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(Published by Authority)

### PART I: SECTION (I) — GENERAL

### **Government Notifications**

#### RULE MADE UNDER SECTION 45 (CHAPTER 190) OF THE POST OFFICE ORDINANCE

Money Orders issued with effect from 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021

- O1. A Money Order is valid for six months from the last day of the month of its issue. Under exceptional circumstances, the payment of a lapsed Money Order is considered up to two years from the last day of the month of its issue. However, a Money Order cannot be revalidated or refunded after lapsing of two years from the last day of the month of its issue and the value of such Money Order is credited to Government Revenue.
- 02. However, under the following exceptional circumstance, the value of a Money Order lapsed two years could be considered for refund from Government Revenue subject to the recovery of relevant charges.
  - (I) Money Order being produced in a court of law.
  - (II) The Money Order being retained in a Rent Control Board on legal grounds.
  - (III) Payee of the Money Order being out of the country. (The passport should be produced.)
  - (IV) Payee being in a very bad state of health for a long period. (Should be supported by a Medical Certificate from a Government Medical Officer.)
- 03. If the Money Orders, related to 2(I) and (II) above, cannot be produced within three months from the date of publishing of this *Gazette* Notification, details of such Money Orders with the related case numbers *etc.*, should be sent to the Controller of Money Order services in writing. If it is unable to produce Money Orders, it shall also be informed in writing.



- 04. But the Money Orders retaining by court orders for the cases pending in the court now or other legal requirements, Money Orders to be retained in relations of cases of a Rent Control Board and the Money Orders subjected to disciplinary inquires held at the Department and Ministerial levels are not covered by this.
- 05. It has been decided to consider only the complaints receiving up to three months from the date of publishing this notification in respect of Money Orders issued from 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021. This applies only to Ordinary Money Orders, Electronic Money Orders and Fax Money Orders as well as Value Payable Money Orders. If the values of Money Orders under Paragraph 02 above have been credited to the Government Revenue, action will be taken to pay such values of Money Orders to the relevant parties treating it as a refund from the revenue in accordance with Financial Regulations.
- 06. Hence, Provincial Councils, Local Government Authorities, Rent Control Boards, State Corporations & Statutory Boards, Government Institutions, Banks, Private Institutions and the Public are hereby notified to forward their written requests for consideration of refunds mentioned in Paragraph 02 above along with the relevant Money Orders to the under mentioned address by Registered Post to reach the Controller (Money Order Services) within three months from the date of publishing this Gazette Notification.

Controller, Money Order Services, Money order service section, Deputy Post Master General (Central Province) Office, Postal Complex, Department of Posts, Kandy.

- 07. Further, it is also notified that the claims made after three months from the date of publishing this *Gazette* Notification to refund in respect of Money Orders expired valid period which was relevant to for categories mentioned in Second Paragraph of this notice and issued between the periods 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021 will not be entertained and that no fund shall be made for such Money Orders.
- 08. No refund shall be made for the claims made for any Money Orders issued Prior to 01.01.2021 under any circumstances.

VIJITHA HERATH (M.P), Minister of Buddha Sasana, Religious and Cultural Affairs, National Integration, Social Security and Mass Media.

Colombo, 01st October, 2024.

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