



WEST BENGAL POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

(Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal)

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C I R C U L A R

WHEREAS the Noise Pollution generated from different sources including use of Microphones and Loud Speakers, blowing of banned air horns and multi-tonned horns from the vehicles and bursting of banned fire crackers causing serious environmental degradation in the ambient air and causing serious health hazards and inconvenience to the people at large.

AND WHEREAS indiscriminate littering of plastic carry bags has seriously affected the environment and is also causing serious clogging of the drainage system which ultimately leads to water-logging, and also plastic wastes prevent the natural aeration of land and water bodies and hamper agriculture and pisciculture, and coloured or recycled plastic carry bags are hazardous to the human health, even the animals die by inadvertently ingesting plastic carry bags.

AND WHEREAS Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta has issued orders to control noise pollution and bring the noise level within permissible limit by using of sound limiters in the amplifier system of microphones and take steps to ban the loud noise making fire works and use of air horn in the vehicles.

AND WHEREAS West Bengal Pollution Control Board (herein after will be referred to as the 'State Board') has issued several directions to all concerned to take steps accordingly to control noise pollution by way of fixing sound limiters in the microphones / loudspeakers and maintain ambient noise level as per prescribed standard, preventing blowing of air horns, and prevent bursting of banned fire-crackers like Chocolate Bomb, Chain Crackers, Loose Crackers, Kali Patka, Dhani Patka, Dodoma, Seven Shots, Rocket Bomb and similar any other noise making fire works by any name which generate noise more than 90dB(A) measured at a distance of 5 mtrs. from the point of bursting.

Contd...P/2

AND WHEREAS the State Board vide memo no. 1833A-3S-89/2001 dated 03.09.2001 in exercise of its powers conferred under 33A of the Water (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 and under Section 31A of Air (Prevention & Control of Pollution) Act, 1981 prohibited the use sale and processing of plastic carry bags from 15.09.2001 in the following areas :-

- i. Entire Sundarban area ;
- ii. Coastal Regulation Zone Area (Digha, Sankarpur, Freezerganjh, Sagardwip, Bak Khali etc.)
- iii. Hilly areas of Darjeeling district;
- iv. Entire Forest areas in West Bengal

And subsequently issued direction prohibiting use, sale and processing of plastic carry bags in 40 other heritage and tourists places

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the circular of the Chief Secretary to the Government of West Bengal vide Memo No. EN/981/T-V/022/2004, dated 23.05.2007, the State Board in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 read with Rule 4 of the Environment (Protection) Rules, 1986 and also other provisions of the said Rules has issued a circular being no. 216-46L/WPB/2003 (Part I) dated 04.06.2007 and also by issuing corrigendum vide memo no. 524/46L/WPB/2003 dated 20.08.2007 prohibiting the Manufacture, Use, Storage and Sale of plastic carry bags of thickness below 40 microns (micrometers) and size below of 16" x 12 " with effect from 5th June 2007 within the territorial jurisdiction of the State of West Bengal.

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HENCE, the District Magistrates of all the districts in West Bengal are hereby informed to communicate this circular to all Districts Inspectors of Schools, Board of Secondary Education, W.B. within their jurisdictions to make wide-spread publicity amongst the school children about the circulars and directions and apprise them about the danger caused to the human health and environment due to noise pollution and use of plastic carry bags and also to activate them to take part in such publicity programme in their schools and locality

By order

Sd/-

(M. L. Meena)

Chairman, West Bengal Pollution Control Board

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Secretary, Department of Environment,
Government of West Bengal