

3/3/17
The Chairman,
Airports Authority of India,
Rajiv Gandhi Bhawan, SAP,
New Delhi - 110 003.

Introduction of meal cards in AAI.

Sir,

The proposal for introduction of meal/food card was submitted by all associations in January, 2015 with the hope that this scheme would be implemented w.e.f. 01st April, 2015. We are constrained to draw your kind attention to the delay for which each willing employee is being denied the opportunity to save income tax to the tune of Rs.8000 per annum.

At the cost of reiteration, it is mentioned that the meal card almost functions like a smart card / debit card, which can be used only for meal and non-alcoholic beverages. Considering the benefits of meal cards over meal coupons, this proposal was mooted by all associations for introduction on purely experimental and voluntary basis for a period of one year. There are several advantages of meal card over meal vouchers like no paper work, easy to carry, hassle free mode of payment, tax compliant product, transaction alert etc. It is almost similar to a debit card where monthly opted amount of the employee is credited to the card account and the card can be exclusively used to pay for the purchases of items falling under meals.

Many organizations including PSUs have already implemented these cards. Since the cards are made exclusively for this purpose as per RBI guidelines, employees will be benefited if the scheme will be introduced. Since there is no cost to Airports Authority of India to implement this scheme and hiring the services of an experienced agency to start the scheme on a trial basis for the willing employees for one year, we urge AAI management to facilitate its employees in getting the benefit.

We request AAI management to introduce the scheme of meal cards and option from the willing employees may be taken expeditiously so as to implement the scheme from 01.04.2017, when the annual option will be exercised by the employees under cafeteria approach.

Yours faithfully,



(Manoj Sinha)
General Secretary
ATCG(I)



(R.K. Grover)
Jt. Gen. Secretary
AAIEG



(Alok Varshney)
General Secretary
ACOA (I)



(L.N. Prasad)
Finance Secretary
AAOA(I)

