

CIRCULAR NO.4/97

Sub:- Measures for accident reduction and for preventing related deaths and injuries - action against permits of Stage Carriages involved in accidents, for violation of timings etc.

1. Kerala has one of the highest accident rates in the country.* In Kerala, on an average every day about hundreds accidents take place and on an average every day about seven persons die in accidents and on an average about one hundred and fifty persons get injured every day.

2. In most of the accidents involving deaths and large scale injuries, stage carriage buses are involved. One of the most important causes of such accidents is unhealthy competition between various stage carriage operators, involving overspeeding, overtaking and overloading. These things almost always involve a violation of the timings prescribed by the Regional Transport Authority for the stage carriages.

3. The timings prescribed by RTA are a very important condition of the stage carriage permit. Since violation of timings prescribed involves the risk of accidents leading to deaths and large scale injuries, it is suggested that State Transport Authority hereby under section 68 (3) of M.V.Act gives a direction to all Regional Transport Authorities that it would give standing instructions to Secretary, RTA ~~RTA~~ (RTO) that in all cases of accidents with even a single death involving motor vehicles, he will promptly investigate and report position regarding violation of timings prescribed to RTA within a week of the accident urgently, through a note circulated to RTA under section 130 KMV Rules 89 and RTA shall in all cases of even a single death, initiate action to consider suspension and cancellation of the permit for the stage-carriage under section 86 of M.V.Act, 1988 read with Rule 185 of KMV Rules 1989 and Rules 212 and 213 of KMV Rule 1989.

In addition to making this applicable to all accidents involving even a single death, in future, this would also be made applicable to all accidents involving even a single death held after Nineth May 1997, viz. the date of issue of GO by Government on accident reduction.

S.T.A. also hereby gives a direction to RTAs. for similar action as in para three above, for violations of conditions specified in section 84 (a) (b) and (d) of M.V. Act 1988 relating to (a) vehicle carrying valid certificate of fitness at all times and vehicle being maintained at all times, as prescribed, (b) vehicle not being driven at a speed exceeding maximum speed (d) observance of provisions related to necessity for a driving licence and age limits for a

driving licence under section 3, 4 and 5 of M.V. Act and observance of provision under section 113 of M.V. Act related to limitations of weight and limitations of use.

The Secretary, RTA will immediately seek the approval of Chairman, RTA for placing the matter before the RTA for urgent decision, by following the procedure of decision by circulation under Rule 130 of KMV Rules 1989 and will report the decision of the RTA to STA within a week.

6. The receipt of the circular will be acknowledged.

Sd/-
Secretary,
State Transport Authority,
Thiruvananthapuram.

To

All Secretary, RTAs for urgent compliance.
All DTCS and Member RTAs. for information and necessary action.
All District Collectors and Chairman, RTA for kind information and urgent necessary action.

//True copy//

(Signature)
V. C. AYTAPPAN
Dy. Transport Commissioner
Thiruvananthapuram.
3.11.99