



**Department of Environment  
Government of West Bengal  
Writers' Buildings, "G" Block, (2nd. Floor),  
Kolkata-700 001.**

No. EN/3346/T-IV-6/001/2007 (Pt.II)

Dated: 29<sup>th</sup>. Dec., 2009.

**NOTIFICATION**

**WHEREAS** the Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal, is entrusted to execute different environmental laws within the territorial jurisdiction of West Bengal, for the prevention and control of pollution in the atmosphere including water, air, land and interrelationship which exist among and between water, air, land and human beings and other living creatures, plants, micro-organisms and property.

**AND WHEREAS**, Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 as already laid down different rules for curbing the environmental pollution and specifically for controlling noise pollution a Rule has been enacted which is known as Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000.

**AND WHEREAS**, the Hon'ble High Court, Calcutta, time to time issued number of directions for controlling noise pollution from various sources inter-alia – loudspeakers, public address system, fireworks, vehicular horns including air horns and also from other sources.

**AND WHEREAS**, Central Government also notified ambient air quality standards and also other emission standards generated from different sources for controlling noise pollution, which reads as follows :

Area Code	Category of Area	Limit in dB(A) Leq.	
		Day Time	Night Time
A	Industrial area	75	70
B	Commercial area	65	55
C	Residential area	55	45
D	Silence zone	50	40

Note-1 : Day time is reckoned in between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m.

Note-2 : Night time is reckoned in between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.

Note-3 : 'Silence Zone' is an area comprising not less than 100 metres around hospitals, educational institutions, courts, religious places or any other area which is declared as such by the competent authority.

Note-4 : Mixed categories of areas may be declared as one of the four above mentioned categories by the competent authority.

**AND WHEREAS**, Department of Environment, Government of West Bengal, has been receiving representations from Non Government Organisations and also individuals requesting for proper implementation of the Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000.

**AND WHEREAS**, West Bengal Pollution Control Board also, from time to time monitored ambient noise standard in Kolkata and its surroundings and it is observed that noise pollution appears to be high than the permissible limit which cause annoyance to the human beings and also other living creatures. Even students, patients are suffering from the noise pollution although the educational institutions, hospitals, nursing homes have already been notified as a 'Silence Zone' wherein honking of horns, use of fire crackers and loudspeakers are strictly prohibited within 100 meters of the designated 'Silence Zone'.

**AND WHEREAS**, Department of Environment has felt necessity for issuing a specific direction assigning specific responsibility to the different Government Departments for adopting pro-active programme for implementation of the statutory provisions as laid down under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, read with Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000 and its amendments made time to time.

Directions and Prohibitions	Implementing and Regulating Authorities
Use, sale and manufacturing of air horns are totally prohibited in the State of West Bengal.	West Bengal Police, Kolkata Police, Transport Department and West Bengal Pollution Control Board.
Honking of horns is strictly prohibited in 'Silence Zone area' i.e. Educational Institution, Library, Court, Governor House, Hospital and Nursing Home.	West Bengal Police and Kolkata Police.
Use of any kind of fireworks is strictly prohibited in Hospital and Nursing Home area.	West Bengal Police, Kolkata Police and also management of the hospital and nursing home.
Use, sale, storage and manufacturing of noise making fireworks generating noise level above 90 dB(A) impulse from the 5 meter of the bursting point.	West Bengal Police, Kolkata Police, West Bengal Pollution Control Board, District Authority and Explosive Department, Government of India.

Use of loudspeaker in open area is strictly prohibited before three days of commencement of Secondary and Higher Secondary Examination and till completion of such examination.	West Bengal Police, Kolkata Police and District Authority.
<p>loudspeaker should be used only from 6 A.M. to 10 P.M. in open area after obtaining necessary permission from the competent authority i.e. Sub-Divisional Officer, Block Development Officer, Deputy Commissioner of Police.</p> <p>Permissible ambient noise level as notified by the Government of India under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 should be maintained during the use of microphones.</p> <p>During the use of microphone in open air, sound limiter should be attached with amplifier for regulating noise level.</p>	West Bengal Police, Kolkata Police, District Authority and West Bengal Pollution Control Board.
<p>During operation of the Diesel Generator Set, the permissible ambient noise level notified by the Government of India under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986 should be maintained.</p> <p>The Diesel Generator Set of 15 KVA and above should not install or operate without prior permission of the West Bengal Pollution Control Board.</p>	West Bengal Pollution Control Board.
The industries should not generate any noise level, which may be responsible for violation of the ambient noise level fixed up under Environment (Protection) Act, 1986. Industrial unit should not establish or operate without prior permission of the West Bengal Pollution Control Board.	West Bengal Pollution Control Board.

West Bengal Pollution Control Board will monitor the ambient noise level and also specially monitor the ambient noise level during festive seasons and continue their vigil by which Noise Pollution (Regulation & Control) Rules, 2000 should not be violated in any manner.

Head of the institutions, like hospitals, nursing homes, courts, universities, colleges and schools are also hereby informed to install a display board in a conspicuous place mentioning thereto that such area is a 'Silence Zone' and no one is allowed to use loudspeaker in open air or use any kind of vehicular horn in the 'Silence Zone' area and also mentioning thereto that use of any fire works is strictly prohibited.

West Bengal Pollution Control Board and other implementing agencies are at liberty to approach Department of Environment for clarification, if any, of this notification.

**HENCE**, all the aforementioned authorities are now hereby directed to implement the aforementioned prohibition, regulation and direction meticulously and in case of any violation, all implementing authorities should also initiate legal action in accordance with law.

This order will take immediate effect.

By Order of the Governor,

Sd/- M.L. Meena

Principal Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal,  
Department of Environment.