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Part II—Section 1

Notifications or Orders of specific character or of particular interest to the public issued by Secretariat Departments.

NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

HOME DEPARTMENT

(Transport)

DRAFT NOTIFICATION OF NEW COMPREHENSIVE MINI BUS SCHEME, 2024 UNDER THE MOTOR VEHICLES ACT.

[G.O. Ms. No. 338, Home (Transport-I), 13th June 2024, வைகாசி 31, குரோதி, திருவள்ளுவர் ஆண்டு–2055.]

No. II(1)/HO/10(t)/2024.

WHEREAS, the State Government have approved the "Modified Schemes of road transport Service" in relation to different areas in the State, as published in the following Notifications, namely:-

- (i) Home Department Notification No. II(2)/HO/2096 (k)/96, dated the 14th October 1996, published at pages 1 to 4 of the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette* Extraordinary, dated the 14th October 1996, regarding the area comprising entire Chennai Metropolitan Area;
- (ii) Home Department Notification No.II(1)/HO/106 (a-1 to a-27)/99 vide G.O (Ms) Nos. 1523 to 1549, Home (Transport-III) Department, dated the 17th November 1999 and published at pages 1 to 55 of the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette* Extraordinary, dated the 18th November 1999, regarding the areas comprising 27 revenue districts of Tamil Nadu, other than the area covered by Chennai Metropolitan Area notified under clause (4) of section 2 of the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1974 (Tamil Nadu Act 13 of 1974);
- (iii) Home Department G.O. (Ms) No. 214 Home (Transport-III) Department, dated 25-02-2000 and subsequently modified in G.O.Ms.No.1134 Home (Transport.III) Department, dated 18.10.2000 regarding the area comprising the entire revenue district of the Nilgiris;

AND, WHEREAS, the State Government are of the opinion that, for the purpose of providing an efficient, adequate, economical and properly co-ordinated road transport service, it is necessary in the public interest that the Approved Modified Schemes of Road Transport Service, in relation to the areas as approved and published, as stated above, are to be modified and a comprehensive single scheme has to be formulated in relation to the area comprising the entire State of Tamil Nadu, so that the Mini bus routes can be formulated by the Regional Transport Authorities concerned under the powers conferred under clause (ca) of sub-section (3) of Section 68 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act, 59 of 1988) and delegated to the Regional Transport Authorities by the State Transport Authority under sub-section (5) of section 68 of the said Act, without any restrictions regarding rural / urban areas and as per the guidelines issued by the Government, from time to time, so as to provide direct bus facilities, to the people of villages / hamlets / habitations that have a population of 100 or more families, so as to reach the nearest Bus stand of nearest town / city where adequate bus services are provided to various places. The maximum permitted route length shall be 25 Kms in which maximum un-served route length shall be 17 Kms and maximum served route length shall be 8 Kms, by adopting the 70:30 ratio respectively;

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AND, WHEREAS, the State Government, have formulated the proposals for the Scheme, in relation to the area comprising the entire State of Tamil Nadu, as setout in Scheduled hereunder;

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the power conferred by section 99 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988), the Governor of Tamil Nadu hereby publishes the draft New Comprehensive Mini bus Scheme, 2024, which is proposed to be made, for the information of all, as required under sub-section (1) of the said section 99.

2. Notice is hereby given that the State Transport Undertakings concerned and the persons likely to be affected by the proposed New Comprehensive Mini bus Scheme, 2024 may send their objection or suggestion to the Principal Secretary to Government, Home Department, Chennai-600 009 within 30 (thirty) days from the date of publication of this Notification in the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette*. The proposal and the representations will be taken up for consideration at a hearing by the Principal Secretary to Government, Home Department, Chennai 600 009, to be held at 11.00 A.M. on 22.07.2024 in the 10th Floor Conference Hall of the Secretariat Building, Chennai-600 009.

THE SCHEDULE

Draft New Comprehensive Mini bus Scheme, 2024

SI. No.	Details of the Scheme	New Comprehensive Mini Bus Scheme. 2024						
1.	Area	The area comprising the entire State of Tamil Nadu other than the area coming under the then Chennai Corporation as on 1999 as under:						
			SI. No.	Zone No.	Area			
			1	4	Tondaiyarpet			
			2	5	Royapuram			
			3	6	Thiru.Vi.Ka. Nagar			
			4	8	Anna Nagar			
			5	9	Teynampet			
			6	10	Kodambakkam			
			7	13	Adyar			
			Tota	al Area	172 Sq.kms.			
3.	and route length) or portion thereof with distance. Whether town	(b) The starting or terminal point can be a bus stop or a point outside the bus stand. Mofussil / Ordinary / Express / Jeep Stage Carriage / Passenger cum-Goods Carriage						
0.	service or mofussil service or both	/ Metropolitan City / Town / Minibus Service.						
4.	Maximum and minimum number of vehicles proposed to be operated in the area comprising the entire State of Tamil Nadu by the State Transport undertakings to the exclusion, complete or partial or otherwise of other persons:- (a) Maximum				00.057			
	Number	20,257						

	_	1								
SI. No.	Details of the Scheme	New Comprehensive Mini Bus Scheme. 2024								
	(b) Minimum Number	18,723								
	(A) =	Minibuses (private). Existing permits and permits to operate Minibus service on the routes to be formulated by the Regional Transport Authorities under the powers conferred under clause (ca) of sub-section (3) of Section 68 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988) and delegated to the Regional Transport Authorities by the State Transport Authority under sub-section (5) of section 68 of the said Act.								
	(c) Type	l	Semi- saloon Single-deck							
	(d)Seating capacity	Express	Ordinary / Mofussil	Town	Mini bus	Passenger- cum goods carriage	Metropolitan service			
	Maximum	60	80	100	25	30	105			
	Minimum	30	30	40	7	-	20			
		To the	e complete	exclusion	n of per	sons or ent	ities, other than			
		(i) 1	the State 1	ransport	Underta	akings of oth	ner States;			
		(ii) the existing permits of the small operators as already protected under the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles (Special Provisions) Act, 1992 (Tamil Nadu Act 41 of 1992);								
		(iii) †	the permits	s of the st	age carr	iage operat	ors covered by the Inter-State Agreements;			
		(iv) the existing permits of mini buses issued under the Schemes, 1997 and 1999;								
		(v) the permits of the mini bus operators to operate on the Mini bus routes to be formulated by Regional Transport Authorities under the powers conferred under clause (ca) of sub-section (3) of Section 68 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988) and delegated to the Regional Transport Authorities by the State Transport Authority under sub- section (5) of section 68 of the said act. Salient Features of the Scheme (i) Objective:								
		The objective of the scheme is to improve the accessibility of bus services in urban and rural areas and to ensure last mile connectivity.								
		(ii) Starting/ Terminal Point:								
		The starting point and the terminal point shall be any location in an unserved habitation/village.								
			The startin	g or term	inal poi	nt can be a	bus stop or a point outside the bus stand.			
		(iii) N	laximum	route Le	ngth:					
		The maximum permitted route length shall be 25 Kms.								
		(iv) Minimum un-served route length: The minimum un-served route length shall be 70% of the total route length. The distance and route specified in the permit including the un-served route or area, shall be covered fully.								
		(v) Maximum served route length:								
		The maximum served route length shall not exceed 30% of the total route length.								
		(vi) Minimum route length:								
		While issuing permit, Regional Transport Authority shall finalize the route length. The route length so fixed by the Regional Transport Authority in the unserved and served area shall be in the ratio of 70:30.								

SI. No.	Details of the Scheme	New Comprehensive Mini Bus Scheme. 2024								
		(vii) Route identification and survey:								
		The Route identification and survey shall be done by the Regional Transport Authority, subject to the maximum of 25 kms and by adopting the 70:30 ratio in unserved and served areas respectively.								
		(viii) Extension to cater to institutions								
			If any adjoining area within the next 1 km from the terminal point happens to be a Hospital, school, college, railway station, uzhavar sandhai, agricultural regulatory marketing committee, daily market, places of famous religious worships or just before a bus stand and the served route happens to exceed the maximum permitted length, then the Regional Transport Authority, in consultation with other stake holders, namely, State Transport Undertakings, local bodies, Regional Transport Officer, etc., can permit the additional distance up to 1 km in the served area so as to enable the passengers to reach the above mentioned needy places. This consideration shall not apply to other places apart from the above-mentioned places.							
		(ix)	Served area	in terms	of the	e geogra	aphic	cal spread:		
		The following zones falling under the then Chennai Corporation (during 1999) shall be treated as Served Areas and mini bus permits shall not be issued for these areas:								
		SI. No. Zone No. Area								
				1.		4	Ton	daiyarpet		
				2.		5	Roy	/apuram		
				3.		6	Thir	u. Vi. Ka. Nagar		
				4.		8	Ann	na Nagar		
				5.		9	Tey	nampet		
				6.		10	Kod	lambakkam		
			7. 13 Adyar							
				Total Ar	ea		172	Sq. kms.		
			The following areas, which were subsequently annexed with the expanded Greater Chennai Corporation in the year 2011 are to be treated as un-served areas, where the mini bus operations can be considered:							
		SI.No. Zone No. Area								
		1. 1 Thiruvotriyur								
			2. 2 Manali							
				3.			Madhavaram			
				4. 7 Ambathur						
				5. 11 Valasarawakkam						
				6. 12 Alandhur						
				7.		14		Perungudi		
				8.		15		Sholinganallur		
		Total Area 240 Sq.kms.								

SI. No.	Details of the Scheme	New Comprehensive Mini Bus Scheme. 2024						
		(x) Definition for a Served Route: (Based on the bus operations)						
		A route served by a stage carriage or a mini bus which still has active operation for the entire length of the route as per the permit issued and provided that the number of trips as per the permit run by that stage carriage or a mini bus is sufficient enough to cater to the needs of the public. (xi) Maximum mini bus permits in a route: There will not be any restriction on the maximum number of permits. It will be						
		decided by the Regional Transport Authority based on the need assessment, route survey, representations from the public, etc.,						
		(xii) Preference:						
		(a) If a particular route has more passenger density or potential, then additional operator(s) or additional trip(s) to the existing operator(s) shall be allowed.						
		(b) If no existing operator is willing to operate for such additional trip(s), then fresh operator(s) can be permitted. In this case, preferential treatment may be given to the existing operator.						
		Wherever needed, extension of route length can be considered and permitted by the Regional Transport Authority. In such case, the 70:30 ratio shall not be violated and the maximum route length of 25 kms shall also not be violated.						
		(d) If there are more number of fresh operators applying for the same route, then lot system will be followed in the selection process.						
		(xiii) Maximum seating capacity:						
		The maximum seating capacity will be 25 excluding the Driver and Conductor, as per clause (o) of rule 3 of the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.						
		(xiv) Wheel base of the vehicle:						
		The wheel base for a mini bus shall not exceed 3,900 mm, as per clause (o) of rule 3 of the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. (xv) Violation of permit conditions:						
		(a) To ensure that the permit conditions are not violated by the mini bus operators, all mini buses shall have GPS.						
		(b) In case of any violation of permit conditions, action shall be initiated against the permit(s)/ permit holder(s) as the case may be, under sub-section (1) of section 86 of the Motor Act, 1988 (Central Act, 59 pf 1988						
5.	Maximum and	Maximum Trips – 1,81,105						
	minimum number of trips proposed to be performed in the area comprising the entire State of Tamil Nadu by the State Transport Undertakings to the exclusion, complete or partial or otherwise of other persons.	Minimum Trips - 1,63,286						
		To the complete exclusion of persons / entities, other than						
		(i) the State Transport Under-takings of other States						
		(ii) the existing permits of the small operators as already protected under the Tamil Nadu Motor Vehicles (Special Provisions) Act, 1992 (Tamil Nadu Act 41 of 1992);						
		(iii) the permits of the stage carriage operators covered by the Inter-State Agreements;						
		(iv) the existing permits of mini buses issued under the Schemes 1997 and 1999;						
		(v) the permits of the mini bus operators to operate on the Mini bus routes to be formulated by the Regional Transport Authorities under the powers conferred under clause (ca) of sub-section (3) of Section 68 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988) and delegated to the Regional Transport Authorities by the State Transport Authority under sub-section (5) of section 68 of the said Act.						

SI. No.	Details of the Scheme	New Comprehensive Mini Bus Scheme. 2024
6.	Number of vehicles intended to be kept in reserve to maintain the service and to operate for special occasions	One fifth of the total number of buses calculated on the total fleet strength operating in the area.
7.	The arrangements proposed for the housing, maintenance and repairs of the vehicles.	For State Transport Undertaking, the arrangements for the housing of the vehicles, daily maintenance and major repairs shall be made at the depots of the State Transport Undertakings. In case of Mini buses, arrangements for the housing of the vehicles, daily maintenance and major repairs shall be made at the workshops held by the operators or at the place where workshop agreement is made for such maintenance.
8.	The arrangements proposed for the comfort and convenience of passengers.	Stage Carriages will be provided with rubber coir, cushioned seats thereby offering comfort to the travelling public.
9.	The arrangements proposed for the stands and halts on the route at which copies of time-tables of the services are proposed to be exhibited.	Waiting sheds and shelters will be provided at all important stands, where copies of time-tables will also be exhibited by the local bodies.
10.	Whether it is proposed to permit the carriage of goods in addition to the passengers.	Newspaper parcels, Postal Mails and other permitted articles will be carried in addition to the passenger and their luggage.
11.	Any other information.	NIL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Since, the New Comprehensive Scheme, 2011 formulated was set aside by the Hon'ble Madurai Bench of Madras High Court, by its order dated 18.04.2018 in W.P (MD) No.2893 of 2011 and M.P (MD) No.2 of 2011 with a direction to re-do the excise, the present draft notification is proposed to be made as per the provisions contained in section 99 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988). This draft notification is a New Comprehensive Mini Bus Scheme, 2024 drawn for the entire State of Tamil Nadu, in the interests of public to provide an efficient, adequate, economic and properly co-ordinated road transport service to the people of villages / hamlets / habitations that have a population of 100 or more families, and to ensure that no route is left unconnected so as to reach the nearest bus stand or nearest town / city where adequate bus services are provided to various destinations.

P. AMUDHA, Principal Secretary to Government.