ORDER

WHEREAS the West Bengal Pollution Control Board (hereinafter for the sake of brevity and convenience referred to as the `State Board'), is executing different Environmental Laws within the territorial jurisdiction of the State of West Bengal for prevention and control of water pollution, air pollution, noise pollution and other pollution hazards;

AND WHEREAS the State Board is monitoring the noise level during the festive seasons since 1992 and it is observed that due to use of microphones/loudspeakers in high pitched volume, generation of noise affects the health of the surrounding people;

AND WHEREAS the State Board issued directions, from time to time, to control noise pollution generated from the microphones and also fixed up permissible noise limits in different zones as prescribed under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 and Rules made thereunder;

AND WHEREAS it is observed that at the time of operating microphones most of the operators are not aware about the decibel limit fixed up under the aforementioned Act and Rules made thereunder;

Therefore, the State Board, in consultation with the WEBEL MEDIATRONICS LTD., P-1, Taratola Road, Kolkata-700088, developed a sound limiter, which can be fitted with to govern the noise and bring the same under permissible limit as fixed up in the aforementioned Act and Rules made thereunder;

HENCE, in exercise of the powers conferred under the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, read with Noise (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000,
all the users of microphones within the State of West Bengal are hereby directed to use sound limiter at the time of using microphones in the open area positively to avoid penal action as warranted under the aforementioned Act and Rules made thereunder.

It is further requested that at the time of giving permission for use of microphones/loudspeakers by the Police Authorities or the District Authorities, condition should be laid down to the effect that without fixation of sound limiters, microphones should not be used in open air, because it is already established that sound limiter is the proper device to control noise pollution generated from the microphones.

**THEREFORE**, the Commissioner of Police, District Magistrates, Superintendents of Police of all the Districts are also requested to circulate this order to all concerned (upto the rank of Dy. Superintendent of Police, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Officer in Charge of the concerned police stations, Sub-Divisional Officers, Block Development Officers and Deputy Magistrates) who are generally authorized to give permission for the use of microphones in different areas within the State of West Bengal.

All Medias, like Press, Electronic Medias, T.V. and Radio, are also requested to publish, broadcast or telecast, as the case may be, the text of this order, in the interest of the public.

By Order,

Sd/-

( S. K. Sarkar )
Member-Secretary,
W. B. Pollution Control Board