

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SPECIAL COMMISSIONER AND TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER, CHENNAI

PRESENT: THIRU C.P. SINGH, I.A.S.,

Proc.R.No.68583/H3/2006

Dated: 12.03.2007

Sub: Motor Vehicles - Autorickshaws - Diesel driven Auto- rickshaws - Permission granted for Registration withdrawn - Orders passed.

Read:1. Letter R.No. 55848/H3/99, dated 15.07.1999 (Circular No. 55/99) of the Joint Transport Commissioner, Chepauk, Chennai - 5.

2. This office letter even No dated 16.2,2007

3. Written arguments filed on 27.02.2007 by Thiru R. Shyam Kumar, DGM Sales (Tamil Nadu & Kerala) of Tvl Piaggio Vehicles Private Ltd, Pune -411001

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ORDER:

The Joint Transport Commissioner, Chepauk, Chennai in his letter in R.No. 55848/H3/99, dated 15.07.1999 (Circular No.55/99) has allowed the Registration of "APE" range of diesel 3 wheeler 3 seater Autorickshaws under both Transport and Non-Transport categories in Tamil Nadu. The same was communicated to all the Regional Transport Officers of Tamil Nadu.

2. The Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority set up by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has interalla also suggested that In Chennai City, where the pollution level is high , only the LPG fitted vehicles should be registered In future. Therefore, keeping in view the above observations of the authority, the environmental concerns and in public interest, it was decided to convert the existing Autorickshaws in Chennai City to LPG mode In a phased manner within a specified time frame and not to register any Diesel driven three wheelers in this Chennai city areas in future APE Diesel driven three wheeler Autorickshasws alone are at present being registered in Chennai Zone area. In the interest of maintaining the air quality in Chennai Zone, it is imperative on the part of this authority to therefore withdraw the permission already granted for registration of APE diesel three wheeler three sealer Autorickshaws within this area.

3. However, as permission was already granted to them it was decided to give an opportunity of being heard to the manufacturer i.e PIAGGIO GREAVES VEHICLES LIMITED, before taking any decision regarding withdrawal of the permission already granted the representative of the said company, Namely, Thiru R. Shyam Kumar, DGM, Sales ( Tamiinadu & Kerala) upon a notice has appeared in person on 27.02.2007 before me and filed written arguments in response to the notice issued by this office on 15.02.2007 against the proposal to withdraw partially the permission already granted to them with regard to registration of "APE" range of Diesel three wheeler three seater Autorickshaws under Transport category In Chennai zone area comprising Chennai City, Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur District Limits.

4. Besides the written arguments, the representatives have also stated that the general perception regarding diesel driven vehicles that these are smoky, noisy, smelly and sluggish is not correct and on the contrary they are highly fuel economy, low end torque, much cleaner and in fact they are as cleaner as gasoline. They further added that APE three wheeler diesel vehicles are lesser polluting vehicles and suggested gradual introduction of alternative fuel vehicles as also phasing out the vehicles based on ageing. Finally they submitted that like any other three wheeler, 3 seater Autorickshw diesel vehicles also contribute towards-air pollution and they are going for replacement of the same by Gas based three wheelers and hence requested to allow some more time in this regard.

5. The facts and circumstances of the case vis-a-vis the observations of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India have been carefully taken into consideration. It is to be seen that the Environmental Pollution (Prevention and Control) Authority set up by the Apex Court has suggested that in Chennai City where the level of pollution is high only LPG fitted vehicles need to be registered in future. As a matter of fact, keeping in view the above suggestion, it has already been decided to convert the existing Autorickshaws in Chennai City to LPG mode in a phased manner within a specified time frame. Equally, it is to be noted that only APE diesel three wheeler three seater Autorickshaws alone are being registered in Chennai Zone area at present which pollute the environment and hence it is necessary to withhold its registration.

6. In view of the forgoing circumstances and taking in to consideration the totality of the case, permission granted already in Letter No. 55848/H3/99, dated 15.07.1999 (Circular. no.55/99) of the Joint Transport Commissioner, Chennai -5 allowing registration of APE range of diesel three wheeler 3 seater Autorickshaws under transport category is hereby ordered TO BE WITHDRAWN in so far its registration within Chennai Zone area comprising Chennai City, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallore District limits is concerned.

Sd/- C.P.SINGH

SPECIALCOMMISSIONER & TRANSPORT COMMISSIONER

To (By RPAD)

PIAGGIO VEHICLES PRIVATE LTD.E-2, M.I.D.C Area, Baramati, 413 133 ,Dist :Pune, India,

Copy to: 1. The Secretary to Government/ Home (Transport) Department, Secretariat, Chennai

2. The Regional Transport Officers of Chennai Zone,

3. The Joint Transport Commissioner-Chennai Zone; He is requested to acknowledge receipt of this order at once, and to get the acknowledgements of the Regional Transport Officers of his Zone, on his file.

4. The Deputy Transport Commissioners, Villupuram, Salem, Colmbatore, Trichy, Madurai and Tirunelveli with a request to communicate the order to the Regional Transport Offices and Unit Offices under their control.