



GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

INSURANCE

255. Users of motor vehicles are to be insured at least against third-party risks and compensation. This is to provide against third-party risks arising out of the use of motor vehicles and for the payment of compensation in respect of death or bodily injury arising out of the use of motor vehicles. It is a requirement by law.

PILLION

256. No person riding a motorcycle or scooter on a road shall carry any child below 10 years of age as a pillion passenger.

Riding with a passenger is different from riding alone. The extra weight of a passenger changes the balance of the motorcycle and has an effect on the acceleration and braking operations of the motorcycle. With a passenger, you will need a longer stopping distance. You will also need a longer safe clear road ahead when overtaking due to a reduced acceleration rate.

Unless the passenger is an experienced pillion rider, you should instruct the passenger on the following:

- Sit as close to you as possible.
- Sit astride the motorcycle with feet on the footrests all the time, even at rest.
- Keep his/her body in line with yours and relax.
- Hold your waist with both hands.
- Grip your hip with his/her knees.
- Do not shift his/her body about.
- When negotiating a bend, the pillion should lean together with you in the same direction.

Take the following precautions before riding:

- Adjust the mirrors after the pillion rider is seated on the motorcycle.
- Ensure the passenger's clothing will not get entangled with the wheel.
- Check the tyre pressure to ensure it is inflated sufficiently to take the extra weight.

HEAVY VEHICLES

257. Accidents involving large vehicle are normally very serious or fatal. Bear in mind these factors when you encounter large vehicles on the road:

- They are high, long and bulky, and block your view;
- They need plenty of space to turn;
- Their speed is restricted because of their size and load.

Keep between you and the large vehicle a greater following distance than you normally would with other vehicles. Riding behind a large vehicle you should keep well back because it allows the driver to see you in the mirrors and your view of the road ahead will be blocked if you are too close to the large vehicle. When following a large vehicle on a wet road, water spray from the rear of the large vehicle makes it difficult to see if you follow too close. You should drop back until you can see better.

