

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS
(MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS BRANCH)
DF-8, SECTOR-I, SALT LAKE, KOLKATA- 700 064

NOTIFICATION

No. 487/MA/O/C-4/1M-1/2001(Pt-II)

Dated, Kolkata, the 22nd March, 2021

WHEREAS due to some unavoidable circumstances, it was not possible to hold the general election to the Siliguri Municipal Corporation (hereinafter referred to as the said Corporation) before the expiry of the period of five years specified in sub-section (2) of section 11 of the West Bengal Municipal Corporation Act, 2006 (West Ben. Act XXXIX of 2006) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act) and in terms of provisions of sub-section (4) of section 11 of the said Act, the Board of Councillors of the said Corporation was dissolved after expiry of term;

AND WHEREAS in terms of provisions of sub-section (4) of section 11 of the said Act, Board of Administrators has been appointed in the said Corporation till the new Board of Councillors of the said Corporation takes over charge after the election to be held or until further orders, whichever is earlier for exercising or performing, as the case may be, all the powers and functions vested with the municipal authorities under the said Act or under any other law for the time being in force;

AND WHEREAS the Election Commission of India vide Order dated 20.03.2021, communicated vide No. 464/WB-LA/2021, dated the 20th March, 2021, has directed, in order to avoid a situation where critical functions of urban local bodies are actually discharged and thereby affecting level playing field during the operation of Model code of Conduct or has potential of and/or may give rise to legitimate apprehension in the mind of the voters about the fairness and impartiality of the election process, to temporarily restrain such political appointees, who are holding the office of Administrators/ Head of Board of Administrators in the Municipal Corporations of West Bengal on appointment basis after the end of their elected term, from participating in/ exercising the function of the Board during the period the Model Code of Conduct is in force and to ensure a level playing field in all other Municipal Bodies in the State of West Bengal by rigorous reviews the decisions which can disturb the level playing field;

NOW, THEREFORE, in compliance with the direction of the Election Commission of India, in supersession of all the notifications issued appointing Board of Administrators and as per deliberation made on 21.03.2021 in the committee constituted by Election Commission of India under Chairmanship of Chief Secretary, the State Government, in exercise of the power conferred by sub-section (4) of section 11 of the West Bengal Municipal Corporation Act, 2006, is pleased hereby to appoint Shri Surendra Gupta, IAS, Principal Secretary, GTA and Secretary, North Bengal Development Department as Administrator to the Siliguri Municipal Corporation with immediate effect till the new Board of Councillors of the said Corporation takes over charge after the election to be held or until further orders, whichever is earlier for exercising or performing, as the case may be, all the powers and functions vested with the municipal authorities under the said Act or under any other law for the time being in force in addition to his normal duties as Principal Secretary, GTA and Secretary, North Bengal Development Department.

Board of Administrators, appointed earlier, including all its members cease to function with issuance of this notification.

Sd/- A. Bandyopadhyay

Chief Secretary

No. 487/1(3) /MA/O/C-4/1M-1/2001(Pt-II)

Dated, Kolkata, the 22nd March, 2021

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to -

1. Shri Surendra Gupta, IAS, Principal Secretary, GTA and Secretary, North Bengal Development Department, Government of West Bengal.

Sn
22/3/2021
Joint Secretary

No. 487/2(9) /MA/O/C-4/1M-1/2001(Pt-II)

Dated, Kolkata, the 22nd March, 2021

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to the: -

- (1) Secretary, State Election Commission, West Bengal, 18, Sarojini Naidu Sarani, Kol - 17.
- (2) District Magistrate, Darjeeling, P.O. - Darjeeling, Dist.- Darjeeling.
- (3) Commissioner, Siliguri Municipal Corporation, PO. – Siliguri, Dist. – Darjeeling to inform other outgoing members of erstwhile Board of Administrators accordingly.
- (4) PS to Hon'ble Minister-in-Charge, UD & MA Department.
- (5) Sr PS to Chief Secretary West Bengal
- (6) Sr PS to Addl Chief Secretary Home & Hill Affairs Department
- (7) Sr PS to Principal Secretary, P & AR Department
- (8) Sr. PA to Pr. Secretary, UD & MA Department.
- (9) Guard file of Statutory Wings of this Department.

Sn
22/3/2021
Joint Secretary