

24th March 2017

RAI/ADV/2017/333

To,

**Dr. Rajiv Kumar Gupta,
Hon'ble Principal Secretary,
Labour Department,
Government of Gujarat.**

Subject: Representation for 365 days operating permission for retail stores

Hon'ble Principal Secretary,

Greetings from Retailers Association of India!

It is my pleasure to write on behalf of Retailer's Association of India.

Retailers Association of India (RAI) is the unified voice of Indian retailers working with all the stakeholders for creating the right environment for the growth of the modern retail industry in India. RAI is the body that encourages, develops, facilitates and supports retailers to become modern and adopt best practices that will delight customers. RAI has a three charter aim of Retail Development, Facilitation and Propagation. RAI is the premier body of Retailers in India having around 1000 member establishments including large and small retailers in the country having approximately 1,72,000 stores.

RAI's mission is to develop, facilitate and propagate practices and processes that will grow the Indian retail industry, leading to increased consumption and growth of the economy. Retail industry gets its strength from the expertise of people working in the Industry who in turn create services committed to customer satisfaction.

Sir, modern retail needs to be seen as an industry that helps grow consumption and demand, supports growth of GDP, provides employment and likelihood of people who are not necessarily very literate and are from economically backward classes.

We humbly request your progressive government to allow retailers to stay open every day of the year to cater to the needs of the consumers provided that the employees have well defined working hours in shifts and the employees are given compensatory weekly offs on a preferential basis. We believe such a step would lead to growth of the industry and lead to increased consumption across the state and hence contribute to the growth of the economy and the tax revenues for the state government. We are attaching herewith a representation for your kind perusal.

RAI National Council

Atul Chand,
ITC - LRBD

Avijit Mitra,
Infiniti Retail (Croma)

B A Kodandarama Setty,
Vivek Ltd.

B S Nagesh,
Shoppers Stop Ltd.

Bhaskar Bhat,
Titan Industries Ltd.

Govind Shrikhande,
Shoppers Stop Ltd.

J Suresh,
Arvind Brands

Jamshed Daboo,
Trent Hypermarket Ltd.

Kabir Lumba,
Lifestyle International (P) Ltd.

Kishore Biyani,
Future Group

Krish Iyer,
Walmart India

Noel Tata,
Trent Ltd.

Pranab Barua,
Aditya Birla Retail Ltd.

Rafique Malik,
Metro Shoes Ltd.

Rahul Mehta,
CMAI

Rakesh Biyani,
Future Group

Shashwat Goenka,
Spencer's Retail

Vinay Nadkarni,
Globus Stores Pvt. Ltd.

Recently Maharashtra and West Bengal Governments announced 365 days' store opening permission. We have also attached the notifications issued by the Madhya Pradesh Government and the Delhi Government. Andhra Pradesh & Telangana Government have issued notifications for a period of 5 years & 3 years respectively.

We hope that you shall receive our representation favorably and issue a notification on similar lines.

We are writing this letter to seek your appointment for a meeting with a high level delegation from the retail industry as per your convenience to discuss the view of the retailers and how the retail industry can be made stronger, thus augmenting the state's economy and social well-being and creating a healthy and conducive environment for the growth of retail.

Looking forward to your kind response.

Warm Regards,

For and on behalf of Retail Association of India



Gautam Jain
Director – Advocacy

Cc

**Shri J. D. Desai,
Hon'ble Director,
Labour Commissioner,
Government of Gujarat.**

Enclosed:

1. RAI representation on 365 days opening permission for retail stores
2. Notification issued by Madhya Pradesh Government
3. Notification issued by Delhi Government
4. Notification issued by Maharashtra Government
5. Notification issued by Telangana Government
6. Notification issued by Andhra Pradesh Government
7. Notification issued by West Bengal Government

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