Most Urgent



Home (Cinema) Department, Secretariat, Chennai – 9.

Letter (Ms) No.331, Dated: 01.04.2016

From

Thiru. Apurva Varma, I.A.S., Principal Secretary to Government.

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The Additional Chief Secretary and
Commissioner of Land Administration, Chennai-5.
The Commissioner of Police, Chennai – 7.
All District Collectors, (Except Chennai)
The Principal Secretary and Commissioner of
Commercial Taxes, Chennai – 5.
The Director General of Police, Chennai – 4.

Sir,

- Sub:-High Court of Madras Writ Petition No.40173/2015 Filed by Thiru. G. Devarajan Orders of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras Compliance of Reg.
- Ref:- 1. Orders of the Hon'ble Division Bench of High Court of Madras, dated 17.3.2016 in W.P. No.40173/2015.
 - 2. From the Principal Secretary and Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Chennai 5 Letter No.Acts Cell-IV/2016, dated 31.03.2016.
- Thiru. G. Devarajan has filed a Writ Petition No.40173 of 2015 before the Hon'ble High Court on the issue of collection of rate of admission in Cinema Theatre (ticket charges) in excess of the rates/maximum charges fixed by the Government and the Hon'ble High Court of Madras disposed of the said Writ Petition on 17.3.2016 with directions to the respondents:
 - to constitute a special team to monitor the violations relating to collection of ticket charges in excess of the rates fixed by the Government.

- ii. to inform the public at large about the constitution of such committee through proper publicity.
- to devise a methodology to receive the complaints from the public through telephone and communicate the same to the monitoring team.
- iv. On receipt of the complaint, the monitoring team to take necessary action as per law, if there is violation.
- 2. In consultation with the Additional Chief Secretary and the Commissioner of Land Administration, Chennai and the Principal Secretary and Commissioner of Commercial Taxes, Chennai and in compliance of the above directions of the Hon'ble First Bench of the High Court of Madras the following directions are issued:-
- (i) The Licensing Authorities under the Tamil Nadu Cinemas (Regulation) Act, 1955 shall constitute a Special team in their respective jurisdiction at Chennai/District level, consisting of a Assistant Commissioner of Police / a Deputy Superintendent of Police, a Revenue Divisional Officer and an Entertainment Tax Officer of the jurisdiction to monitor the violations of provisions relating to the rates of admission in cinema theatres in the Tamil Nadu Cinemas (Regulation) Act, 1955, Tamil Nadu Cinemas (Regulation) Rules, 1957 and the Tamil Nadu Entertainments Tax Act, 1939.
- (ii) In Chennai Police Commissionerate and other District Collectorates, a phone number shall be allotted specifically to receive the complaints from the public in all days and an official shall be nominated to receive the complaints and record them. By showing slides in the cinema theatres, public shall be invited to make complaint against excess collection of rate of admission in theatres, by calling on the dedicated phone number.
- (iii) The authorized official who receives the complaints should inform the details of the complaint by way of e-mail/SMS to the members of the team constituted by the Licensing Authority concerned having jurisdiction over the cinema theatre against which the complaint is made, on the same day of the complaint.
- (iv) On receipt of the above e-mail/SMS, the monitoring team will fix the time of inspection in consultation with each other and

complaint within 24 hrs from the time of receipt of the e-mail/SMS. If the complaint is found to be correct the Licensing Authority and the Entertainment Tax Officer would take appropriate legal action as per rules in force against the licensee of the cinema theatre as already instructed by the Additional Chief Secretary and Commissioner of Land Administration, Chennai in Circular No.L2/394/2016, dated 29.01.2016 and the Principal Secretary and Commissioner of Commercial Taxes in Circular No.7/2013, dated 16.07.2013.

3. All the Licensing Authorities are directed to furnish the compliance report immediately to the Additional Chief Secretary and Commissioner of Land Administration, Chennai who is also requested to take necessary follow up action and send an action taken report within a week to Government.

Yours faithfully,

for Principal Secretary to Government