

**No.13/1/06-P& PW(F)**  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Personnel Public Grievances and Pensions**  
**Department of Pension and Pensioners Welfare**

Lok Nayak Bhavan, New Delhi  
dated the 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2006

**OFFICE MEMORANDUM**

**Subject: Advance from the General Provident Fund for pilgrimage and visiting places of eminence of all religions.**

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The undersigned is directed to invite a reference to the provisions of Rule 12 of General Provident Fund Rules which provide for sanctioning of advance from the GPF account of a Government servant for the purposes specified in the said rule and administrative instructions thereunder. The Staff side in the National Council, JCM has requested for withdrawal advance from the GPF for the purpose of pilgrimage in India and abroad. The demand of the Staff Side has been considered in consultation with the Ministry of Finance and after examination, it has been decided to agree to permit advances from General Provident Fund for such purposes.

2. The President is accordingly pleased to decide that advance from the GPF may be permitted for pilgrimage or visiting places of eminence of all religions subject to the following conditions:

(i) Since it is not possible to specify places in India and abroad keeping in view the diversity of religions, the authorities vested with the power of sanctioning advance, may satisfy themselves that the place proposed to be visited is a pilgrimage place or a place of religious eminence.

(ii) Other conditions regarding grant of advances from GPF will also apply.

3. In their application to the Indian Audit & Accounts Department, this issues in consultation with the Comptroller & Auditor General of India.

4. This issues in consultation with the Ministry of Finance vide their I.D.No.393/EV/2006 dated 9.11.06.

Formal amendment to the GPF rules will follow.



**(M.P.Singh)**  
**Director (PP)**  
**Tel:- 24624802**

Copy to:

**As per standard list attached.**