumbai

Dear Sir,

(Attention: Sri Sudhir Kumar Jha, CGM, HRMD, please)
Bank's medical facilities during 'lock-down' period

Bank have already announced that during the 'lock-down' period, retirees under MAF Scheme may purchase medicines, as required, from neighbourhood chemist shops, which will be reimbursed by the Bank against receipted bills. This is welcome. However, prescription books for regular intake of medicines are kept in Bank's dispensaries to which the retirees will not have access when Bank's dispensaries are closed and some chemists may refuse to dispense medicines without valid prescriptions or photocopies thereof. In such situations the retirees may have to get prescriptions from registered medical practitioners, whose fees may also be reimbursed by the Bank.

2) The same procedure may be followed for Bank's staff in the event they cannot avail of Bank's dispensary facilities for themselves or their eligible family members under emergency conditions.

3) Bank's dispensary facilities in various offices and staff quarters have now been severely curtailed. However, the bare minimum service is still being provided in some centres by a skeleton staff comprising BMOs/BMCs, contract pharmacists and maintenance staff. The contract pharmacists are being paid a pittance as daily 'honorarium' in today's scenario, when due to prevalent emergency situation, all essentials have been further costlier in addition to very exorbitant price level already. We are shocked as to how long this gross injustice to these few contract pharmacists will perpetuate. Still taking all risks to their personal and families' safety these few people are giving yeoman's service. Whether now at least Bank can consider some raise for them? pending that, we propose that bank's pharmacists and contract pharmacists, who are giving this important service may be paid at least Rs. 2000/- (Rupees two thousand only) per day as risk allowance or under whatever nomenclature. Proportionately be paid BMCs/BMOs and other staff associated with Bank's medical service.

4) Those contract pharmacists who cannot come to the bank due to complete stoppage of transport should continue to get their daily remunerations as per general advisories of the Govt. of India.

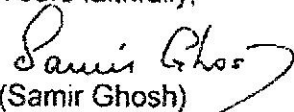
5) As Bank's medical staff deal with patients and are exposing themselves to health risks, they should be insured adequately as long as the COVID-19 situation prevails, as per the directions of the Govt. of India and we request the Bank to make such arrangements immediately.

6) All Bank's dispensaries should be adequately stuffed with masks, hand sanitizers, gloves etc. and all patients should be duly sanitized.

We request the Bank to consider the above including Govt. guidelines during this critical period.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,


(Samir Ghosh)
General Secretary