

**235. Goods booking, forwarding and distributing — agent's license.—**

(1) No person shall act as an agent unless he holds a valid license in Form AL granted by the Secretary, Regional Transport Authority authorizing the carrying on of such business.

(2) (a) Any person desiring to obtain a license for carrying on any business referred to in clause (ii) of sub-rule (b) of rule 3 or for renewing such license may make an application in form ALA or ALRA as the case may be, to the Secretary, Regional Transport Authority of the region in which the applicant resides or proposes to have his place of business.

(b) A person having principal place of business or residence in one place and branches in several other places shall make an application to the Secretary, Regional Transport Authority of the region in which he has his principal place of business or residence for the grant of a common license. The fee for grant or renewal of agents license shall be as specified in the Table under rule 279.

Explanation.— The administrative office and godowns situated in one place or in different places within a city or a town shall be one unit provided that they are all located within the limits of such city or town.

(3) On receipt of an application the licensing authority shall, have regard, among other things, to the following matters, namely;—

The number of goods carriages either, owned by the applicant or under his control;

The suitability of accommodation possessed by the applicant for the storage of goods;

The facilities, if any, provided by the applicant for parking goods carriages;

The financial resources of the applicant and his ability and experience to manage the business efficiently; and

The antecedents of the applicant and his fitness to hold the license

Where it appears necessary for ensuring proper compliance with the conditions of license referred to in sub-rule (7), the licensing authority may, at the time of granting or renewing a license or at any time during the validity of the license, order for reasons to be recorded in writing, the licensee to furnish a reasonable security on such scale and subject to such conditions as may be notified by the State Government in the Official Gazette, and where the licensee has furnished earlier any security in pursuance of an order passed under the provisions of this rule, such additional security as may be reasonable.

No agent's licensee shall authorize a person to act as such agent unless he has adequate facilities to load and unload goods at the premises approved by the Secretary, Regional Transport Authority under these rules.

(i) An agent's license shall be valid for a period of five years from the date of its grant or renewal.