



## ABSTRACT

Transport – Introduction of 10% of low floor buses and 25% of buses to be fitted with Lift Mechanism (or) any other suitable mode to provide easy access to wheel chair bound persons in the buses, out of total number of buses to be procured in future for Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited (MTC), towards improving accessibility for the Differently Aabled Persons - Orders - Issued.

## TRANSPORT (A) DEPARTMENT

G.O (Ms) No.31

Dated: 24.02.2021

சார்வரி, மாசி 12

திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு 2051

### Read:

1. Orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated: 15.12.2017 in W.P. (Civil) No.243 of 2005 with W.P.(Civil) No.228 of 2006 filed by Tvl.Rajiv Raturi and Nilesh Singit .
2. Orders of Hon'ble Division Bench of High Court of Madras dated: 06.04.2016, 12.10.2020 and 10.12.2020 in the W.P.Nos.923 of 2007 and 38224 of 2005 filed by Tvl.M.Gnanasambandam and Rajiv Rajan.

### ORDER:

In the reference 1<sup>st</sup> read above, the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has directed that 10% of Government owned public transport carriers are to be made fully accessible by the Differently Aabled Persons.

2. Tvl.M.Gnanasambandam and Rajiv Rajan have filed W.P.Nos.923 of 2007 and 38224 of 2005 with a prayer to direct the respondents, among other things, to take effective measures to facilitate the effective implementation of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995, to provide user friendly transport access and barrier free environment in the public places for the Persons with Disabilities.

3. In the reference second read above, the Hon'ble Division Bench of Madras High Court, in its order dated 10.12.2020 has directed among other things as follows:-

*"....in the light of the deliberation and discussion with the officials concerned, steps would be definitely taken for strict implementation and compliance of the provision of the Act ..."*

4. As per the above direction, following issues have been discussed with the Advocate General of Tamil Nadu by the Transport Secretary along with the representatives from the Directorate of Welfare of Differently Abled Persons and Managing Director, Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited (MTC):-

i.

Total Fleet strength of Tamil Nadu State Transport Undertakings		21033
<b>All State Transport Undertakings- Provisions for Differently Abled Person to have full accessibility in buses</b>		
	1. Lift Mechanism facility buses. (Visually impaired)	13
	2. Audio Alert System fitted	6035
	3. Buzzer with switch (Alarm fitted vehicle)	7430
	4. Stick holding ring fitted vehicle	6740
	5. Forwarded facing type, passengers seat located near front foot board designated for disabled passengers are indicated with LOGO.	21,033
	6. Handrails are provided at the entrance of the bus.	21,033

- ii. *The Transport Department is also giving free bus pass to differently abled persons and also his/her Escort (Free/Concessional). In Chennai, number of free bus pass given to Differently Abled Persons is 4258. Out of 14200 Differently Abled Persons available in Chennai City, only 623 Differently Abled Persons use Wheel Chair. Besides, among the 623 persons, very few of them are using the public transport buses.*
- iii. *The Government of Tamil Nadu, Transport Department has signed agreements with the KfW (German Development Bank) assisted project of "Climate Friendly Modernization of Bus Services in Major Cities of the State of Tamil Nadu" which provides procurement of 2213 diesel buses with BSVI standard buses to be operated primarily on routes in Chennai, Coimbatore and Madurai. Out of this, at least 10% of buses to be procured are low floor buses intended towards improving accessibility for the differentially abled persons, elderly persons, women and children.*
- iv. *The State Planning Commission has also recommended for Rs.100 lakhs for installation of Electrically Operated Hydraulic Lift Mechanism in the MTC buses for easy access to the persons with special needs by boarding and alighting. In that behalf, the Government had sanctioned a sum of Rs.25.00 lakhs for the financial year 2019-2020. "Electrically Operated Hydraulic Lift Mechanism" has been fitted in the vehicle bearing Registration No.TN-01AN1929. Metropolitan Transport*

(G.O.(Ms) No.31, Transport (A) Department, dated 24.02.2021)

Corporation (Chennai) Limited (MTC) is also looking for new advanced retro fitment model of Lift Mechanism.

5. Consequent on the above discussion and as per the direction of the High Court of Madras, the Government have decided to evolve a policy of introduction of 10% of low floor buses and 25% of buses to be fitted with Lift Mechanism (or) any other suitable mode to provide easy access to wheel chair bound persons in the buses, out of total number of buses to be procured in future for Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited (MTC), towards improving accessibility for the Differently Abled Persons, taking into account the difficulties and inconveniences faced by them and it is hereby ordered accordingly. The Institute of Road Transport who is the Nodal Agency for the procurement of buses to all Tamil Nadu State Transport Undertakings shall be directed to act accordingly.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

C.SAMAYAMOORTHY,  
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Managing Director,  
Metropolitan Transport Corporation (Chennai) Limited, Chennai-2.  
The Director cum Nodal Officer,  
Institute of Road Transport, Chennai-13  
The Joint Managing Director,  
Tamilnadu Transport Development Finance Corporation Limited, Chennai-2.  
The Managing Director,  
State Express Transport Corporation Tamil Nadu Limited, Chennai-2.  
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporations (Villupuram/Salem/Madurai/  
Tirunelveli/ Kumbakonam/Coimbatore) Limited,  
Villupuram, Salem, Kumbakonam, Madurai, Tirunelveli, Coimbatore.

Copy to:

The Chief Minister Office, Chennai-9.  
The Personal Assistant to the Deputy Chief Minister, Chennai-9.  
The Personal Assistant to the Minister (Transport), Chennai-9.  
The Personal Assistant to the Minister (SW&NMP), Chennai-9.  
The Private Secretary to Secretary to Government,  
Transport Department, Chennai-9.  
The Private Secretary to Secretary to Government,  
Welfare Of Differently Abled Persons Department, Chennai-9.  
The Finance (PW.1/BPE) Department, Chennai-9.  
The Special Officer, Chairman Office, Chennai-9.  
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SECTION OFFICER

24/02/21  
A.G.

8/12/21