

STOPPING AND MOVING OFF FROM A SLOPE

279. The objective is to move off from a slope without rolling backwards or stalling the engine.



Slight adjustment in the use of controls is required when stopping or moving the motorcycle off on an incline. There is a tendency for the motorcycle to roll backwards when going uphill. To counter this, open the throttle a bit more when going uphill. Apply more pressure on the brakes to hold the motorcycle on an incline.

280. Take the following steps when stopping on an incline:

- a) Check mirrors.
- b) Left indicator on.
- c) Check 'blind spot'.
- d) Pull in to the left.
- e) Apply both front and rear brakes gradually to reduce speed.
- f) Pull-in the clutch lever just as the motorcycle is about to stop.
- g) Cancel your left signal.
- h) Release the hand brake lever but keep the pressure on the brake pedal.

To move off smoothly on an incline requires good co-ordination of the clutch, throttle and the brake pedal. Being skilled in the 'half-clutch' technique is crucial in this manoeuvre. Do not hold on to the 'biting point' too long as this would wear out the clutch lining faster.

281. Follow the procedure below in moving off on an incline:

- a) Step on the brake pedal.
- b) Pull-in the clutch lever fully.
- c) Shift to first gear.
- d) Open the throttle a bit more than you would on a flat road and hold it steady. Keep about 2,000 to 3,000 rpm.
- e) Release the clutch lever gradually until the 'biting point' is reached.
- f) Hold and maintain the clutch lever after achieving 'biting point'.
- g) Check side mirror and right 'blind spot'.
- h) Show your right signal.
- i) Turn the throttle slightly further and release the clutch lever a bit more until you feel the motorcycle wanting to move forward and a drop in the engine speed.
- j) Release the pressure on the brake pedal.
- k) Increase throttle slightly and at the same time gradually release the clutch lever fully.
- l) Should the engine stall on moving off:
 - (i) Step on the brake pedal quickly to prevent the motorcycle from rolling back.
 - (ii) Shift the gear to neutral.
 - (iii) Start the engine and repeat procedure for moving off.