



ABSTRACT

COVID -19 – Lockdown – Lease – Urban Local Bodies – Payment of lease amount for shops and stalls, annual lease amount for Cycle / Taxi stand, Weekly Shandy and daily markets for the year 2020-21 – Waiver of payment of lease / rental amount for the lockdown period from 01.04.2020 to 31.05.2020- Orders – Issued.

Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MA.IV) Department

G.O. (D) No.298

Dated:02.09.2020

(திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு 2051
சார்வரி, ஆவணி 17)

Read:

From the Commissioner of Municipal Administration,
letter Roc No.8763 / 2020 / R1, dated:18.06.2020.

ORDER:

In the letter read above, the Commissioner of Municipal Administration has stated that the Urban Local Bodies viz., Municipal Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats are providing basic amenities and other infrastructure facilities to its citizens, as they are the Self Governing entities. For the functioning of the Urban Local Bodies, the revenue is generated through various resources such as Property Tax, Profession Tax, Water Charges and Leasing of its properties & user charges licensing.

2. The Commissioner of Municipal Administration has further stated that though the Property Tax is the major source of income, the leasing of Municipal Properties also contribute a major chunk of revenue. The lease rent/licensing includes Shops and Stalls and other immovable assets, two wheeler and Taxi parking lot, weekly shandies, Bus-stand entrance fees, Pay and Use Toilets etc., contribute to this item of Non-Tax Revenue.

3. The Commissioner of Municipal Administration has further stated that due to COVID-19 pandemic struck the State during the last week of March 2020, the Government, among other measures, enforced a complete State-wide lock down since 24th of March to 31.05.2020 in phases to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Due to the lockdown restrictions, all shops and business establishments were closed except those that were selling essential commodities. Apart from that, during the lockdown period there was ban for operation of public transport systems and all the bus stands in the Urban Local Bodies have been closed. In view of that, the Shops, cycle/taxi stands, pay and use toilets established and leased out in the bus stands could not be operated by the lessees.

4. The Commissioner of Municipal Administration has further stated that in these backdrop, various representations have been received from the Trader's Associations and the lease holders of the properties of Urban Local Bodies requesting for waiver of payment of lease/ rental amount for the shops and stalls, cycle/taxi stands, weekly shandies, Bus Entrance Fees, pay and use toilets etc., during the COVID-19 lockdown.

5. The Commissioner of Municipal Administration has informed that in view of the closure of shops and stalls, weekly shandies, cycle/taxi stands, pay and use toilets in the bus stand, the lessees were not able to derive any income during the lockdown period from the leased properties of the Urban Local Bodies, and the livelihood of the lessees were severely affected during the lock down period.

6. The Commissioner of Municipal Administration has therefore requested the Government to issue necessary orders for the waiver of payment of lease/rental amount for the lockdown period from 01.04.2020 to 31.05.2020 by the lessees in respect of the leased out properties of Urban Local Bodies covering Greater Chennai Corporation, 14 other Corporations, 121 Municipalities and 528 Town Panchayats.

7. The Government after careful examination of the proposal of the Commissioner of Municipal Administration at para 6 above and hereby order to waive the payment of lease / rental amount for the period from 01.04.2020 to 31.05.2020 by the lessees in respect of the leased out properties of Urban Local Bodies covering Greater Chennai Corporation, 14 other Corporations, 121 Municipalities and 528 Town Panchayats restricted to the shops which were actually closed during this period and also subject to the condition that the State Government shall not bear any compensation

in this regard. Commissioner of concerned Urban Local Bodies are requested to allow the waiver after due verification.

8. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department, vide its U.O.No.27545/Fin(MAWS)/2020, dated:27.08.2020.

(By Order of the Governor)

**HARMANDER SINGH
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT**

To

The Commissioner of Municipal Administration, Chennai – 600 028.
The Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai –600 028.
The Commissioner, Greater Chennai Corporation, Chennai-600 003.
All the Commissioners of Municipal Corporations
(through the Commissioner of Municipal Administration, Chennai-600 028)
All the Regional Director of Municipal Administration office
(through the Commissioner of Municipal Administration, Chennai-600 028)
All the Additional Directors of Town Panchayats office
(through the Director of Town Panchayats, Chennai-600 028)

Copy to:-

The Special Personal Assistant to the Hon'ble Minister
(Municipal Administration, Rural Development & Implementation of Special Programme), Chennai-600 009.
The Senior Private Secretary to Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department,
Chennai – 600 009.
The Finance (MAWS) Dept, Chennai- 600 009.
The Municipal Administration and Water Supply (MC1, MC2, MC6,
TP2, OP2) Department, Chennai –600 009.
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//Forwarded by Order//

Tshakile
Section Officer.

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