

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
12, R. N. MUKHERJEE ROAD
KOLKATA - 700 001

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No.4413-WT/3M-134/2003

Dated : 05/12/2013

NOTIFICATION

Whereas a Notification No.2178-WT/3M-134/2003 dated 04.05.2005 was issued by the Transport Department, Government of West Bengal under Section 71(3) (a) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 limiting the number of Stage Carriages operating on 7 (seven) *city-routes* falling under Siliguri Municipal Corporation area under direction of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India as conveyed in its No. S. O.1379 (E) dated 16.12.2004.

Whereas the State Government in the Transport Department issued another notification No.4981-WT/3M-134/2003 dated 27.12.2005 whereby direction was issued to the State Transport Authority and all the Regional Transport Authorities not to allow any new Inter-Regional Stage Carriage routes /permits enter the jurisdiction of Siliguri Municipal Corporation overlapping existing Stage Carriage Services operating on the said *city-routes* without creating adequate terminal facilities and without approval of the State Government.

Whereas in pursuance of the Notification No. S. O. 424(E) dated 28/03/2006 of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Government of India, a Notification No.4081-WT/3M-134/2003 dated 30.08.2006 was again issued by the Transport Department directing the STA and all the RTAs not to issue any new permit to 3-wheeler passenger vehicles (irrespective of seating capacity) and Contract Carriage Motor Cabs / Maxi Cabs on any route or area within the limit of as well as touching / terminating / originating in the areas under Siliguri Municipal Corporation.

Whereas, by another Notification No.4437-WT/3M-134/2003 dated 04.10.2006 issued in exercise of power conferred under Sec.115 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, the Transport Department, Government of West Bengal further prohibited plying of express/long distance transport vehicles operated by the STUs or private operators along certain parts of specified roads in Siliguri and also directed that no such long distance express buses shall start from or terminate at Tenzing Norgye Bus Terminus at Siliguri.

Whereas owing to its geographical position, Siliguri is the only gateway and corridor for major parts of Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri and Coochbehar Districts of this State and also for Sikkim and all other North-Eastern States as well as for the countries like Bhutan and Nepal.

Whereas the City of Siliguri, which has in its outskirts the only airport of the region at Bagdogra and most important Railway Junction at New Jalpaiguri, is considered as the much frequented transit hub of that region.

Whereas, in the changed scenario, interest of tourists at Dooars, Hills and other destinations adjacent to Siliguri is increasing considerably day by day and also growth in the movement of general passengers to all destinations from this city is also becoming high and as a result, the need of passenger transport services of different modes has also increased many fold in the last few years.

Now, therefore, it is felt by the State Government that the whole gamut of the passenger transport services operating within and traversing through the city of Siliguri should be reviewed and re-assessed having regard to the availability of road space, traffic congestion and other relevant matters in order to meet the increased demand of tourists and general passengers and also that, if needed, the Government will modify the aforesaid notifications in the public interest.

Accordingly, it has been finally decided by the State Government to constitute a Committee, with members as noted below, to review and re-assess the demand of all kinds of passenger transport services operating within and to and from the City of Siliguri and to recommend steps to be taken in order to improve the passenger transport system to meet the present need.

1. Additional District Magistrate, Siliguri - Chairman
2. Deputy Secretary, STA, West Bengal, Siliguri Office - Member Convenor
3. D. C. (Traffic), Siliguri Police Commissionarte - Member
4. Representative of S. J. D. A. - Member
5. Representative of Siliguri Municipal Corporation - Member
6. A.R.T.O., Siliguri - Member

The Committee shall consider following matters while recommending its suggestions -----

- a) The number of services, both stage carriages and contract carriages, operating at different *city-routes* / areas falling under the municipal limit of the City.
- b) Assessment of any additional demand of services on *city-routes* based on a careful study of the pattern of movement of passengers.
- c) Optimal utilization of available road network in the City with regard to road condition, traffic congestion and compatibility for particular mode of services.
- d) Availability of terminus, stands/halts and specific bus-stops within the city.
- e) Scope of rationalisation of existing *city-routes* and formulation of new routes with reference to particular mode of services and maximum limit of permits, both stage carriages and contract carriages, on such *city-routes*.
- f) Scope of operation of other intra-regional routes connecting nearby urban agglomerates with the City of Siliguri without overlapping the *city-routes* beyond a certain length.
- g) Scope of identification of certain specific Corridors for passage of long distance inter-regional/inter-state routes without utilising much of the City road-space.

- h) Exploration of certain dedicated routes for operation of a large fleet of new JNNURM buses or similar other buses by NBSTC both within the City as well as connecting the City with nearby urban agglomerates.

The Committee shall submit its recommendations by 31st December, 2013.

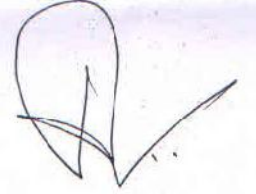
Sd/-
Principal Secretary
Transport Department

Dated : 05/12/2013

No.4413/1(8)-WT/3M-134/2003

Copy forwarded for information to the :

1. Chief Secretary, Government of West Bengal
2. District Magistrate, Darjeeling
3. Additional District Magistrate, Siliguri, Darjeeling
4. Deputy Secretary, STA, West Bengal, Siliguri Office, Siliguri
5. D.C. (Traffic), Siliguri Police Commissionarate, Siliguri
6. Chief Executive Officer, S. J. D. A. Siliguri
7. Commissioner, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, Siliguri
8. A. R.T.O., Siliguri



Principal Secretary
Transport Department