

Hon'ble Principal Secretary,
Labour Department,
Government of West Bengal.

Subject: Request for meeting in regard to Renewal of 365 days store opening permission notification in all municipal corporations in the state of West Bengal.

Hon'ble Principal Secretary,

Greetings from Retailers Association of India (RAI)!

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 more than 1000 member establishments including large and small retailers in the country having approximately 5,00,000 stores.

Sir, we gratefully acknowledge the move by your progressive department to allow all the retail establishment in the state of West Bengal to keep their stores open throughout the year. We are attaching the notification dated 22-09-2016 issued by your honourable department. The said permission was issued for a year which has expired on 21-09-2017.

The move has been much appreciated by the entire retail industry and this has helped the industry to provide an interrupted service to the consumers and also contributed to the increase in employment opportunities.

We would be honored if the notification in regard to 365 days working of retail establishments in the state could be renewed. Subsequently, we would also request your good offices to issue a notification in line with the notification issued by the Delhi Government. Please find attached the notification issued by the Delhi government in this regard for your perusal.

10th October 2018
RAI/ADV/2018/069

RAI National Council

Avijit Mitra,
Infiniti Retail Ltd. (Croma)

B A Kodandarama Setty,
Vivek Ltd.

B S Nagesh,
Shoppers Stop Ltd.

Bhaskar Bhat,
Titan Industries Ltd

Deepak Aswani,
My Kingdom

J Suresh,
Arvind Lifestyle Brands Ltd.

Jamshed Daboo,
Trent Hypermarket Ltd

Kishore Biyani, Future
Group

Krish Iyer, Walmart India

Lalit Agarwal,
V-Mart Retail Ltd.

Neville Noronha, Avenue
Supermarts Ltd (D-Mart)

Noel Tata, Trent Ltd.

Pranab Barua,
Aditya Birla Retail Ltd.

Rafique Malik,
Metro Shoes Ltd

Rahul Mehta, CMAI

Rakesh Biyani,
Future Retail Ltd.

Shashwat Goenka,
Spencer's Retail Ltd

Suhail Sattar,
Hasbro Clothing (P) Ltd

Vasanth Kumar,
Lifestyle International
Pvt. Ltd.

Vinay Nadkarni,
Globus Stores Pvt. Ltd.

Alternatively, you may grant the 365 days' store opening permission for retail establishments for a **period of five years**.

Furthermore, we request you **to issue the notification grant exemption to all classes of shops and establishments situated in all municipal corporations, municipalities and towns in the state of West Bengal.**

Sir, a high level delegation from the retail industry can come and discuss with you in person, the modalities of the same. We would like to seek your appointment at as time as per your convenience to discuss how the retail industry can be made stronger, thus augmenting the state's economy and social well-being.

We believe such a meeting would surely bear fruitful results in both, supporting the industry as well as taking forth the objectives of the government.

Looking forward for your kind response.

Warm Regards,

For and on behalf of Retailers Association of India,



Sh. Gautam Jain,
Director – Finance & Advocacy,
RAI

Cc

1. Hon'ble Minister, Labour Department, Government of West Bengal.

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