

F. No. RW/NH-33044/309/2016/S&R (R)

Dated: the 6" April, 2017

Subject: Ban on liquor shops along National Highways.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court in its judgement dated 15-12-2016 on Civil Appeal No. 12164- 12166 of 2016 (the State of Tamil Nadu and Ors. vs K, Balu & Anr.) has directed as under:

i. All states and union territories shall forthwith cease and desist from granting licences for the sale of liquor along national and state highways;

ii, The prohibition contained in (i) above shall extend to and include stretches of such highways which fall within the limits of a municipal corporation, city, town or local authority;

iii. ¹ [~~The existing licences which have already been renewed prior to the date of this order shall continue until the term of the licence expires but no later than 1 April 2017~~] [The existing licences which have been renewed prior to the date of this order shall continue until the term of the licence expires but no later than 1 April 2017. In the case of those licences for the sale of liquor which have been renewed prior to 15 December 2016 and the excise year of the concerned state is to end on a date falling on or after 1 April 2017, the existing licence shall continue until the term of the licence expires but in any event not later than 30 September 2017];

iv. _ All signages and advertisements of the availability of liquor shall be prohibited and existing 'ones removed forthwith both on national and state highways;

v. ¹ [~~No shop for the sale of liquor shall be (i) visible from a national or state highway; (ii) directly accessible from a national or state highway and (iii) situated within a distance of 500 metres of the outer edge of the national or state highway or of a service lane along the highway~~] [No shop for the sale of liquor shall be visible from a National or State Highway; (ii) directly accessible from National or State Highway and (iii) situated within a distance of 500 metres of the outer edge of National or State Highway or of a service lane along the Highway. In the case of areas comprised in local bodies with a population of 20,000 people or less, the distance of 500 metres shall stand reduced to 220 metres.],

vi. All States and Union territories are mandated to strictly enforce the above directions. The Chief Secretaries and Directors General of Police shall within one month chalk out a plan for enforcement in consultation with the state revenue and home departments. Responsibility shall be assigned inter alia to District Collectors and Superintendents of Police and other horities. Compli shall be strictly monitored by calling for fortnightly

reports on action taken.

1- Subs. vide circular dated 01.06.2017

vii. These directions issue under Article 142 of the Constitution.

2: All the State Governments and UTs are requested to please take necessary action implementation of the order of Hon'ble Supreme Court. Seton for

