

## Circular No.22/76

No.D3-38236/76 Dated 04-08-1976

*Sub:- Noise menace – controlling of –*

Prolonged exposure to noise has deleterious effect on the mental and physical health of the people. Licensed public address equipments and powerful horns fixed to motor vehicles and indiscriminate use of wireless sets with commercial licenses aggravate the noise menace particularly in the Cities. The main sources of noise pollution are loudspeakers and sound amplifiers, motor vehicles, motor cycles and scooters without adequate silencers and multi hifi tone horns used in some of the motor vehicles. Individual licences issued by Police authorities under Sec 19 of the Police act for the use of Loudspeakers are subject to the conditions prescribed in the licences but these conditions are often violated. For example

1. the box type of loudspeakers for which permission is issued is not used; instead the blaring horn type is used;
2. loudspeakers are used before and after the hours mentioned in the licences;
3. these are blared at a very high volume and directed outside the area where these are required.

Necessary regulations are provided under rule 285 (2) and 284 (1) of the Motor Vehicles Rules to regulate the noise emanating from horns and exhausts fitted to motor vehicles. Lorries and buses commonly use multi tone horns or other type of horns which produce an unduly harsh, shrill loud or alarming sound, even though these are not licensed by the Regional Transport Authority.

In order to eradicate this evil, all SPs/CPs will organise a concerted drive with immediate effect. The object of this drive is to produce a lasting effect and therefore it should be continuous and effective. All offenders will be prosecuted under the Police Act under Sec 19 (4) read with Sec 38 and also under the relevant provisions of the Motor Vehicles Rules mentioned above. In Rule 13 (b), in the conditions for granting the commercial licenses issued by the Director-General, Posts and telegraphs, in respect of wireless receiving apparatus, it is specifically stated that the licence does not authorise the licensee to do any act which is contrary to any rule made by a competent authority regulating musical or other performance or noise in the area in which the licensed apparatus is fixed. This condition therefore makes the licensee liable for action under the Police Act as mentioned above. A monthly periodical to reach the Chief Office by 15th of every month is prescribed to check the progress of action taken in the Districts. The periodical will be forwarded in the Proforma prescribed as Appendix "A" to this Circular.

All SPs/CPs are directed to devote personal attention to the matter and eradicate this evil.