

OFFICE OF THE JOINT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE, LICENSING

1ST FLOOR, POLICE STATION DEFENCE COLONY:NEW DELHI-110024

Tel.No.011-26261525, 011-26262260

No. **2758** /Joint CP/Licensing (H), dated New the **13.06.2022**

ORDER

FOR HOTEL BOOKING WEBSITES AND MOBILE APPLICATIONS

1. This is to bring to your notice that any person intending to open and operate a lodging and boarding establishment in the NCT of Delhi mandatorily needs to obtain a License from the Delhi Police as per the "Regulations for keeping places of Public Entertainment in the Union Territory of Delhi" dated 19th December, 1980 framed under Section 28 of the Delhi Police Act, 1978 by the Commissioner of Police, Delhi.

2. The licensing of lodging and boarding establishments in the NCT of Delhi has been made completely online since 01st October, 2019 by launching a Unified Portal for Licensing of Lodging Establishments as a Single Window Online System (Unified Portal) at <https://delehlhlic.mha.gov.in> All applications for grant and renewal of licenses to open and operate lodging and boarding establishments in the NCT of Delhi are now received online through the unified portal only.

3. A list of the licensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises operating in the NCT of Delhi, as maintained by the Licensing Unit, Delhi Police, may be accessed at <https://licensing.delhipolice.gov.in>

4. It has come to the notice of the Delhi Police that many unlicensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises operating in the NCT of Delhi are listed on your websites and mobile applications and are carrying out their operations such as booking, payments, etc., through your websites and mobile applications. Such places, operating in breach of various laws and regulations, are safe havens for the criminals and terrorists and have often been used for carrying out illegal, criminal and terrorist activities and as such possess a serious risk and threat to the peace, safety, security and law and order.

5. Operating such unlicensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises in the NCT of Delhi is a punishable offence. Listing, allowing bookings, payments, etc., for the unlicensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises on your websites and mobile applications is an act of aiding and abetting an unlawful act and the same attracts penal action as warranted under law.

6. Further, being an intermediary as defined under the Information Technology Act, 2000, providing online listing and booking of hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises, you are *inter alia* bound by the provisions of Section 79 of the Information Technology Act, 2000. As per Section 79 clause (2) and (3) of the Information Technology Act, 2000, you can *inter alia* be held liable for aiding or abetting the unlawful acts of listing and allowing bookings for the unlicensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises, on your websites and mobile applications.

7. As a sequel to the above, you are hereby directed to only list licensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises and allow bookings only for licensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises on your websites and mobile applications as per the list of the licensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises operating in the NCT of Delhi. You are further directed to insist for a copy of the license issued by the Delhi Police from the hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises before listing them and allowing them to operate on your websites and mobile applications.

8. You are further directed to take down/remove the unlicensed hotels, lodges, guest houses and premises listed on your websites and mobile applications forthwith.

9. The above directions shall be complied with at the earliest and in no case later than seventy two hours from the receipt of this Notice. The failure to comply with the aforesaid directions will attract necessary action *inter alia* under Section 107 read with Section 109 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, Section 188 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, Section 69A and Section 79(3) of the Information Technology Act, 2000 and Section 112 of the Delhi Police Act, 1978.

G.P. 13/06.2022
(Dr O.P. Mishra)IPS
Joint Commissioner of Police
Licensing: Delhi