

**ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF BHUTAN  
MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS  
ROAD SAFETY AND TRANSPORT AUTHORITY**



**ROAD SAFETY AND TRANSPORT REGULATIONS (1999)**

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**(Updated January 2019)**

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## **CHAPTER 1: REGISTRATION AND LICENSING REGULATIONS**

### **1. Purpose of the Regulations**

The purpose of the regulations is to:

- (a) set out procedures for the registration, renewal and transfer of ownership of motor vehicles, including two wheelers;
- (b) set out procedures for the granting of learner's license, driver license, including driving instructor's license;
- (c) Provide for the fees to be paid for transaction under these regulations;
- (d) provide powers to the Authority for cancellation or suspension of registration and driving license.

### **2. Parts:**

The Regulations are divided into the following parts.

- (a) Part-1 : Vehicle Registration
- (b) Part-2 : Driver Licensing
- (c) Part-3 : Driving Instructor License

## **PART-1: VEHICLE REGISTRATION**

### **DIVISION -1: REGISTRATION REQUIREMENT**

#### **3. Category of motor vehicle for registration purpose**

For purpose of registration, motor vehicles are categorized as:

- (a) Heavy Vehicle: (add more categories .HV with trailers etc.)
  - i) Motor vehicle exceeding 10 tons gross vehicle weight
  - ii) Bus with more than 25passenger seats (including driver)
- (b) Medium Vehicles
  - i) Motor vehicle exceeding 3 tons gross vehicle weight but not exceeding 10 tons gross vehicle weight
  - ii) Vehicle with 13-24 passenger seats

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- iii) Tractor – above 20 horsepower (hp)
- (c) Equipment: (Heavy Equipment, Medium and Light)
  - i) Road Roller;
  - ii) Bull-dozer;
  - iii) Mobile crane;
  - iv) Pay loaders/excavators
  - v) Road Pavers
  - vi) Any other earth-moving and construction equipment
- (d) Light Vehicles:
  - i) Any vehicle above 796 CC or weighing not more than 3 tons gross vehicle weight and not exceeding 12 seats (including driver);
  - ii) Power-tiller;
  - iii) Tractor – below 20 horsepower (hp);
- (e) Taxi;
- (e) Two Wheelers;

#### **4. Exemption to register**

A motor vehicle belonging to and registered in the name of:

- i) Royal Bhutan Army
- ii) Royal Body Guard; and
- iii) Royal Bhutan Police

is exempt from the requirement to register with the Department.

#### **5. Requirement for initial registration of a motor vehicle**

- i) A person registering a motor vehicle must:
  - (a) Produce documents in original such as Identity Card for Bhutanese Nationals and Passport/recognized identification documents for Non-Bhutanese as proof of identity, age and eligibility.
  - (b) Be present in person or send a representative with a written authorization and the vehicle for registration
  - (c) furnish documentary proof of taking delivery from the authorized dealer/agent/distributor in the country, including invoice in original or copy certified by Department of Revenue & Customs (DRC), emission standard compliance certificate and evidence to demonstrate that all duties and clearance charges and fees have been paid;

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- (d) In the case of a vehicle purchased from other countries by the owner directly without involving local dealer(s), documentary evidence of sale by the authorized dealer and evidence to demonstrate that applicable duties and charges have been paid in Bhutan.
  - (e) in case of a vehicle on “allotment” to entitled government employees by the Ministry of Finance, a letter to this effect, along with a copy of the import license;
  - (f) complete and sign the application (FORM 1) and undertaking (FORM 2) as prescribed; and
  - (g) Pay the fee specified in Schedule-1 of the Regulations.
- ii) An application for registration must be completed within 15 days of taking delivery of a vehicle from the customs Authority or the authorized dealer, and the vehicle registered with the Authority within this period.
  - iii) Ensure that the motor vehicle is four-stroke engine in case it is a two wheeler.
  - iv) Ensure that the motor vehicle is at least 796 cubic capacity (cc)
  - v) Ensure that the windshield and front door window glasses of the vehicle are not tinted dark to obstruct visibility.
  - vi) Registration of a vehicle damaged while on transit and auctioned by an insurance company may be accepted upon proper certification by a competent workshop and on physical inspection by the Department.

**Penalty:** 2 units for every day delayed shall be applied if the vehicle is not registered within 15 days from the date of taking delivery.

### **6. Application for registration to be made by the owner**

- (1) Only the owner of a vehicle can apply for registration of a vehicle in his name.
- (2) If more than one person owns a vehicle, an application for registration must be made by one of the owners nominated by the other owner (s).
- (3) Despite sub-section (1) and (2), the Authority must not register a vehicle in the name of a non-Bhutanese for commercial purposes , except where the vehicle is meant for his/her personal use, if:
  - a) A person has employment in Bhutan;
  - b) A person has valid work permit;

- c) A person resides in the country for more than 6 months;

## **7. Registration of a vehicle**

- (1) Upon submission of an application by the owner of a vehicle, if the Authority is satisfied that all requirements have been complied with, it shall:
  - a) assign a separate registration number to the vehicle.
  - b) supply a certificate of registration to the registered owner; and
  - c) enter:
    - (i) the particulars of the applicant as the registered owner of the vehicle;
    - (ii) the particulars of the vehicle;
    - (iii) the registration expiry date; and
    - (iv) any other information the Authority considers necessary, in its records; and
    - (v) collect fee as set out in schedule I.
- (2) The Authority shall not grant a new vehicle registration in the name of a person if the person has outstanding dues related to a vehicle registered in his name. Registration shall be granted only upon settlement of any outstanding dues against the person.
- (3) Validity of a certificate of registration for different category of vehicle shall be
  - (i) Six months to one year for commercial vehicles (Trucks, Buses and Taxis)
  - (ii) Validity of registration for a power tiller shall be for Ten years. Yearly extension shall be given subject to road worthiness inspection after the 10<sup>th</sup> year on annual basis.
  - (iii) One to five years for all other categories subject to realization of equivalent amount of fees as per schedule-I.
- (4) A valid certificate of registration must be carried at all times with the vehicle while driving.

**Penalty for failing to carry registration certificate: 15 units**

## **8. Inspection of vehicle**

An applicant for registration of a vehicle must produce the vehicle for physical inspection by an authorised person, at the time of registration.

## **9. Renewal of Registration**

- (1) The owner of a motor vehicle must arrange to renew the registration certificate on or before the expiry of the current registration:

- (a) On payment of fee in schedule 1; and
- (b) After furnishing the registration certificate to the Authority for amendment.

**Penalty:** Nu.10 per day after the expiry of the current registration up-to a maximum of Nu.3000. The renewal starts from the date of expiry of current registration.

- (2) A vehicle which has not renewed the documents for two consecutive years shall be automatically de-registered.

The Authority may process automatic de-registration as follows:

- (a) Issue a notice to the owner at the given address;
- (b) Copy of the notice should also be provided to the Police and respective offices of the Authority for tracing the whereabouts of the vehicle;
- (c) Process for automatic de-registration if no information is received either from the owner, police or the Authority;

(d) Notwithstanding (2) above, revival of registration of de-registered vehicle which is proposed to be driven on the road shall be permitted upon providing satisfactory justification and on payment of the renewal fees up-to-date together with the penalty of Nu. 10 per day for the duration it has not been renewed. Maximum penalty limit of Nu.3000 shall not apply in such a case.

(e) The formal de-registration of a vehicle which has been scrapped and no more on the road, but its registration cancelled by the system failing to pay renewal fees for at least two years, shall be permitted upon payment of renewal fees up-to-date together with a lump sum penalty of Nu. 3000

- (3) The registration certificate shall stand renewed from the date it fell due, if the annual renewal fee and penalty, where applicable, have been paid.

- (4) The Authority, in case of a commercial vehicle undergoing major repair, may exempt the owner from payment of the late renewal fee or tax for the duration a vehicle remains off-road, provided the owner:

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- a) informs the Authority in writing at the time of taking the vehicle for repair;
  - b) surrenders the registration certificate to the Authority; and
  - c) Furnishes authentic evidence or a certificate from the concerned workshop after the repairs have been completed, showing the duration of repair.
- (5) Formula to be used for the purpose of sub-section (5) shall be:
- $$(Tax\ reduction = \frac{\text{motor vehicle tax}}{365\ days} \times (number\ of\ days\ spent\ on\ repair))$$
- (6) “**Registered owner**” whenever used, means the person shown on the Authority’s records as the owner of the vehicle.

### **10. Certificate of Registration**

- (1) A certificate of registration of a vehicle must contain sufficient information concerning:
- a) the identity of the vehicle;
  - b) its registered owner;
  - c) the period of validity of its registration;
  - d) the seating capacity (including driver); and
  - e) Gross Vehicle Weight (loading capacity)
  - f) any other information the Authority may consider necessary.
- (2) For the purpose of assigning seating capacity for a vehicle, the authority shall abide by the provision in schedule-2.

### **11. Loading and seating capacity in the certificate of registration**

In addition to the information referred to in sub-section 10(1), the registration certificate of a motor vehicle, which is:

- (a) used for carrying goods for hire or in the course of trade;
- (b) Construed primarily to carry goods of any kind; and
- (c) used as a passenger transport vehicle,

shall contain information concerning:

- (i) its carrying capacity
- (ii) its un-laden weight; and

- (iii) its gross vehicle weight.

**Penalty:** 20 units for each person in excess of the permissible number and 20 units for every excess ton of overload.

## **12. Notification of change of address**

The registered owner of a vehicle must, within 7 days of change of his name and address:

- (a) notify the authority of the change; and
- (b) provide the certificate of registration to the Authority for amendment.

**Penalty: 12 units**

## **13. Replacement of certificate of registration**

- (1) The Authority must issue a replacement of the certificate of registration to the registered owner of a vehicle if he:
  - (a) can prove that the certificate of registration has been lost, damaged or destroyed as certified by Royal Bhutan Police;
  - (b) surrenders the original certificate of registration, if damaged or fully exhausted;
  - (c) pays the applicable fee in schedule 1.
- (2) The Authority must issue a replacement of the certificate of registration to the registered owner of a vehicle, without payment of any fee if the registration certificate is fully used.

## **14. Exemption from payment of registration and annual renewal fee**

- (1) A motor vehicle is exempt from paying initial registration or annual renewal fee if it:
  - (a) falls under a category indicated in section 15;
  - (b) belongs to the Royal Family and the vehicle allotted a “BHT” registration number;

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- (c) is registered with the Royal Body Guard, Royal Bhutan Army or Royal Bhutan Police and possesses appropriate registration number;
  - (d) belongs to a project under special arrangement between the Government and the donor agency, for which a copy of the signed project documents and tax exemption certificate from Ministry of Finance must be made available;
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), a motor vehicle falling under category (a) and (d) must pay the cost of registration certificate and application form.
- (3) A motor vehicle falling under category (d) must start paying the annual renewal fee after the vehicle is handed over to the Government or sold.

### **15. Who is entitled to CD number-plates**

- (1) A motor vehicle belonging to:
- (a) an Embassy, a High Commission, Consulate or Diplomatic Mission, and its employees holding diplomatic passport;
  - (b) an agency of the United Nations system and its employees holding diplomatic passport, shall have CD number plates and therefore are exempt from paying registration or annual renewal fee.
- (2) Despite sub-section (1), the Authority shall allot only one CD number or exempt only one vehicle in case of the same person, referred under sub-section (1) owning two or more vehicles from payment of registration fee and other charges.
- (3) For the purpose of the sub-section 1, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan, shall be the authority to certify an organization or an individual as enjoying diplomatic immunity.

### **16. Alteration of vehicle description or use**

- (1) A registered vehicle owner must obtain prior approval for making any alteration to the vehicle.
- (2) If a registered vehicle is altered (either in construction or appearance) so that the description in its certificate of registration is different from its altered description, the registered owner of the vehicle must, within 15 days after the alterations are made:
- (a) present the vehicle to the Authority for inspection by an authorized person;
  - and



- (b) give to the authorized person, the certificate of registration of the vehicle.

**Penalty: 12 units**

- (3) If, after inspecting the vehicle, the authorized person considers that an amendment of the Authority's record as shown in the certificate of the registration of the vehicle should be made, the vehicle owner must send to the Authority:

- (a) the certificate of registration; and

- (b) a written statement of the amendments which should be made.

- (4) The Authority must, after considering the statements referred to in sub-regulation (2) (b), make any amendment to its record that it deems fit.

**17. Vehicle must display number plates**

- (1) The registered owner of a vehicle shall make sure that the registration number issued by the Authority for the vehicle is fixed to it in accordance with these Regulations.

- (2) If:

- (a) a motor vehicle is towing another vehicle that is not registered; and

- (b) the towed vehicle obscures the number plate of the motor vehicle, the registration number of the motor vehicle must be displayed on the rear of the towed vehicle so that the number can be seen from 20 meters away.

**Penalty: 15 Units**

**18. Method of displaying number plate**

Under regulation 17, two number plates must be fixed, one to the front and one to the rear of the motor vehicle. The size of the number plate, letters and colour scheme must conform to the standard prescribed by the Authority under **schedule-III** of the Regulations which may be subject to change from time to time.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**19. Offence in relation to number plates**

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- (1) A person must not fix to a vehicle or use a vehicle fixing a number- plate, which has not been approved by the Authority for that vehicle.

**Penalty: 15 units**

- (2) A person who uses a motor vehicle on a high way is guilty of an offence if:
- (a) the vehicle does not have number plates fixed to it in accordance with these regulations; or
  - (b) the number on the number plate fixed to the vehicle:
    - i) is wholly or partly obscured; and
    - ii) cannot be seen from 20 meters away except as provided in sub section 17.
- (3) Registration plates of vehicles belonging to the members of parliament shall be allowed to display the parliament logo approved by the Government and shall remove the logo within 30 days after completion of their term.

**Penalty: 15 units**

### **20. Temporary registration number**

- (1) A vehicle imported into Bhutan must display the temporary registration/identification number assigned to it by the authorized dealer or the Customs Authority. The temporary number must be replaced by a permanent registration number within 15 days of taking delivery of the vehicle from the Customs Authority or the authorized dealer.

**Penalty: 2 units for every day delayed after 15 days**

- (2) The Customs Authority, in case of a vehicle of third country origin, may also provide appropriate insurance coverage, including transit insurance for the vehicle (and charge the cost to the owner) to cover the period that the temporary number exist, being not more than 15 days.

### **21. Owner must notify the change of engine**

The Owner of a registered motor vehicle must notify the Authority of the substitution of the vehicle's engine and the engine number of both the former and substitute engine within 15 days of the substitution.

**Penalty: 2units per day for every day delayed after 15 days.**

**22. Inspection of vehicle Identification Numbers**

- (1) The registered owner of a motor vehicle must:
  - (a) notify the Authority within 15 working days of any alteration or damage to the engine or chassis numbers of the vehicle; and
  - (b) present the vehicle to the Authority for inspection within 15 working days and give the certificate of registration to the Authority.

**Penalty: 2 units per day after 15 days**

- (2) After an inspection has been carried out under sub-regulation (1) the Authority shall:
  - (a) make necessary alternation to the certificate of registration of the vehicle;
  - (b) amend its records accordingly; and
  - (c) return the certificate to the registered owner of the vehicle.

**23. Authorized person may inspect identification numbers**

A person in charge of a registered vehicle must allow an authorized person who has reasonable cause to do so, to inspect the engine or chassis identification number of the vehicle at any time.

**Penalty: 13 units**

**24. Visiting motor vehicles.**

- (1) The Authority:
  - (a) Shall allow a motor vehicle registered in other countries to ply temporarily in Bhutan based on the provisions of these regulations upon obtaining a route permit from the Authority and on payment of applicable fees as per Schedule-I.
  - (b) Shall not allow a motor vehicle registered in other countries to operate commercial transport services or carry paid passengers from one point in Bhutan to another point in Bhutan without approval of the Authority.
  - (c) Shall require all vehicles of other countries visiting or plying within Bhutan to abide by prevailing traffic and transport laws, rules and regulations of Bhutan.

**Penalty: 35 units**

- (2) Government vehicles of Government of India are however, exempt from payment of route permit fees. Such vehicles shall require a route permit to ply in the country.

## **DIVISION-2: TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP**

### **25. Obligation on transfer**

A person selling the vehicle must within 15 days of sale report to the Authority in person and transfer the ownership in the name of the person buying the vehicle.

**Penalty: 2 units per day after 15 days.**

### **26. Transfer of Ownership**

- (1) An application for transfer of ownership of a vehicle must be accompanied by:
- (a) a deed of sale which includes the sale price of the vehicle and the signature of the seller and buyer, signed across a legal stamp by both the parties and a witness from each party;
  - (b) the registration certificate for the vehicle;
  - (c) Credit Information Bureau (CIB) to provide access to the system for online verification of hypothecation status by the Authority;
  - (d) Produce trade license and certificate of incorporation for registration in the name of registered company;
  - (e) the fee and charges for change of ownership, including the property transfer tax indicated in schedule 1.

### **27. Payment of transfer tax**

- (1) Responsibility for payment of property transfer tax shall lie with the seller, except in case;
- (a) of a vehicle purchased from the Government on allotment;
  - (b) of vehicle sold by international and diplomatic agencies; or

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- (c) of the seller exempt from the transfer tax, in which case, the buyer shall pay the transfer tax unless he can produce a certificate of exemption from the Ministry of Finance.
- (2) If, in the opinion of the Authority, the sale value has been under stated in the sale deed, it is empowered to carry out revaluation of the vehicle using the formula under sub – section (3).
- (3) For the purpose of charging 5% (or as may be amended from time to time) vehicle ownership transfer tax, the Authority shall apply depreciation at the following rates on the initial purchase price (on production of original invoice/bill or similar records maintained by the Authority) or the current market value of a similar type, using the diminishing balance method:
  - (a) @ 10% per annum for first and second year;
  - (b) @ 15% per annum for third, fourth, fifth and sixth year; and
  - (c) a motor vehicle shall be valued at 10% of the initial purchase price (as indicated in the original invoice/bill or similar records maintained by the Authority) or the current purchase price (of a new vehicle) of the same or similar description, after the sixth year.
- (4) Where a vehicle is seized and auctioned by the financial institution to recover its loan, the previous owner in whose name the loan is outstanding, will be subject to transfer tax on the actual amount received by the property owner after adjustment of the outstanding loan amount.
- (5) In case of a vehicle sold as scrap, the owner is liable for transfer tax on the sale value of the scrap and must surrender the registration certificate to the Authority.

### **28. Exemption from payment of property transfer tax.**

- (1) Payment of property transfer tax is exempt in case of the ownership being transferred:
  - (a) from parents to children upon production of certified family tree issued by the concerned agency;
  - (b) from husband to wife or vice-versa on production of a copy of marriage certificate;
  - (c) from one privileged person to another, being the transfer of allotment;
  - (d) between exempt international organizations;

### **29. Refusal to transfer ownership**

The Authority may by a written and reasoned order, refuse to transfer ownership of a motor vehicle if the requirements under sub-section-27 have not been met.

### **30. Transfer of registration**

If the documentation for the transfer of the ownership of a vehicle as indicated under section 27 is completed and all fees have been paid, the Authority must issue a new certificate of registration to the new owner and amend its records accordingly.

### **31. Transfer of motor vehicle registration details from one Region to another**

- (1) Transfer of motor vehicle registration details of a motor vehicle from the place where motor vehicle registration details are currently held to another region shall be allowed on:
  - (a) verification of registration records;
  - (b) payment of fee shown in schedule 1 of these regulations.
- (2) After allotting the new registration number, the motor vehicle should be de-registered from the place of initial registration.

### **32. Sale of vehicle to a person outside Bhutan**

- (1) The registered owner of a vehicle, on selling his vehicle to a person residing outside Bhutan must, within 15 days, surrender the registration certificate to the Authority and obtain a no-objection-certificate from the Authority to that effect on payment of fee in schedule I.
- (2) Issue of no-objection-certificate in case of a vehicle imported from third country shall be subject to a clearance certificate issued by the Ministry of Finance except for the vehicle scraps.

**Penalty: 150 units for heavy vehicles, 100 units for light vehicles and 75 units for two wheelers.**

### **33. Conversion of registration number**

The Authority must charge fee in **schedule-I** for conversion of registration number from government to private or vice versa. Conversion of registration from taxi to private shall be permitted and conversion from private registration to taxi shall not be permitted.

- (1) Notwithstanding sub-section (1), conversion of registration number from government to private or vice versa must be subject to a clearance from the Ministry of Finance.
- (2) The Authority shall not charge fee for conversion of registration number from taxi to private, upon completion of prescribed life of taxi.

**34. Restriction on purchase and sale of imported, second hand or reconditioned vehicle**

- (1) The Authority shall neither permit nor register a second hand/reconditioned vehicle imported into the country, regardless of the country of origin.
- (2) Notwithstanding sub-section (1):
  - (a) a second hand electric vehicle which has not run for more than 30,000 Kilometres, may be registered;
  - (b) an expatriate may bring a used vehicle on posting in Bhutan but must be re-exported upon completion of term of employment in the country.
- (3) For all other matters concerning import, transfer or re-export of a motor vehicle of third country origin the provision of the Bhutan Foreign Vehicles Allotment Rules 1994 shall apply.

**35. Sale and Transfer of ownership of duty and tax free vehicles imported by privileged personnel**

In accordance to the Rules on the Sale Tax, Customs and Excise Act of the Kingdom of Bhutan 2000 of Department of Revenue and Customs, the following sections of provisions shall apply in the case of sale and transfer of ownership of Duty and Tax free vehicles imported by the privileged personnel:

**36. Sale and Transfer of Duty Exempt Vehicles**

- (a) Transfer of ownership of vehicles (by sale or gift) imported or acquired without payment of customs duty and taxes to non-privileged person shall be subject to payment of Customs duty, taxes and charges.
- (b) Transfer of ownership of vehicle shall be effected only on payment of duty, taxes and other charges to the Department. No new registration of new vehicles or transfer of ownership of any vehicles shall be effected by the Authority without the clearance from the Department.

- (c) The buyer shall be liable to pay the Customs and Sales tax.
- (d) No customs duty and Sales Tax shall be levied if a vehicle is sold after a period of five years from the date of its registration.

**37. Disposal of tax/duty exempt vehicles by officials of Diplomatic Mission, International Organizations and Experts on Completion of their Assignment in Bhutan**

- (a) They can re-export their imported vehicles on completion of their assignments in Bhutan
- (b) It can be sold on duty and tax exempt basis to another privileged person serving in Bhutan with clearance from the Department of Revenue and Customs provided the buyer has not already imported or placed order for importation a vehicle.
- (c) It can be sold on duty and tax exempt basis to a Bhutanese official holding vehicle allotment quota.
- (d) It can be sold in the open market subject to fulfillment of the conditions laid down in Rule 9.2 above.
- (e) Used vehicles brought on their posting to Bhutan shall not be permitted to be sold or transferred to any Bhutanese or privileged persons by sale or gift and shall have to be re-exported on repatriation. Such vehicles if left in Bhutan shall be confiscated.
- (f) Where vehicles other than the used vehicles mentioned in Rule (e) above are disposed of in Bhutan, transfer of ownership whether by sale or gift must be completed prior to the departure of the owner.

**38. Disposal of official Vehicles of Diplomatic Missions and International Organizations.**

Vehicles of the Diplomatic Missions and International organizations, if purchased by a non-privileged or is not a Government organization authorized by the Ministry of Finance shall be governed as per the rules laid out in and mentioned in Rules 37 above.

**39 Import, Sale and Transfer of Vehicles: Section 33 of the Act**

**Import**



Import of used vehicles by Bhutanese nationals, temporarily stationed abroad, shall be permitted, only if the following conditions are fulfilled:

- (i) A Bhutanese national has worked continuously abroad for a period of at least two years;
- (ii) The vehicle must be procured and registered in his/her name in the country of residence at least one year prior to its importation into Bhutan;
- (iii) The vehicle procured abroad, is new and not second hand; and
- (iv) Duty and sales tax applicable shall be payable.

### **Division-3: Suspension and Cancellation of Registration**

#### **39. Suspension of registration of a vehicle being un-roadworthy**

- (1) The Authority must suspend the registration of a vehicle if it is satisfied, on reasonable grounds, that the vehicle is unsafe for use on a road.
- (2) Suspension of registration in sub-regulation (1) is affected by serving notice of the suspension on the registered owner of the vehicle;
- (3) A notice under sub-regulation (2) must:
  - (a) include sufficient details to identify the vehicle;
  - (b) specify reason for the suspension; and
  - (c) inform the registered owner of the vehicle of the owner's right to have the decision reviewed.
- (4) The Authority must not withdraw a suspension of registration imposed under sub-regulation (1) until it is satisfied that the defect in the vehicle has been remedied.
- (5) Withdrawal of a suspension of registration imposed under sub-regulation (1) is effected by serving notice of the withdrawal on the registered owner of the vehicle.
- (6) While the registration of a vehicle is suspended under this regulation the vehicle is not allowed to ply on the road.
- (7) Re-registration of a vehicle which has been cancelled after writing off of the dues, shall be considered if:

- (a) The owner was out of the country for which acceptable supporting documents must be provided
  - (b) The owner was undergoing medical treatment within or outside the country for which acceptable documents must be provided
  - (c) The vehicle was subject to court case
  - (d) The vehicle was surrendered through Authority to the Department of National Properties, Ministry of Finance for auction and re-export
- (8) Notwithstanding sub-regulation (6), while the registration of a vehicle is suspended under this regulation, a person may use it to:
- (a) take it for repair; or
  - (b) examine and test the vehicle; or
  - (c) return it from the repairer; or
  - (d) take it for inspection by the Authority.
- (9) Suspension under this regulation does not alter the expiry date of registration of a vehicle.

**40. Cancellation of registration of un-roadworthy motor vehicle**

- a. The Authority shall cancel the registration of the vehicle if:
- (a) a registered motor vehicle owner requests the Authority to cancel registration of an un-roadworthy motor vehicle;
  - (b) the Authority, upon physical verification, finds the motor vehicle in un-roadworthy condition;
  - (c) upon receipt of written notice from the Authority for cancellation of a un-roadworthy motor vehicle, the registered owner fails to respond or justify within 15 days why registration should not be cancelled;
- (2) The Authority shall require a “Certified Search Report” issued by the Central Registry Office of the Credit Information Bureau of Bhutan (CIB) or the Financial Institution (s) concerned.
- (3) If a registered owner receives a notice under sub-regulation (1) and fails to satisfy the Authority within the specified period, the Authority shall:
- (a) cancel the registration; and

- (b) serve on the registered owner of the vehicle a written notice of cancellation which:
  - i) includes sufficient details to identify the vehicle;
  - ii) requires the owner to return the registration certificate;
  - iii) the Owner shall dispose off the vehicle as scrap

#### **41. Cancellation of registration under certain circumstances**

The Authority shall cancel the registration of a vehicle if the registered owner of the vehicle:

- (a) returns its certificate and number assigned to it, to the Authority; and
- (b) request the Authority to cancel the registration;
- (c) the Authority shall cancel registration of the vehicle only upon physical verification of the vehicle/s and or after having confirmed the same as un- roadworthy or stolen/lost as certified by the Royal Bhutan Police.
- (d) a “Certified Search Report” issued by the Central Registry Office of the Credit Information Bureau of Bhutan (CIB) or the Financial Institution (s) concerned.

#### **42. Road Worthiness Inspection Requirement**

- (1) The Authority shall inspect a motor vehicle for roadworthiness;
  - (a) twice every year for commercial vehicles including taxis;
  - (b) once every year for all other category of vehicles.
  - (c) All earth moving/construction equipment and power tillers are exempt from fitness inspection requirement.
- (2) A motor vehicle owner shall pay fee for conducting the test of roadworthiness as in **schedule-I**.
- (3) A person shall not drive a motor vehicle without a current and valid certificate of roadworthiness.

#### **Penalty: 1 unit per day up to a maximum of 15 units**

- (4) A motor vehicle owner failing to renew the certificate of roadworthiness is liable for penalty unless the vehicle owner can provide documentary evidence to prove that he could not produce the vehicle for inspection within the required period because:

- (a) he/she was ill;
- (b) he/she was out of the country;
- (c) he/she was awaiting a court decision; or
- (d) The vehicle was off road or in workshop undergoing repair, in which case the owner must inform the Authority in writing in advance along with registration Certificate and furnish authentic evidence or certificate from the workshop after the repair has been completed, showing the duration of repair.

#### **Division- 4: Emission and Noise from vehicles**

##### **43. Vehicle Emission**

##### **44. Purpose**

The purpose of the regulation is to, amongst others:

- (a) preserve and promote clean and a healthy environment;
- (b) reduce excessive auto emission level throughout the country;
- (c) establish uniform vehicle emission standards throughout the country;
- (d) create awareness on adverse effects of motor vehicle emission on human health and the environment;
- (e) encourage use of cleaner fuel and eco-friendly vehicles.

##### **45. Applicability and General Provisions**

Except as provided in subsection (10) of these regulations, the standards, requirements and procedures set forth in these regulations are applicable to all motor vehicles registered or plying within Bhutan, and as specified by the Authority, including any motor vehicle owned or operated by the Government, the armed force, international organizations and civil society organizations.

##### **46. Conduct of vehicular emission test**

The Authority shall conduct or authorize any qualified person or firms to conduct test of emission.

**47. Definitions in these regulations:**

**“Pollution Under Control Certificate”**- means a certificate issued by the authorized emission testing agent after conducting auto emission test on a vehicle, showing the printed result of the emission test.

**“Emission Stickers”**-means a sticker issued after a vehicle is tested for emission levels, certifying its acceptable level of emission.

**“Emission”**- means products of combustions discharged into the atmosphere from the tailpipe of motor vehicle engine.

**“Emission Standard”** means a standard of permissible smoke level that could be emitted by a vehicle as set by the National Environment Commission.

**“Emission Failed Motor Vehicle”**- means any motor vehicle which fails to comply with applicable emission standard during the initial test or any retest.

**“New Motor Vehicle”**- means a motor vehicle of the current or the preceding model year that has never been previously registered and whose ownership document remains as manufacturer’s certificate of origin.

**48. Excessive smoke.**

A person shall not use or allow a motor vehicle to be used on a highway, if the vehicle is emitting excessive exhaust smoke.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**49. Requirement for motor vehicles to undergo test of emission**

(1) A commercial vehicle must undergo a test of emission once every six months and all other categories once every year.

**Penalty: 15 units every time the vehicle is checked**

**50. Requirement to undergo emission test for vehicles emitting excessive smoke**

The authorized person or police personnel may require a motor vehicle to undergo emission test if a vehicle is emitting excessive smoke while being driven on a highway.

**Penalty: 15 units** if the defects are not rectified and the vehicle tested for emission levels within 30 days.

**51. Notice prohibiting the use of Motor Vehicles with unacceptable level of emission**

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- a. The Authority may serve a notice prohibiting the use of a motor vehicle on a road if the emission test carried out shows an unacceptable level of emission from its exhaust.
- b. The owner of a motor vehicle which has been issued a notice under subsection(a) shall not use or allow his vehicle to be used on a road until the defects are remedied and the level of emission brought down to an acceptable level.

**Penalty:** 30 units for the first offence; 50 units for second offence and grounding of the vehicle thereafter.

### **52. Level of smoke**

The Authority shall deploy appropriate mechanical device for the purpose of determining the acceptable level of smoke and shall be subject to review/change from time to time.

### **53. Emission Testing Fee**

The Authority or authorized person/firm shall charge fee for conducting the test of emission as provided in schedule–I, and the fee may be subjected to review and revision from time to time..

### **54. Emission Standard for Motor Vehicle**

- i) Permissible level of emission for every motor vehicle shall be:
  - (a) **Diesel: 75% Hartridge Smoke Unit (HSU)** for vehicles registered before 1/1/2005 and **70% HSU** for vehicles registered after 1/1/2005
  - (b) **Petrol: 4.5% Carbon Monoxide(CO)** for vehicles registered before 1/1/2005 and **4% CO** for vehicles registered after 1/1/2005
- ii) The permissible smoke density level and emission level for all other pollutants present in vehicular exhaust (like hydro carbons, oxides of nitrogen, etc.) shall be as laid down by the National Environment Commission from time to time.

### **55. Pollution under Control Certificate (PUC)**

- i) Every motor vehicle must obtain a “Pollution under Control” certificate and ‘sticker’ showing that the smoke emission level from that vehicle is within the prescribed limit. The sticker shall be displayed on the upper left corner of the wind screen of the vehicle at all times.

**Penalty: 15 units**

- ii) A 'Pollution under Control' Certificate and sticker can be issued only by the Authority or authorized person/firm to test smoke emission level. Any person found using or carrying a forged Emission sticker and **Pollution under Control Certificate**, will be penalized as per decisions of the Transport Disciplinary Committees or forwarded to the nearest police station.
- iii) In the event of the driver or the owner of the vehicle failing to produce the vehicle for re-test within the time specified or the vehicle on re-test showing an unacceptable level of smoke, the Authority, may suspend the certificate of registration of the vehicle as per Section -23 of the Road Safety & Transport Act-1999 until the prescribed level is reached.

**56. Exemptions**

The following motor vehicles are exempt from the provision of these regulations:

- i) Power Tillers;
- ii) Earth moving and construction equipment Antique vehicles kept for show only and not plying on public road.
- iii) All new vehicles for the initial period of three years counting from the date of initial registration.
- iv) The Authority shall issue a certificate of exemption from requirement for emission test for the said duration in sub-section iii.

**57. Validity and Renewal of 'Pollution under Control' Certificate**

- i) The certificate remains valid for a period of six months in case of commercial vehicles and one year for other categories of vehicles, from the date of issue of the '**pollution under Control**' certificate.

The owner or the driver of **Emission Failed Motor Vehicle** will be issued a notice to rectify the defects within 30 days, and for which the Authority or authorized person/firm shall be permitted to charge fee at the rate prescribed in Schedule-I.

- ii) 'Pollution Under Control' certificates must be renewed on or before expiry of the validity of the current certificate.

**58. Reporting on emission test**

The Authority or authorized person/firm shall submit monthly reports using the online reporting system.

**59. Excessive Noise**

- (1) A person must not use or allow a motor vehicle with an internal combustion engine to be used on a road, unless the vehicle has a silencing device which:
  - (a) is securely fixed to its engine so that all the exhaust gases from the engine pass through the silencing device and prevent undue noise; and
  - (b) does not have attached to it a device capable of producing an open exhaust.
- (2) A person must not use or allow a motor vehicle to be used on a road if the vehicle is creating undue noise.
- (3) Use of vacuum horns shall not be permitted in vehicles.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**60. Tyres**

- (1) A person must not use or allow a motor to be used on highway if it is fitted with a tyre:
  - (a) which is not in a roadworthy condition;
  - (b) which does not have pattern of tread around the whole circumference of the tyre; or
  - (c) which is re-treaded and fitted in the front Axle of the vehicle.
- (2) All vehicles must have at least one spare tyre which is in good condition.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**61. Night driving – Headlamps**

- (1) A person shall not drive a motor vehicle on a road between dusk and dawn unless the vehicle is fitted with 2 headlamps in working condition;

**Penalty: 15 units**

- (2) A person must not drive a two wheeler on a road between dusk and dawn unless it is equipped with one headlamp in working condition.

**Penalty: 12 units.**



- (3) Any extra and or modified light fittings other than the standard shall not be allowed in all types of vehicles.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**62. Night Driving – rear red lamps**

- (1) A person must not drive a motor vehicle on a road between dusk and dawn unless there is lit on the vehicle one rear red lamp.
- (2) If, in accordance with sub-regulation (1):
- (a) only one rear red lamp is lit, it must be in the centre or to the right side of the centre of the rear of the vehicle; and
  - (b) 2 or more rear red lamps are lit; one must be on the right side of the rear of the vehicle.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**63. Brake lamps to be in working order**

A person must not drive a motor vehicle on a road unless it has brake lamps which:

- (a) light when the brake pedal is pressed; and
- (b) are clean and un-obscured.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**64. Lamps, reflection and signs to be kept clean and un-obscured**

A person must not drive a motor vehicle on a road between dusk and dawn unless:

- (a) the lamps required by these Regulations are lit on a vehicle during that period are clean and un-obscured;
- (b) the reflectors required to be fitted to the vehicle are clean and un-obscured;

**Penalty: 15 units**

**65. Offence in respect of the use of vehicles**

A Person must not use or allow a motor vehicle to be used on a highway that does not comply with these Regulations.

**Penalty: 15 units**

## **Part 2 - Driver and Learner Licensing**

### **Division 1: Learner License**

#### **66. Procedure for obtaining a Learner License**

In addition to any test that the Authority requires an applicant for a learner license to undergo, the Authority may require the applicant to:

- a) be 17 years of age or more;
- b) provide the Authority with personal particulars (including evidence that the Authority may reasonably require as to those particulars) as per application form (FORM 1 B) provided by the Authority;
- c) produce Citizenship Identity Card or other accepted identification documents for Bhutanese Nationals, and passport or other identification cards in case of foreigners;
- d) bring along a latest passport-size photograph in national dress for Bhutanese;
- e) produce a medical screening certificate (FORM 5) duly sealed and signed by a certified medical doctor within the country;
- f) fill in the application form;
- g) obtain the Learner's License in person or through a Driving School upon fulfilling the set criteria; and
- h) pay fees as prescribed in schedule 1.

#### **67. Refusal to grant a learner license**

The Authority may refuse to grant a learner license if:

- a) the applicant has not passed appropriate tests that may be conducted;

- b) the applicant has not complied with a procedure or requirements under the Act or these Regulations; or
- c) the Authority, for a reason provided in writing to the applicant believes that the license should not be granted.

#### **68. Validity of a learner license**

A learner license is valid for one year after the date of issue or when a driver license, which authorizes the person to drive such a motor vehicle, is issued to the person whichever occurs first.

#### **69. Exemptions**

A person may be exempt from obtaining learner license if:

- a. the person has attended training course given by Agriculture Machinery Centre for Power Tillers and Tractors only
- b. the person has valid armed force driving license
- c. the person has a valid international driving license or driving license of another country

#### **70. Requirements for the learners while learning to drive**

A learner driver while learning to drive must:

- a) not drive a motor vehicle unless an "L" plate is clearly displayed on the front and rear of the vehicle, and in case of two-wheelers at the rear side.
- b) not drive a motor vehicle unless accompanied by an experienced driver holding a valid license.
- c) In sub-regulation 1 and in this sub-regulation:

**"Experienced driver"** means a person who:

- (i) holds a valid license to drive the category of motor vehicle being driven by the learner driver; and
- (ii) has been licensed to drive that category of motor vehicle for at least two at least for three years

#### **71. Place for learning to drive:**

A learner driver:

- (a) shall not be allowed to learn driving along highways and in town areas for the first three months of learning to drive from the date of issuance of learner license
- (b) shall be allowed to learn driving in areas designated and publicly notified by respective local authorities.

## **Division 2: Driver License**

### **72. Need for a license**

A person must not drive a motor vehicle on a highway unless he/she holds a valid driving license issued by the Authority, authorizing him/her to drive the category of vehicle specified in the license.

### **73. Category of motor vehicles for driver licensing**

The categories of motor vehicles for driver licensing shall be as follows:

- (a) two-wheeler;
- (b) light vehicle;
- (c) medium vehicle;
- (d) heavy vehicle:
  - i. 6-wheeler
  - ii. 10-wheeler
  - iii. 18-wheeler
- (e) passenger transport vehicle:
  - a. Medium Bus
  - b. Heavy Bus
  - c. Tourist vehicle
- (f) Taxi Driving License
- (g) Tourist Vehicle Driving License
  - a. Tourist light vehicle
  - b. Tourist medium bus
  - c. Tourist heavy bus
- (h) heavy earth-moving equipment;
  - a. Bull Dozer
  - b. Excavator
  - c. Pay Loader
- (i) road roller;
- (j) tractor;
- (k) power tiller;

- (l) others (machines/vehicles not specified above)

**74. Procedure for obtaining ordinary driving license**

**Ordinary Driving License** is a license issued by the Authority for driving vehicles other than a commercial, passenger, tourist vehicle and taxi.

A person applying for an Ordinary Driving License must:

- (a) report to the Authority in person;
- (b) be 18 years of age or more at the time of applying for a license;
- (c) have held a Learner's License for at least six months;
- (d) have undergone both theoretical and practical tests and achieved the minimum pass score set in the 'Evaluation Form for Driving Test'
- (e) produce a copy of the latest passport-size photograph in national dress for Bhutanese;
- (f) produce Citizenship Identity Card or other accepted identification documents for Bhutanese Nationals, and passport or other identification cards in case of foreigners; and
- (g) pay fee as prescribed in Schedule 1.

**75. Application requirements for an ordinary driving license for those who have graduated from a driving school or institute**

"Driving Schools and Institutes" shall include Government and Corporate Training Institutes and other privately Licensed Driving Schools within the country.

An applicant for ordinary driving license by a graduate from a driving school must:

- a) come in person for a practical driving test;
- b) be 18 years of age or more at the time of applying for a license;
- c) produce a Certificate issued by the Institute from where the person has completed the training;
- d) have undergone both theoretical and practical tests and achieved the minimum pass score set in the 'Evaluation Form for Driving Test'
- e) produce a copy of the latest passport size photograph;

- f) produce Citizenship Identity Card or other accepted identification documents for Bhutanese Nationals, and passport or other identification cards in case of foreigners; and
- g) pay fees as prescribed in Schedule 1.

**76. Application requirements for an ordinary driving license of power tiller and farm tractor**

The applicant must produce training certificate issued by the Agriculture Machinery Centre.

**77. Application requirements for a Taxi driving license**

**Taxi driving license** is a driving license which permits a person to drive a vehicle registered as taxi.

An applicant for a Taxi Driving License must:

- i) report to the Authority in person;
- ii) have held an Ordinary License for the same category of vehicle for at least three years;
- iii) produce a copy of the latest passport size photograph in national dress;
- iv) produce Citizenship Identity Card for Bhutanese Nationals
- v) be a minimum age of 25 years and a maximum age of 60 years at the time of applying after which a person will need to produce a medical certificate for renewing the license annually till completing the age of 65 years;
- vi) possess an educational qualification of a minimum of Class VIII or equivalent qualification from Monastic Institutes and produce original academic certificate as proof;
- vii) fill in the prescribed application form;
- viii) pay a fee as prescribed in Schedule 1.

**78. Application requirements for a commercial driving license for medium and heavy vehicles including public transport buses**

Commercial vehicle driving license: is a license for driving commercial vehicle defined under these regulations

An applicant for a Commercial Driving License for Medium and Heavy vehicles including buses must:

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- i. report to the Authority in person;
- ii. be a minimum age of 25 years and a maximum age of 60 years at the time of applying after which a person will need to produce a medical certificate for renewing the license annually till completing the age of 63 years;
- iii. have held an Ordinary Driving License for at least three years;
- iv. possess an educational qualification of a minimum of Class VIII or equivalent qualification from Monastic Institutes and produce original academic certificate as proof;
- v. fill in the prescribed application form;
- vi. have achieved the minimum pass score in the practical driving Selection Criteria for Highway Drive Test set in the 'Evaluation Form for Light Vehicle Driving Test' as prescribed by the RSTA;
- vii. produce a copy of the latest passport size photograph;
- viii. produce Citizenship Identity Card ; and
- ix. pay a fee as prescribed in Schedule 1.

### **79. Application requirement for a Tourist Vehicle Driving License (TVDL)**

**Tourist vehicle driving license** is a license, which permits a person to drive a tourist vehicle, defined under these regulations.

An applicant for a Tourist Vehicle Driving License shall:

- i. report to the Authority in person;
- ii. Fill in a prescribed application form;
- iii. Produce a copy of Citizenship Identity Card;
- iv. Be 21 years by age at the time of applying for a Tourist Vehicle Driving License for light vehicle; and 25 years for medium and heavy tourist bus;
- v. Endorsement of drive type will be based on existing driving license (Tourist Light, Medium, Heavy) vehicle at one endorsement;
- vi. After completing the age of 60 years, renew the Tourist Vehicle Driving License annually along with a Medical Certificate certifying fitness for driving till completing the age of 65 years. Thereafter, a person's Tourist Vehicle Driving License shall be automatically cancelled.

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- vii. Possess an educational qualification of a minimum of Class VIII or equivalent qualification from a Monastic School or Institute if the person is a new applicant for Tourist Vehicle Driving License;
- viii. Produce a Certificate of Tourist Vehicle Driving course issued by the Tourism Council of Bhutan as testimony of having attended the Induction Course for Tourist Vehicle Driver; and
- ix. Pay fees as prescribed in Schedule-I of these regulations.

### **80. Driving Instructor license**

The purpose of licensing Driving Instructors is to:

- (i) ensure that people who teach and train to drive are competent in their profession;
- (ii) assume responsibility to ensure that people learning to drive receive proper and correct instructions; and
- (iii) require the instructor to impart proper training with due regard to safe driving culture.

An applicant for a Driving Instructor License must:

- (a) come in person;
- (b) be between 25 to 56 years of age;
- (c) possess an educational qualification of a minimum of a Graduate from a Vocational/Technical Institute and produce original academic certificate as proof;
- (d) have had a driving experience for at least a minimum period of five years and pass driving skills, have knowledge about traffic rules and be able to communicate knowledge on driving effectively by producing a certificate issued by the Authority;
- (e) fill in the application form;
- (f) pay fees as prescribed in Schedule 1.

### **81. Validity of driving license**

- (a) Learners' license is valid for a period of one year and can be renewed annually;
- (b) Ordinary Driving License for:



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- i) light vehicles is valid for ten (10) years and annually after 70 years subject to certification by a medical doctor;
  - ii) two wheeler is valid for ten years and annually after 60 years;
- (c) Professional/Commercial Driving License is valid for three years; and
- (d) Driving Instructors License is valid for 5 years.

### **82. Duplicate License**

If a person's license is lost, damaged or destroyed, the Authority may issue a replacement license on payment of the fee as prescribed in Schedule 1. Such license must be issued after obtaining proper verification/clearance from the offices of the Authority and the Traffic Police.

### **83. Renewal**

(i) If a person fails to renew his/her driving license within 60 days from the date of serving a written notice by the Authority, the license shall be cancelled automatically.

(ii) Driving License of a deceased in a Road Crash shall be cancelled based on the Road Crash report.

The Authority may require an applicant for renewal to:

- (i) fill in an application form in case of change in personal information;
- (ii) provide any additional information (including any evidence that the Authority may reasonably require as to those particulars);
- (iii) provide one latest passport size photograph; and
- (iv) pay fee as per Schedule 1.

### **84. Variation/endorsement of driving license**

The Authority may require an applicant for renewal or variation as applicable to:

- (a) fill in an application form;
- (b) provide any additional information (including any evidence that the Authority may reasonably require as to those particulars);

- (c) undergo any test which the Authority may require for license variation;
- (d) provide one recent passport size photograph; and
- (e) pay fee as per Schedule1.

**85. Refusal to renew a driving license**

The Authority may refuse to renew a driving license or grant license variation if the:

- (a) applicant has not complied with a procedure or requirements under the Act and Regulations;
- (b) Authority believes that the applicant's license should not be renewed or extended or variation given;
- (c) person has not passed the test in case of a request for license variation; and
- (d) person is a repeat offender.

**Division 3: Cancellation, Suspension, Variation**

**86. Cancellation, suspension or variation of license by the Authority may also be done if the person:**

- a) has not presented for any test required by the Authority;
- b) is dangerous to drive a motor vehicle because of some illness or incapacity or because of the treatment of any of those things;
- c) has at anytime been convicted of driving offence;
- d) has been convicted by the Court of Law; and
- e) holding a driving license is cancelled by the Authority for a reason as deemed appropriate and is in the best interest of the road users for safety concerns.

**87. Notification on changes of personal information**

A license holder who changes name or address must within 15 days after the change:

- (a) notify the Authority of the change; and
- (b) forward the license to the Authority for amendment.

### **88. Fines and Penalty**

Non-adherence to the Rules prescribed in Part 2 of the Road Safety and Transport Regulations and to the above Regulations shall be liable for fines and penalties as per the Schedule VI: 'Transport Infringement' of the Regulations.

The powers granted to the Transport Disciplinary Committees of RSTA on the punching, suspension or cancellation of a Driving License for traffic offences shall also apply depending upon the nature of the offence.

### **89. Driving Test Committee**

The Authority shall:

- a) constitute a Driving Test Committee comprising of at least three official headed by Regional Transport Officer or Assistant Regional Transport Officer of the Authority.
- b) conduct both theoretical and practical driving tests without any fear or favour.
- c) Change Committee Members from time to time and declare any sort of conflict of interest.

### **90. Time Schedule for Conducting Driving Tests**

A person applying to appear for a Driving Tests shall register with the Regional or Base Transport Offices as per respective schedules of Regional and Base Transport Offices and conduct the driving tests once every week in the Regional Offices and once a month in Base Offices.

In case there are no applicants wishing to appear for Driving Tests, then RSTA can postpone tests on the stipulated day.

### **91. Exemption from requirement for a Bhutan driving license for non-Bhutanese**

The Authority may exempt a person from obtaining a driving license for a period of three months if the person:

- (a) has a valid international driving license;
- (b) holds a diplomatic passport and a valid driving license issued in another country;
- (c) is a foreigner who resides in Bhutan for a period not exceeding three months and in possession of a valid driving license issued in the country of residence.

**92. Endorsement of armed force driving license**

- i) Only professional armed force drivers will be eligible for an ordinary driving license upon producing an endorsement letter from the Motor Transport Officer.
- ii) Other Armed Force personnel holding a non-professional military driving license shall follow the procedures prescribed in Part 2, Section 60

**93. Requirement for endorsement of Foreign Driving License**

A foreigner staying in Bhutan for a period exceeding three months must:

- (a) report to the nearest office of the Authority for endorsement of Driving License for their personal use
- (b) produce a verification letter from the Company or Owner confirming employment with the Company or Business
- (c) pay fees as prescribed under schedule 1.

Notwithstanding subsection (a), an endorsement may be granted for driving the category of vehicle registered in the name of the applicant with a foreign Registration Certificate and Registration Plate

**94. Issuance of Bhutan Driving License to Foreigners**

A Foreigner applying for a Bhutan Driving License must:

- (a) fulfil all the requirements for obtaining a fresh driving license;
- (b) hold a valid driving license issued in his/her home country; and
- (c) produce a valid Visa or a Work Permit

Notwithstanding 78(b), if in the opinion of the Authority, any foreign national is found to be incompetent to drive a vehicle in spite of the person holding a valid driving license issued from another country, the Authority may direct the person to attend a driving test conducted by the Authority.

**95. Driving by a person below 18 years of age:**

- a) A person who is below 18 years of age shall not drive a motor vehicle except while learning to drive as per learning driving regulations.
- b) The Authority may inform the parents or guardian of the minor found driving and impose penalty for the offence on the parents or the guardians prescribed as per Schedule 1.

## **96. Colour of Driving License**

Driving license would be of the following colours:

- a. Ordinary Driving License shall be in white colour;
- b. Taxi Driving License shall be in green colour;
- c. Commercial Vehicle Driving License and tourist vehicle driving license shall be blue colour;

## **Division 4: Establishment and Operation of a Driving Training Institute**

### **97. Purpose of the Regulations**

The purpose of the Regulations shall be to:

- Promote quality training to produce competent drivers
- Promote professionalism in the conduct of driving training, and
- provide for monitoring and enforcement mechanism to ensure quality of training provided by the institutes

### **98. Requirements for setting up and operation of a Driving Training Institute**

A Driving Training Institute established in the country shall:

- a) comply with the standard infrastructural requirements, including the driving training ground, as prescribed by the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources;
- b) abide by and adhere to the prescribed curriculum for theory and practical classes as approved by the Ministry of Labour and Human Resources;
- c) be assessed jointly by RSTA and MoLHR for National Certification;
- d) abide by and adhere to the Occupational Health and Safety Regulations of the MoLHR during the training period;
- e) abide by and adhere to the Road Safety & Transport Act and its Regulations, as amended from time to time.
- (f) be allowed to teach driving in routes designated and publicly notified by the RSTA in consultation with Department of Roads, *Thromdes*, or any other agency concerned; and
- (g) employ qualified and licensed instructors.

## **99. Vehicle Standards and Requirements**

The training institute must have adequate number of vehicles for trainees, with the minimum vehicle-trainee ratio of 1:12 for practical training on the field and 1:4 on the highway and the vehicles must:

- (a) be roadworthy;
- (b) possess a valid Comprehensive Insurance Policy;
- (c) be less than 7 years old counted from the date of initial date of registration.  
Extension of validity on an annual basis thereafter, to a maximum period of three years, shall be approved, upon certification by a team of technical personnel of the Authority after physical inspection of the vehicle.

## **100. Pre-requisites for Driving Training Courses**

Driving Institutes shall:

- a) Register trainee applicants prior to commencement of training and forward the following documents to the nearest Regional Transport Office (RTO) or Base Transport Office (BTO) one week before commencement of the training course along with the following details:
  - i) Profile of trainees;
  - ii) Learner's License number with date of issue, and
  - iii) Copy of Citizenship Identity Card (CIC) for Bhutanese or other documents in lieu of CIC for non-Bhutanese.
- b) ensure that the applicant holds a valid learner license issued by the Authority to qualify for training.
- c) not entertain additional applicants once the list has been submitted to the RTOs and or BTOs;
- d) have installed at least one driving simulator to conduct training, within three years from the date of establishment;
- e) produce the institute's theory and practical assessment results to the Authority to further undergo licensing tests.
- f) ensure minimum of 90 percent attendance to qualify for obtaining the training certificate;

- g) ensure that practical driving classes are conducted by the Driving Instructors with valid license issued by the Authority;

#### **101. Requirements for Driving Instructors**

Driving instructors must comply with the following requirements during the conduct of training:

- i) Carry the Driving Instructor License at all times.
- ii) Declare to the trainees that she/he is an authorized Driving Instructor and display his license.
- iii) Abide and comply with Road Safety and Transport Act, regulations and other relevant rules and guidelines/code of conduct

#### **102. Driving Tests**

The Authority shall conduct driving tests for the successful trainees in line with the provisions under the Driving License Regulations.

#### **103. Penalties for non-Compliance**

In case of non-compliance by an institute and trainee to the licensing and safety requirements prescribed in the regulations, the Authority may impose fines as follows:

Sl. No.	Offence	Penalty		
		First instance	Second instance	Third instance
1	Using non-road-worthy or non-certified vehicles for training purpose.	Nu. 10,000	Nu. 20,000	Recommend MoLHR for deregistration of the institute's license.
2	Employing unlicensed driving instructors	Nu. 10,000	Nu. 20,000	Recommend MoLHR for deregistration of the institute's license.
3	Obtaining certificate without having secured the minimum attendance prescribed.	Cancellation of the certificate issued.		
4	Issuing certificate by the institute without having imparted the full course to a	Nu. 10,000	Nu. 20,000	Forward the case to MoLHR with recommendation for de-registration.

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	candidate.			
5	Non-submission of list of trainees for each batch, at least one day prior to commencement of the course.	Nu. 10000	Nu. 15000	Nu. 15,000 for each instance after the second offence.
6	Enrolling trainees without valid learner license (all the trainees must have valid learner license processed by the institute within one week after the commencement of the training).	Nu. 5000 (on institute)	Nu. 10,000	Forward the case to MoLHR for de-registration.
7	Using un-authorised route for driving training purpose.	10000	20000	Forward the case to MoLHR for de-registration.



**SCHEDULE-I: FEES AND CHARGES**

**(in ngultrum per annum unless indicated otherwise)**

Description of Fees and Charges	Fees and Charges	Motor Vehicle Tax (MVT)	Total
Cost of Registration Certificate (RC)	500		500
Fee for registration:			
i) Trucks <sup>1</sup>			
i. Below 5 tons	3800	5000	8800
ii. 5-10 tons	6000	7000	13000
iii. Above 10 tons	8000	9000	17000
ii) Passenger Buses			
a) 13-24 seats	3000		3000
b) Above 24 seats	5000		5000
iii) Tractors			
a) Below 20 hp	1000		1000
b) Above 20 hp	2000		2000
iv) Light Vehicles			
a) Above 2500 cc	3000		3000
b) 1500 cc to 2500 cc	2500		2500
c) Below 1500 cc	2000		2000
v) Taxis (above 796 cc)			
(a) 5 seats	1500	1500	3000
(b) 6 seats	2000	1500	3500
(c) 7 seats	2500	1500	4000
(d) 8 seats	3000	1500	4500
(e) 9 seats	3500	1500	5000
(f) 10 seats	4000	1500	5500
(g) 11 seats	4500	1500	6000
(h) 12 seats	5000	1500	6500
vi) Two Wheelers	500		500

<sup>1</sup>Trucks belonging to and registered in the name of any government organization are exempt from paying motor vehicle tax.

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vii) earth-moving and construction equipment.	5000		5000
viii Power-tiller, CD,BHT vehicles	Exempt		Exempt
Annual Renewal Fee shall be the same as indicated above against each category			
Late Renewal Fee/Penalty (per day and maximum limit)	10/day upto a maximum of 3000.		
<b>Ownership transfer</b> i) Transfer of ownership ii)Transfer of registration from one region to another iii)Conversion of registration from government to private, taxi to private.	500 500 500	5% of the sale/assessed value	

<b>Learner license</b> i) Fee for learner license ii) Extension of learner license	100 100		
<b>Driving License</b> i) Fee for driving license(Per annum) ii) Cost of license card iii) Fee for conducting driving test a) Heavy & Medium b) Light c) Two Wheelers d) Equipment	100 100 100 75 50 500		
Driving License Renewal Fees (All categories, per annum)	100		
Late fee for late renewal of driving license (per day and maximum limit)	10/day and upto a maximum of 3000		
License Variation (Each Endorsement)	100		
Duplicate Driving License (all categories)	<b>200</b>		
Fee for emission test: (i) a) Heavy & Medium b) Light c) Two Wheelers (ii) Emission Retest Fee a) Heavy & Medium b) Light c) Two Wheelers	200 150 100 100 75 50		
<b>Annual fitness test</b> i) Heavy vehicles ii) Medium Vehicles iii) Light vehicles	100 75		

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a) Others	60		
b) Taxis	50		
iv) Two Wheelers	40		
<b>Late fee for late renewal of fitness certificate (Per day and maximum limit)</b>	50 and upto a max of 750		
Fees for visiting vehicles registered in other countries plying temporarily in Bhutan (per day)	100		
<b>Endorsement Fee for visiting Foreign vehicles</b>			
a) Light vehicles (amount per entry)			
2500 cc and above	250		
1500 cc to 2500 cc	210		
1500 cc and below	165		
Taxi	100		
b) Two wheelers ( amount per month)			
c) Commercial Vehicles (amount per day)			
Medium and Heavy	200		
Fee for issue of no objection certificate for sale of a vehicle outside Bhutan:			
i) Earth moving/ construction equipment	7000		
ii) Trucks and buses (heavy and medium)	6000		
iii) Jeeps	2500		
iv) Tractors	2500		
v) Cars	2000		
vi) Two Wheelers	1000		
vii) Power Tillers	1000		
Permit for chartered passenger services or fee for a truck operating to carry passengers (per day per vehicle)	100		

### **SCHEDULE-II: SEATING AND LOADING CAPACITY**

Type of vehicle	Maximum number of persons	Loading capacity		Gross Weight
		Hill	Plain	
Trucks (single or double cabin): i) Medium ii) Heavy iii) 10 Wheeler trucks	As per manufacturer's seating capacity	As per manufacturer's specifications		GVW=Laden + Un-laden Weight
Passenger Buses: i) Medium ii) Heavy	13-24 Above 24	As per manufacturer's specifications		GVW= laden + un-laden weight
Taxis: (Any light vehicle)	Upto 12 seats	As per manufacturer's		GVW= laden + un-

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		specifications	laden weight
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Note: 'GVW' means Gross Vehicle Weight

### **SCHEDULE-III: VEHICLE NUMBERING SCHEME**

#### **1. Numbering Pattern**

**Number plate standards as per Road Safety and Transport regulations**

Region	Registration Code	Region Code	Registration Number pattern	Vehicle code	Ownership/ Type	Colour
Thimphu,	BG	1,2,3,4,5	A0001-A9999, B0001-B9999, C0001-C9999 and so on	1,2,3,4,5,6 1=TW 2=LV 3=MV...	Government	Numbers in yellow with red background
Phuentsholing,						
Gelephu,	BP	1,2,3,4,5	A0001-A9999, B0001-B9999, C0001-C9999 and so on	Sample BG-1- A0001(1)	Private	Numbers in white with bright red background
Samdrupjongkhar						
& Monggar	BT	1,2,3,4,5	-do-		Taxi	Numbers in black with yellow background
	CD		-		Diplomats	Numbers in white with sky blue background
	CD(p)		-		Personal vehicles of diplomats	Numbers in white with sky blue background
	BP (with parliament logo)	1,2,3,4,5	-do-		Vehicles of Parliament members	Numbers in white with bright red background and Logo of the Parliament
	BHT		-		Vehicles of the Royal Family	Numbers in yellow with red background

#### **2) Jurisdiction of the Regions**

Region	Dzongkhags under each region
<b>Gelephu</b>	Sarpang, Tsirang, Dagana, Zhemgang, Trongsa and Bumthang
<b>Monggar</b>	Mongar, Lhuentse, Trashigang, Trashiyangtse
<b>Phuentsholing</b>	Chhukha and Samtse
<b>Samdrupjongkhar</b>	Samdrupjongkhar and Pemagatshel,

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<b>Thimphu</b>	Thimphu, Paro, Haa, Punakha, Wangduephodrang and Gasa
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### **3) Number Plates and Colour Scheme**

<b>Type of Ownership</b>	<b>Colour of number plate</b>
Government	Numbers in yellow with red background
Private	Numbers in white with bright red background
Taxi	Numbers in black with yellow background
Country Diplomats (CD)	Numbers in white with sky blue background
Member of Parliament (MP)	Numbers in white with bright red background and Logo of the Parliament

### **4) Number Plate Size**

<b>Type of vehicle</b>	<b>Number Plate Size, Lettering and Thickness</b>
Heavy	<b>Plate Size:</b> 18"X 7" <b>Lettering:</b> Dzongkha on the first half and English on the second half of the number plates, both at the front and rear.
Light	<b>Plate Size:</b> 15" X 6" <b>Lettering:</b> Dzongkha on the first half and English on the second half of the number plates, both at the front and rear.
Two Wheelers	<b>Plate Size:</b> 9" X 3½" <b>Lettering:</b> Dzongkha on the first half and English on the second half of the number plates, both at the front and rear.

### **Schedule IV: Driving Test Standards**

<b>Type of vehicle</b>	<b>Requirements</b>
<b>(A) Light Vehicles</b>	Written or Oral Test for all categories of vehicles including two wheeler (Multiple choice questions) 1) 5 Point Turn Test: (a) Front in Front Out (b) Reverse in Reverse Out (c) Duration: 3 (Three) minutes for both requirements 2) Highway Test (a) Pick Up (b) Driving in town/cities (c) General manoeuvring and knowledge about signs and signals
<b>(B) Two Wheelers</b>	(a) Balancing (Three stone) test (b) One hand drive

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<b>(C) Heavy and Medium Vehicles</b>	(a) Highway test (b) Pick up and general manoeuvring test
<b>(D) Earth Moving and Construction Equipment</b>	Test at Site

**Note:** Any risk/mishaps arising during the driving test shall be on the owner of the vehicle/equipment.

## **CHAPTER- 2: COMERCIAL VEHICLE REGULATIONS**

### **1. Purpose of the Regulation**

The Purpose of the Regulation is to:

- (a) set standards for commercial passenger vehicles;
- (b) provide for certificates to be issued to drivers of and conductors in commercial passenger vehicles;
- (c) provide for the licensing of commercial passenger vehicles and the conditions of operation;
- (d) set out the Authority's powers for granting, suspending and cancelling licences and certificates.

### **2. Parts**

The Regulations have the following Parts:

Part 1 – Licensing of commercial passenger vehicles

Part 2 – Driver and conductor certificates

Part 3 – Operation of commercial passenger vehicles

### **3. Definitions**

**“Commercial l goods vehicle”** means a motor vehicle used for carrying goods for hire or reward.

**“Conductor”** means a person who issues tickets and collects fares from a passenger on a passenger transport vehicle.

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**“Conductor Certificate”** means a certificate issued to a person in accordance with Part 2 of these Regulations, authorising him to be a conductor.

**“Driver Certificate”** means a certificate issued to a person in accordance with Part-2 of these Regulations, authorising him to drive a passenger transport vehicle.

**“Institutional bus”** shall mean a bus owned and registered in the name of a government, semi-government, or non-governmental organisation and used exclusively for carrying its employees (and no other passenger) to and from the work place.

**“Temporary Permit”** means an authorisation, which allows the vehicle to ply temporarily for specified duration on designated routes/places

**“Goods vehicle permit”** means an authorisation to operate as commercial goods vehicles

**“Passenger vehicle permit”** means an authorisation to operate as commercial passenger vehicle

**“Permit holder”** means a person holding a permit to operate a commercial passenger vehicle in the country.

**“Passenger transport vehicle”** means a vehicle under contract to the Authority to provide public passenger services in the country and includes a taxi and in certain cases trucks (with or without goods), which are authorised by the authority to carry designated number of passengers in a designated route for a specified period of time.

**“School Bus”** means a bus used exclusively for carrying students and school staff.

**“Taxi”** means a motor vehicle used for carrying passengers for hire or reward, and seating no more than 12 adults including the driver.

**“Tourist bus”** means a bus used for carrying tourists and their guides and no other passengers.

### **PART-1 (a): COMMERCIAL PASSENGER VEHICLES**

#### **4. Applicability of the regulations**

These Regulations shall apply to all commercial passenger vehicles registered in the country.

#### **5. Requirement for a permit**

The Authority shall not allow a motor vehicle to carry passengers for hire or reward or in the course of trade or business, unless the vehicle has a valid permit issued by the Authority.

**Penalty: 35 units**

**6. Category of Commercial Vehicles which can be issued with a permit**

- (1) For the purpose of issuing permit, a commercial vehicle is categorised as:
  - (a) Passenger transport vehicle;
  - (b) Public buses (or trucks in certain cases) on contract with the Authority for carriage of paid passengers;
  - (c) Other buses;
    - (i) School buses;
    - (ii) Institutional buses;
    - (iii) Tourist buses
  - (d) Taxis; and
  - (e) Freight vehicles (Trucks, Trailers and other goods carrying vehicles.)

**7. Procedure for applying for a commercial passenger vehicle Permit or its renewal**

- (1) An applicant for a commercial passenger and freight vehicle permit or its renewal must:
  - (a) provide the Authority with personal particulars (including any evidence that the authority may reasonably require about those particulars);
  - (b) provide details of the vehicle intended to be used for the purpose;
  - (c) fill in the application form; and
- (2) A commercial passenger vehicle permit must be renewed on or before the expiry of validity of the current permit. A fine of Nu.10 per day would be applicable after expiry of the current permit.
- (3) The Authority must cancel a commercial passenger vehicle permit, which is not renewed after 30 days of its expiry date.



**8. Period of validity of a commercial vehicle permit**

A commercial passenger vehicle permit remains valid for one year from the date of issue, or as determined by the Authority.

**9. Refusal to grant or renew a commercial passenger vehicle permit**

- (1) The Authority may refuse to grant or renew a commercial passenger vehicle permit if the:
  - (a) applicant has not complied with a procedure or requirement under the Act or these Regulations;
  - (b) applicant has been convicted of a major crime;
  - (c) Authority, for a reason provided by it in writing to the applicant, believes that a permit should not be granted; or
  - (d) permit is for a commercial passenger bus and there is no contract with the Authority for the vehicle owner to provide a public bus service on any bus route or in any particular area.
- (2) If the Authority decides not to renew a permit, it must give the permit holder a reasonable opportunity to put a case for the renewal of the permit before giving effect to its decision.

**10. Name of Permit**

- (1) The Authority shall not grant or renew a commercial passenger vehicle permit in the name of one or more person.
- (2) A commercial passenger vehicle permit may be granted or renewed in the name of a company but not in a business name.

**11. Conditions of Commercial Passenger Vehicle Permit and driving license**

- (1) It is a condition for every commercial passenger vehicle permit that:
  - (a) The driver must hold a driver certificate issued by the Authority;
  - (b) The driver must hold a driving licence for the category of vehicle being driven;
  - (c) It must have a conductor, in the case of a vehicle carrying more than 20 passengers;

- (d) The vehicle must not carry load in excess of what is specified by the Authority in the registration certificate; and
  - (e) The vehicle must not carry passengers in excess of the number specified in the licence or the registration certificate.
  - (f) A commercial passenger vehicle permit shall be issued to a Bhutanese national only.
- (2) A commercial passenger vehicle driving license shall be issued to a person who:
- (a) is a Bhutanese National;
  - (b) is more than 25 years and less than 63 years ;
  - (c) has held medium or heavy vehicle driving license for at least three (3)years;
  - (d) has passed any test set by the Authority;
  - (e) has attended professional driving course conducted by the Authority or Driving Training Schools/Institutes; and
  - (f) has paid fees as set in schedule-I.
- (3) A commercial passenger vehicle-driving license shall be issued for a period of three years only.

## **12. Life Span of Passenger Bus**

Serviceable life of a passenger bus is as below:

### **a) Toyota coaster bus**

14 years subject to six monthly road-worthiness certification by authorised agent.

### **b) Other Buses**

Eight years with one year extension subject to six monthly roadworthiness certification by authorised agent.

## **13. Return of Permit**

A permit holder must return the permit to the Authority within seven days if:

- (a) the Authority notifies the holder in writing, by post addressed to the holder at the address shown on the permit, that the permit is suspended or revoked; or
- (b) the holder changes the address shown on the permit as the holder's address; or
- (c) the holder changes the seating capacity of the vehicle.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**14. Requirements for issuance of special permit for non-commercial vehicles for special occasions and emergencies**

The authority may grant temporary permit during emergencies or special occasions for carrying extra passengers upon fulfilling the following requirements:

- i) The applicants must produce a risk undertaking letter;
- ii) Insurance cover for additional passenger/s;
- iii) In case of construction companies, registration certificate should be in the name of the company or should produce copy of agreement stating that the vehicle is hired by the company;
- iv) The applicant should ascertain that it's not for commercial purpose;
- v) The vehicle should be produced for physical inspection;
- vi) Valid vehicle documents must be produced
- vii) Pay fees as prescribed in schedule fees and charges**

**Part-1 (b) Freight Vehicles**

**15. Requirement of permit**

All freight vehicles shall obtain a permit from the Authority

**16. Transportation rate**

The Authority shall determine transportation rate for freight vehicles for the purpose of claiming transportation charges. Such rates may be revised from time to time taking into consideration the operating cost.

**17. Restriction of freight vehicle entry in built up areas**

The local Authorities shall fix entry timing for freight vehicles in consultation with the Authority or Traffic Police.

**18. Parking for freight vehicles**

The Local Authorities shall provide designated parking area for the freight vehicle entering into the built up areas.

**19. Safety of loads and weight limit**

- i) Loads carried by freight vehicles should be securely tied and shall not exceed the loading capacity
- ii) Freight vehicles must ensure that there is no spillage of material along the road while transporting materials such as sand, stones, stone aggregates and gravels or any other material.
- iii) Freight vehicles must display a red flag on protruding goods exceeding the vehicle body at the rear end.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**PART-2: DUTIES OF DRIVER AND CONDUCTOR AND THEIR CERTIFICATES**

***Division-1: Driver and conductor certificate***

**20. Driver Certificate**

- (1) A person must not drive a commercial passenger vehicle unless he holds a valid driver certificate.
- (2) A driver holding a driver certificate must possess a valid and current driving licence for the category of the vehicle being driven.
- (3) A person must not breach a condition of a driver certificate.
- (4) The operator shall issue letter of authorization to the driver for operation of the particular vehicle.

**Penalty: 20 units**

- (5) Sub-regulation (1) does not apply if a person is driving a commercial passenger vehicle:
  - (a) solely for private use;
  - (b) to test the vehicle; or
  - (c) as a learner driver, and
  - (d) there are no passengers being carried in the vehicle for hire or reward.

## **21. Conductor Certificate**

- i) A person must not be a conductor on a passenger transport vehicle unless he holds a valid conductor certificate;
- ii) The operator shall submit the list of conductors to the authority with the logo of the transport company;
- iii) The Authority shall issue a certificate to the conductor;
- iv) The operator shall issue letter of authorization to the conductor for operation of the particular vehicle;

A person violating sub-regulation (1) or a condition of his certificate is guilty of an offence.

A conductor certificate shall be issued to a person who has undergone training course conducted by the Authority.

**Penalty: 20 units**

## **22. Application for a certificate**

The Authority may require an applicant for a driver or a conductor certificate to:

- (a) Provide a:
  - i) Certificate from a qualified medical doctor that he is medically fit; and
  - ii) Letter from the employer to the effect that the applicant is being considered for employment to drive a commercial passenger vehicle, in case of a driver certificate;
- (b) Fill in an application form;
- (c) Provide a passport size photograph; and
- (d) any other requirement the Authority may prescribe.

## **23. Refusal to grant a certificate**

The Authority may refuse to grant a certificate if:

- (a) the applicant has not complied with section 15;

- (b) the applicant has not passed any test required by the Authority; or
- (c) the Authority for a reason provided by it in writing, believes that a certificate should not be granted.

**24. Validity of a certificate**

- (1) A driver certificate remains valid for one year or until the person reaches 60 years of age, whichever comes first.
- (2) A conductor certificate remains valid for a period of one year from the date of issue.

**25. Renewal of a certificate**

- (1) The Authority may require an applicant for renewal of his certificate to:
  - (a) fill in an application form
  - (b) Provide the Authority with personal particulars (including evidence the Authority may reasonably require about those particulars); and
  - (c) Provide a passport sized photograph(s).
- (2) A certificate may be before expiry of the validity of the current certificate or on payment of a fine equivalent to Nu.10 per day or 6 units per month , and then the certificate is taken as renewed when it fell due.
- (3) The Authority must cancel a certificate which is not renewed after 30 days of its expiry date.

**26. Refusal to renew a certificate**

- (1) The Authority may refuse to renew a certificate if:
  - (a) the applicant has not complied with a procedure or a requirement under the regulations
  - (b) the Authority, for a reason provided by it in writing, believes that the certificate should not be renewed.

- (2) If the Authority decides not to renew a certificate, it must give the certificate holder a reasonable opportunity to put a case for the renewal of the certificate before giving effect to its decision.

## **27. Cancellation or Suspension**

- (1) The Authority:

- (a) shall cancel or suspend a certificate if ordered by a court to do so;
- (b) shall cancel a driver certificate if the holder is convicted of an offence under section 34 of the Act, relating to the consumption of alcohol;
- (c) shall cancel a conductor certificate if the person is convicted of an offence under Regulation 50 relating to the consumption of alcohol.
- (d) may cancel or suspend a certificate if the holder does not observe any condition in it, or any of the Regulations for the conduct of or obligation on certificate holders.

- (2) The periods for cancellation or suspension under sub-regulation (1) are:

- (a) under paragraph (a) – for the period ordered by the court or at least Six (6) months;
- (b) under paragraphs (b) and (c) – for at least six (6) months; and
- (c) for the period determined by the Authority but not exceeding twelve (12) months.

## **28. Change of address**

If the holder of a certificate changes the address shown on the certificate as the holder's address, the holder must within (fifteen) 15 days:

- (a) notify the details of the change to the Authority; and
- (b) send the certificate to the Authority.

**Penalty: 12 units**

## **29. Duplicate Certificate**

The Authority may issue a duplicate certificate if:

- (a) it is satisfied that the certificate is lost, stolen, or damaged; and

- (b) the certificate holder has paid a penalty of four (4) penalty units.

**30. Certificate to be in possession of the holder**

- (1) The certificate holder:
  - (a) must have his certificate in his possession at all times while on duty in a vehicle;
  - (b) must produce his certificate when requested by an authorised person or a police officer.
- (2) A person who does not comply with sub-regulation (1) is guilty of an offence.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**Division 2- Duties and Responsibilities of Driver and Conductor**

**31. Application of the Division**

This Division applies to:

- 1. a driver of a commercial passenger vehicle; and
- 2. a conductor of a commercial passenger vehicle

**32. Driver or conductor to remain with the vehicle**

A vehicle driver or a conductor, while on duty, must stay with the vehicle at all times unless the driver or a conductor:

- (a) is helping passengers to enter or leave the vehicle;
- (b) is picking up or delivering goods; or
- (c) has a reasonable cause not to be with the vehicle.

**33. Driver and conductor's appearance**

While on duty, the appearance of a driver and conductor of a vehicle must be neat and clean and be in national dress.



**Penalty : 12 units**

**34. Doors of vehicle to be closed**

A vehicle driver must ensure that the doors of the vehicle are closed when the vehicle is in motion.

**Penalty : 12 units**

**35. Refusal to carry passengers**

- (1) A vehicle driver or a conductor may refuse to carry a person in the vehicle if in the opinion of the driver/conductor:
  - (a) the person is so intoxicated that he may annoy/harass other passengers;
  - (b) the person is violent, noisy or annoying other passengers;
  - (c) the person is so filthy or offensive that he may annoy other passengers;
  - (d) the passenger has goods or personal effects that could, endanger other passengers or interfere with the normal movement of passengers in the vehicle;
  - (e) the vehicle does not have a vacant seat (in excess of the permitted number of seats) for the passenger to occupy.
- (2) A vehicle driver or conductor may ask a passenger who the driver or conductor believes is contravening sub-regulations (1) to leave the vehicle.
- (3) A person must comply with a request made under sub-regulation.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**36. Animals on vehicles**

- (1) A vehicle driver or a conductor must not bring or allow an animal to be brought into the passenger compartment of a vehicle unless:
  - (a) the animal is in a suitable container; and

- (b) no inconvenience is caused to a passenger.
- (2) If any inconvenience is caused to a passenger, the driver or conductor may ask the person to remove the animal from the vehicle.
- (3) A person must comply with sub-regulations (2) immediately

**Penalty: 12 units**

### **37. Picking up and setting down passengers**

- (1) A vehicle driver, while picking up or setting down passengers, must stop the vehicle as close as possible to the side of the highway where the picking up and setting down is to take place.

**Penalty: 15 units**

- (2) A driver, who is at or near a place where there are a large number of vehicles, must not interfere with the orderly:
  - (i) taking up or setting down of passenger; or
  - (ii) movement of vehicles.

**Penalty: 15 units**

### **38. Driver and conductor must not consume alcohol**

- (1) To reinforce section 34 of the Act, a vehicle driver or a conductor shall not consume alcohol or be intoxicated or under the influence of a drug from the time he starts the work shift until the work shift is completed.

**Penalty: 35 units**

### **39. Eve-Teasing and Harassment**

Drivers and conductors shall not indulge and allow eve teasing or harass passengers or any other persons.

***Penalty: 35 units***

### **40. Carrying of contraband items**

Drivers and Conductors shall not carry contraband items

**Penalty: 50 units**

## **PART 3 – OPERATION OF COMMERCIAL PASSENGER VEHICLES**

### **Division 1 – Requirements of Commercial passenger vehicle**

#### **41. Application of the Division**

This division applies to all commercial passenger vehicles as defined under section 3.

#### **42. Vehicle specification**

(1) The permit holder shall ensure that the vehicle complies with the specifications set out in schedule-4 of the Regulations that are applicable to a vehicle.

**Penalty: 30 units**

(2) The Authority may exempt a commercial passenger vehicle from any requirement set out in Schedule-4 that is applicable to a vehicle but, which in the Authority's opinion, is inappropriate to the nature or construction of the vehicle.

#### **43. Vehicle construction or equipment**

(1) A permit holder or a driver must not make or allow any alteration to be made on the construction or equipment of the vehicle without the written approval of the Authority.

**Penalty: 30 Units**

(2) If an alteration has been made to the construction or equipment of a vehicle, the license holder or a driver must not use the vehicle unless the Authority or an authorized person has inspected the vehicle and found it to be fit and safe.

(3) A permit holder or a driver shall not install or attach any fitting or equipment to either the inside or outside of the vehicle without the approval of the Authority.

**Penalty: 30 units**

#### **44. Inspection of a vehicle**

(1) The Authority or an authorised person may require a permit holder or vehicle driver to produce the vehicle for inspection.

**Penalty: 30 units**

- (2) If a vehicle does not comply with:

- i) the standards;
- ii) the relevant specifications in Schedule-4; or
- iii) a condition of its permit;

an authorised person or a police officer may serve a notice on the permit holder or a driver to rectify the non-compliance within the time specified in the notice.

- (3) A notice shall:

- (i) include sufficient details to identify the vehicle;
- (ii) set out the matters requiring rectification; and
- (iii) state a time and date after which the vehicle must not be operated unless the matters requiring rectification have been rectified.

- (4) A permit holder or vehicle driver must not use, or allow a vehicle to be used, until all the matters requiring rectification have been rectified as required by the notice.

**Penalty: 30 units**

- (5) If inspection of a vehicle is required under sub-regulation (1) or (3), the Authority may require the permit holder to provide evidence that the vehicle has been inspected.

**Penalty: 30 penalty units**

- (6) The Authority may set the form of evidence required under sub- regulation (5)

#### **45. Damage to a vehicle**

If a vehicle sustains damage to its steering, suspension, braking systems or body or is damaged by fire, the permit holder or vehicle driver must not allow the vehicle to be used for carrying passengers for hire or reward until the vehicle is in a fit and safe condition, and certified by the Authority.

**Penalty: 100 units**

#### **46. Interference with equipment in or on vehicle**

A person must not interfere with any equipment in or on the vehicle, without the consent of the permit holder or vehicle driver.

**Penalty: 25 units**

**47. Maximum number of passengers**

- (1) The vehicle driver shall ensure that he carries in the vehicle, no more than the number of passengers specified in the registration certificate or in any contract with the Authority.
- (2) A permit holder not complying with sub-section (1) is guilty of an offence.

**Penalty: 20 units for every passenger in excess of the permissible capacity**

- (3) A child under the age of 5 years is not counted as a passenger unless he has opted to occupy a seat by paying full fare.

**48. Books or records to be kept by licence holder**

1. A permit holder shall keep the following books or records about the operation of any vehicle operated by the permit holder:
  - (a) an up to date record of the name, address, driver license numbers and driver certificate number of a person driving the vehicle so that identity of the driver can be ascertained at any time;
  - (b) any other books or records that the permit holder is required to keep as a condition of the permit; or under a contract with the Authority.

**Penalty: 20 units**

2. The permit holder shall keep the books and records for a period of at least 5 years from the date the records or last entries in the books were made.

**Penalty: 15 units**

3. The permit holder shall make the books and records available for inspection upon demand by the Authority or an authorized person.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**49. Number plates, signs, symbols, notices and labels**

A permit holder or the owner of a vehicle must attach to the vehicle, any number plate, signs, symbol, notices and labels required by the Authority.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**50. No smoking in a vehicle**

- (1) A person must not smoke or use a substance that is likely to cause intoxication, while in a vehicle.
- (2) The permit holder must ensure that a 'No Smoking' sign is displayed in the Vehicle.
- (3) The sign must:
  - (a) be legible;
  - (b) be displayed in a prominent place in the vehicle; and
  - (c) be visible to every passenger boarding the vehicle.

**Penalty : 15 units**

**51. Property found in vehicle**

1. Any person who finds an abandoned property in a vehicle must give the property to the vehicle driver

**Penalty: 11 unit**

2. A vehicle driver or a conductor must carefully search the vehicle as soon as possible after a journey or shift has been completed.
3. A vehicle driver or a conductor who has been given the property under sub-section (1) or who finds property in the vehicle must promptly deliver the property to the permit holder.

**Penalty: 15 units**

4. If that property (non-perishable) is not claimed within 28 days, the permit holder shall ensure that the property is promptly delivered to the Police.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**52. Display of destination sign**

The permit holder must ensure that a destination sign is displayed at the front of the vehicle while operating on any route specified in the permit or under a contract with the Authority.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**53. Schedule and fares**

- i) The bus operators, including the city bus operators shall submit periodic report of accounts in the prescribed form to the Authority;
- ii) The Authority may fix special fares for passengers services operating on unpaved and farm roads based on operating cost and the road condition;
- iii) All passengers shall be allowed to carry 20 Kgs of luggage free of charge in a passenger bus;
- iv) The rate for luggage exceeding 20 Kg per passenger shall be fixed by the Authority from time to time taking into account operating and other associated costs.

The Authority shall approve schedules and fares for commercial vehicles. Fares shall be reviewed and revised on six monthly basis in February and August of every year using the fare computation model in Schedule –VIII.

The permit holder must ensure that relevant operating schedule and fares are displayed or made available in a vehicle in the manner and form required by the Authority.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**54. Ticket requirements**

- 1) The permit holder must ensure that a ticket sold or issued to a passenger, is of a type authorized by the Authority or issued in accordance with the license conditions or any contract with the Authority and:
  - (a) shows sufficient information to determine the validity of the ticket;
  - (b) is numbered ; and
  - (c) has a notice printed on it stating that it must be produced on demand or another fare has to be paid.

**Penalty: 20 units**

- 2) A passenger boarding a vehicle, must be in possession of a valid ticket, being the fare for the journey intended to be taken or must pay fare for the journey, in case of a ticket issued inside the vehicle, and produce it on demand by the driver, conductor or any person authorized by the permit holder or the Authority.

**Penalty: 2 units in addition to the actual fare**

- 3) A vehicle driver or a conductor of a vehicle may ask a passenger, who has not paid fare in accordance with sub-regulation (2) to pay the penalty and fare or to leave the vehicle.
- 4) A passenger must comply with a request made under sub-regulation (3).

**Penalty: 15 units in addition to actual fare**

- 5) The permit holder must ensure that his employees do not charge fare more than what the Authority, from time to time approves, either for whole or part of a journey.

**Penalty:** A fine of 20 units on each occasion and refund of the excess portion of fare collected

**Division-2: Operating provisions for taxis**

**55. Purpose**

The purpose of these regulations is to:

- (a) Establish systems and procedures for the licensing and operation of taxis in the kingdom;
- (b) Establish vehicle standards; and
- (c) Ensure safe, comfortable and quality services to the users.

**56. Application of the Division**

This division applies to a taxi registered in the kingdom and there are requirements additional to those in division I of part III.



## **57. Definition**

For the purpose of these regulations, the following definitions shall have the meaning assigned hereunder:

**‘Authority’** means the Road Safety & Transport Authority.

**‘Driver certificate’** means a certificate issued to a taxi driver authorizing him to drive a taxi and this is a requirement additional to holding a driving license.

**‘permit’** means a permit issued by the Authority, authorizing the holder to operate a taxi for carrying passengers for hire or reward.

**‘Operate’** means to carry passengers or luggage by a taxi for hire or reward in the course of trade or business.

**‘Permit holder’** means a person in whose name a taxi has been registered or permit issued.

**‘Police’** means the Royal Bhutan Police force engaged in Traffic enforcement.

**‘Taxi’** means a motor vehicle registered and permitted to carry passengers for hire or reward, but does not include a passenger transport vehicle.

## **58. Taxi Operating Permit**

1. For registration of a vehicle as taxi, it is a must to obtain Taxi Operating Permit from the Authority.

Taxi Operation Permit shall:

- a) be issued to all taxis that are in operation and have been registered with the Authority.
- b) Be issued on the basis of place of residence not according to their place of census
- c) be valid for nine years from the date of the registration of the Taxi.
- d) cease to be valid after six months of award of Taxi Operating Permit ownership.
- e) not be issued to Taxis that are either hired or operated by civil servants, corporate employees and armed force personnel.
- f) remain non-transferable for the entire life-span of the taxi. However, transfer may be permitted on special grounds such as demise of the owner or for other exceptional reasons before the expiry of the TOP subject to the production of documentary evidence.

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g) Not be sold illegally by the owner under any circumstances. A fine of a sum of Nu. 50,000/- shall be imposed for such acts and the ToP shall be cancelled.

(2) A Taxi Driving License and a Taxi Operating Permit shall be issued to a person who:

- i) is a Bhutanese national;
- ii) has reached a minimum age of 25 years;
- iii) possesses a light vehicle driving experience of at three years;
- iv) has attended professional driving course conducted by the Authority or Vocational Training Institutes or other Driving Training Institutes authorized by the Authority;
- v) pay fees as set out in Schedule-I

### **59. Registration of New Taxis**

- (a) Registration of New Taxis shall be suspended in Thimphu Dzongkhag and Phuntsholing Drungkhag and additional new taxis shall only be permitted in other Dzongkhags;
- (b) In addition to a Taxi Driving License, the individual must produce a Certificate of having attended the course on Road Safety and Traffic Discipline conducted by the RSTA;
- (c) The applicant must provide a legal undertaking that he/she is not an employee of the Civil Service, Government –owned Corporation/Project or the Armed Forces, and also agree to operate the Taxi on commercial basis in places other than Thimphu Dzongkhag and Phuntsholing Drungkhag;
- (d) The Taxi must display the Dzongkhag where it has been registered on both sides of the body of the Taxi, and must be clearly written in English in CAPS, 500 Font size Arial in Black Colour.

### **60. De-registration of old taxis and Replacement with New taxis**

- (a) In case a taxi has reached the maximum life span of nine (9) years, replacement may be permitted only upon conversion of the old taxi into private registration. A replacement may be issued only to the person who possesses a valid Taxi Driver License and owned the old taxi before de-registration.

- (b) Taxi owned by either a civil servant, government-owned corporations and project employee or armed force personnel shall not be eligible for replacement after the old taxi has completed the maximum life span.
- (c) In case of a Taxi that has been sold without transferring the ownership, the current owner (Buyer) shall be provided a replacement only after transferring the ownership of the old taxi in his/her name by paying applicable late penalties, 5% Transfer Tax and other fees and charges as per the provisions of the ownership transfer regulations.
- (d) Replacement of pick-up trucks and utility vehicles (Mahindra Bolero, TATA Xenon, etc.) shall only be permitted to those who had already been operating such type of vehicles.
- (e) Any other taxi owners requesting for a replacement with pick-up trucks or utility vehicles shall be permitted to operate in rural areas.

#### **61. Grant or renewal of permit**

- (1) The Authority must not grant or renew a taxi permit if:
  - i) it does not comply with the vehicle standards or specifications;
  - ii) it does not have a taxi –sign approved by the Authority;
  - iii) the applicant does not provide the date of manufacture of the vehicle to be used as a taxi;
  - iv) the applicant does not fulfil conditions under sub-section 9(1),b
- (2) The provisions of sub-regulation (1) are conditions of every taxi license.
- (3) It is a condition of every taxi permit that the taxi shall not carry load more than what is prescribed by the manufacturer.

#### **Penalty: 35 units**

#### **62. Taxi Fare**

- 1. The Authority shall determine and fix taxi fare based on operating costs and seating capacity using the fare computation model given in **Schedule –VIII**;
- 2. The fare may be subject to revision bi-annually;
- 3. It is mandatory for all Taxis to display fare chart inside their vehicles and must be produced on demand by commuters and authorised persons;

4. Fare shall be fixed for local and long distance operation;
5. A person who does not comply with sub-regulation (3) is guilty of an offence;

**Penalty: 25 units.**

### **63. Charging of excess fare**

The Driver or owner of the Taxi shall not charge fare in excess of what has been fixed by the Authority.

**Penalty:** 20 units plus refund of excess fare collected

### **64. Construction and equipment**

- 1) A taxi shall have comfortable seats for the passengers, based on the approved seating capacity specified in the registration certificate.

**Penalty: 13 units**

- 3) A taxi shall display a sign "TAXI" outside of the vehicle and straight above the driver's seat. Such a sign must be visible at night.

### **65. Taxi Standards**

- (i) Vehicles with engine capacity of more than 796 CC shall be allowed to be registered as Taxi;
- (ii) The minimum number of seats in a taxi shall be 5 persons and maximum 12 persons including driver;
- (iii) Only New vehicles shall be allowed to be used or registered as taxi;
- (iv) Second hand electrically powered vehicles which has run upto 30,000 Kms and below with a maximum seating capacity of five persons including driver may also be registered as a taxi;
- (v) Rear seats fixed face to face will not be allowed;
- (vi) A taxi shall be either with red body and yellow top or white body with yellow top;
- (vii) electrically powered vehicles registered as taxi shall be of Blue colour with white top

### **66. Serviceable Life span of a vehicle used as a taxi**

- (1) Serviceable life of taxi is **9 years** counted from the date of registration and a new vehicle must substitute the same after that period.

- (2) The Authority may grant an extension of upto 30 days and no more, to allow the permit holder to replace the old taxi with a new one.

#### **67. Taxi ranks**

- (1) The Authority and Traffic Police may establish ranks to allow taxis to stand to pick up and drop passengers
- (2) Taxis shall park at designated parking areas only.
- (3) The following rules apply to drivers of taxis in taxi ranks:
  - a) a taxi may not stand or park there unless it is intending to pick up passengers.
  - b) taxis must form an orderly line along the length of the rank and the first taxi on the rank must take the first hirer.
  - c) a taxi may not be double parked at a rank unless it is provided for in the rank.
  - d) a taxi driver may not tout for business at a rank.

A person who does not comply with sub-regulations (3) is guilty of an offence.

**Penalty: 20 Units**

#### **68. Hire of taxi**

- (1) The first hirer of a taxi has sole rights to the use of the taxi unless the hirer consents to other passengers being carried.
- (2) The taxi driver must not refuse to carry a passenger unless:
  - (a) The driver has completed a working day;
  - (b) The driver is already carrying a passenger or is going to pick up a passenger under a previously arranged agreement;
  - (c) The driver's taxi is not the first taxi in a rank

**Penalty: 20 units**

- (3) A taxi driver may multiple hire a taxi under the following conditions:
  - (a) If there is no other taxi in the rank where the taxi has been standing.
  - (b) If the passenger who first hired the taxi consents and each

passenger is charged no more than 75% of the normal fare by the most direct route.

**Penalty: 25 units**

- (3) In sub-regulation (3), 75% of the fare by the most direct route means for any passenger, 75% of the fare that the passengers and driver agree would have been payable from the first point of pick-up to the passenger's destination by the most direct route.

**69. Operation of Taxi on Hire**

- a) A person holding a Taxi Driving License shall be allowed to operate a hired taxi after obtaining a written permit from the Authority till the expiry of useful life of the current taxi.
- b) The permit shall be obtained by the taxi owner

**70. Duties of a taxi owner and/or driver**

- (1) A driver of a taxi shall not:
  - (a) Drive a taxi in neutral gear or engine switched off;
  - (b) Drive a taxi without a valid Taxi Driving licence, Driver Certificate, Certificate of Road Worthiness, Registration Certificate, Operating Licence, and insurance document (penalty as per individual offence will be imposed as per schedule 6);
  - (c) Drive a taxi with any concentration of alcohol in the blood;
  - (d) Drive a taxi using re-treaded tyres at the front and with inadequate amount of tread at all times;
  - (e) Carry passengers or load in excess of what is specified in the registration certificate;
  - (f) Carry illegal goods/drugs and passengers without permits from concerned authorities. If found, both the taxi registration number and taxi driving license shall be cancelled;
  - v) charge excess fare;
  - vi) Indulge in eve-teasing or harass passengers and passers-by;

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- vii) Shout or Tout and rush for passengers;
- viii) splash water from the puddles on pedestrians;
- ix) stop abruptly in the middle of road other than the designated stand;
- x) Operate a taxi without wearing proper dress uniform or the National Dress;
- xi) play music at unreasonably high volume or cause undue noise at taxi ranks, parking or while on road;
- xii) enter an intersection that is blocked or likely to become blocked before you have cleared it;

**Penalty 35** units for **the first offence**; 35 units and a written warning for the **second offence**; and cancellation of taxi registration and Professional Driving License for the **third offence**.

- (2) A driver or an owner of a taxi:
  - i. shall not allow or knowingly permit a taxi owned by him or under his control to be driven by a person who does not have a valid taxi driving licence and certificate –

### **Penalty- cancellation of taxi driving license**

- ii. shall not operate a taxi when his ability or alertness is impaired by illness or fatigue, making driving unsafe.
- iii. shall oblige to the request made by an authorised person with regard to the production of any vehicle document or the vehicle itself for inspection.

## **71. Insurance and compensation**

- (1) A taxi must be covered under a comprehensive insurance policy.
- (2) In the event of an accident, the owner must pay compensation to the victims of the accident in accordance with the compensation amounts fixed under the Road Safety and Transport Act.

## **Division 4 – Operating provisions for Government school and institutional bus**

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This application applies to Government school and institutional bus and these are additional requirements to commercial passenger vehicle regulations

**‘Permit Holder’** means a person holding a permit for school bus.

### **72. Requirement for registration**

The Authority may register a vehicle as School/institutional bus if the following requirements are fulfilled:

1. Duly filled application form;
2. Produce the vehicle for physical inspection;
3. Produce a trade or business license copy for private schools/institutes;
4. Provide official letter for the government schools/institutes;
5. Only new vehicle shall be registered as school/institute bus

### **73. Additional requirements**

In addition to the specification under the schedule 5, a school/institute bus must:

- a) have the name of the school/institute painted on both sides of the vehicle’s body displaying the **‘NAME OF THE SCHOOL’**, of a size and colour approved by the Authority.
- b) Be driven by a driver holding a commercial passenger vehicle-driving license for the specified category of Bus.

### **74. Life span of School and Institutional Bus**

The life span of a school/institute bus is 15 years from the date of initial registration.

### **75. Conversion of trucks into School or institute Bus.**

Conversion of trucks to school or institute bus shall not be allowed.

### **76. Restriction**

A Government school/institute bus shall not:

- I. be used for commercial purpose;
- II. carry passengers other than the students and staff of the school/institute;
- III. carry public without obtaining special permit from the Authority;
- IV. carry extra passengers;

**Penalty: 15 units**



**SCHEDULE- V: VEHICLE SPECIFICATIONS**

**I. Requirements applicable to all commercial passenger vehicles**

(1) A vehicle shall:

- (a) Be constructed and equipped so as to be stable when carrying the maximum number of passengers allowed at all speeds permitted;
- (b) Be constructed and maintained so that no undue noise or vibration arises during its operation
- (c) have seats fitted, that have cushions that are suitably padded or contoured and are firmly and securely attached to the vehicle structure;
- (d) have seats, interior fittings and trimmings that are properly constructed, fixed and finished;
- (e) have a suitable number of handholds for the safety and convenience of passengers;
- (f) have all electric wiring properly insulated and protected from damage and located in a manner that does not cause danger to the passengers.

(2) A vehicle shall:

- i) have the body constructed and maintained so as to provide appropriate protection to passengers under all weather conditions;
- ii) have seats fitted which have backs constructed so as to provide reasonable support for passengers;
- iii) have floors of sound construction finished and maintained with skid resistant surface and sealed so as to prevent fumes and dust from entering the vehicle;
- iv) have interior lamps adequate for the reasonable convenience of passengers;
- v) have every window soundly and properly fitted and each moveable window equipped with a suitable opening device;

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vi) have notices on or in the vehicle to the satisfaction of the Authority which:

- (i) clearly show in letters at least 25 millimetres high and proportionate width, the maximum number of adult passengers' including any standing passengers, the vehicle is licensed to carry; and
- (ii) are displayed on the outside rear only, of vehicles licensed to carry less than 9 passengers, and on the inside and outside rear of any other vehicle;

vii) have an engine compartment :

- (i) that does not contain flammable sound proofing material or material capable of being impregnated with fuel or lubricant; and
- (ii) that has drainage holes or that is otherwise designed to prevent the accumulation of fuel or lubricant;

viii) have its engine compartment and other sources of heat separated from the remainder of the vehicle by heat resisting material;

ix) have a vehicle fuel filter pipe:

- (i) that is designed so that any overflow or leakage cannot accumulate;
- (ii) that does not project beyond the overall width of the body work; and
- (iii) that is not located in the engine compartment.

x) have its fuel filler pipe opening on an external surface;

xi) have its fuel tank, or any part of it :

- (i) not less than 1.2 meters from the front of the vehicle; and
- (ii) not projecting beyond the overall width of the bodywork; and
- (iii) not located in the engine compartment.

xii) have its fuel system fittings designed so that any leaking fuel flows freely to the ground without contacting the exhaust system or any electrical equipment;

- xiii) have no flammable material located within 100 millimetres of the exhaust system unless that material is effectively shielded.

**3. Additional specifications for passenger transport vehicles**

In addition to the requirement specified in section 1, a passenger transport vehicle must meet the following requirements:

- a) it shall be fitted with a device or be equipped with an appliance or other means to enable the drivers to remove condensation from the windscreen;
- b) it shall not have exposed bars protruding above or behind the seat back other than to provide corner handholds;
- c) it shall have a mirror or mirrors which provide the driver with a view of any passenger;
- d) it shall have a luggage rack on both the left and right side of the length of passenger compartment in the bus which is constructed:
  - (i) to minimize the possibility of injury to any passenger; and
  - (ii) so that the vertical distance between the rack and the seat surface (measured at the centre of the seating position) is not less than 950 millimetres.
- e) it shall have a first aid kit approved by the Authority;
- f) it shall have at least one spare tyre (not a resoled tyre) with a safe amount of tread;
- g) a set of tools sufficient to effect emergency repairs;
- h) it shall be fitted with fire extinguishers in working condition;

if it is fitted with a luggage rack on the roof, it must not extend for  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the length of the bus and must not be loaded more than 75 cm high.

## **CHAPTER- 3:       TRAFFIC REGULATIONS**

### **1. Purpose of the Regulations**

The purpose of these Regulations is to provide a set of traffic rules for all users of the highway and related areas in the Kingdom of Bhutan.

### **2. Definition**

In these regulations:

**“Act”** means the Road Safety & Transport Act 1999

**“Authorized Person”** means the persons authorized by the Act and the Regulations and includes Traffic Police Personnel of the Royal Bhutan Police

**Built-up area”** means a road within the core city/town area along which there is residential development.

**“Bus”** means a motor vehicle (that is):

- (a) Built mainly to carry people; and
- (b) Has seats for more than 12 people.

**“Emergency Vehicle”** means:

- (a) an ambulance;
- (b) a fire – fighting vehicle;
- (c) an army vehicle;
- (d) a police vehicle;
- (e) a vehicle of the Authority

**“Give Way Line”** means a broken or straight line that is marked across the whole or part of a road.

**“Pedestrian Crossing”** means a part of the road that is marked with white stripes approximately parallel with the centre of the road and extends from one side of the road to the other.

**“Police vehicle”** means a motor vehicle driven by an officer of the Police while on duty.

**“Passenger transport vehicle”** means a bus operated under contract to the Authority.

**“Roundabout”** means an intersection that is laid out for the movement of traffic in one direction around a central island.

**“Stop line”** means an unbroken line that is marked across the whole or part of a road.

**“Taxi rank”** means a part of the road set aside by the Authority to allow taxis to stand or park.

**“Truck”** means a medium or heavy vehicle as defined in the Registration and Licensing Regulations 1999, but not a bus.

**“Authority Vehicle”** means a motor vehicle registered in the name of the Authority and driven by a driver/officer of the Authority

## **PART 1 – PRELIMINARY**

### **3. General scope**

- (1) These regulations apply to a motor vehicle or person on:
  - (a) a road; or
  - (b) an area that divides a road; or
  - (c) a footpath; or
  - (d) an area that is open to the public; or
  - (e) an area that is not a road and that is open to or used by the public for driving, riding or parking vehicles.
- (2) If you are driving a vehicle you must give way to an animal on a highway if it is not ridden by a person.
- (3) If you are a person in control of an animal on a highway, you must ensure the animal does not cause danger to other highway users.

### **4. Direction by an authorised person**

- (1) An authorised person may give a reasonable direction related to the safe and efficient movement of traffic, even if it is contrary to a provision of these

regulations, if the authorised person is in uniform, or produces evidence of his or her identity on request.

- (2) You must obey a direction given in accordance with sub- regulation (1)

**Penalty:14 units**

**5. Exemption: moving police or authority vehicles**

- (1) If you are the driver of a police or the Authority's vehicle, you may drive or ride in a way that would otherwise contravene these rules, if:
- (a) it is in the course of your duties
  - (b) you take reasonable care; and
  - (c) you use a siren and a blue flashing light on the vehicle.
- (2) If you are an officer of the authority or a police officer, you may act in a way that would otherwise contravene this part, if:
- (a) You have reasonable cause for doing so; and
  - (a) You take reasonable care

**6. Exemption: moving emergency vehicles**

If you are the driver of an emergency vehicle, you may drive or ride the vehicle in a way that would otherwise be a breach of these Rules if:

- (a) you have reasonable cause to do so;
- (b) you take reasonable care; and
- (c) you use a siren and a red flashing light.

**7. Declaration of Emergency vehicles**

The Authority may, by written notice, declare a vehicle to be an emergency vehicle for the purpose of these regulations.

**8. Exemption: stationary emergency and enforcement vehicles**

If you are:

- (a) an authorised person; or
- (b) the driver of an emergency vehicle; or
- (c) the driver of a police vehicle

You may stop or park your vehicle in a way that would otherwise be a breach of these rules if:

- (a) you have reasonable cause to do so; and
- (b) you take reasonable care.

## **PART-2: SPEED LIMITS**

### **9. Obeying the speed limit**

You must not drive on a road or part of a road at a speed greater than the speed limit that applies to the road or part.

**Penalty: 20 units**

### **10. What is the Speed Limit?**

- (1) The speed limit for a road or part of a road is:
  - (a) the number of kilometres per hour indicated on a speed limit sign like Figure-1 in Schedule VII, that applies to the part of the road; or
  - (b) Where there is no speed limit sign applying to all or part of a road in a built-up area, 30 kilometres per hour; or
  - (c) Where there is no speed limit sign applying to a road or a part of a road outside a built up area:
    - (i) 50 km/h in case of light vehicles and two wheelers
    - (ii) 35 km/h in case of medium and heavy vehicles; or as otherwise set by the Authority.
- (2) The speed limit on a speed limit sign applies between the sign and:
  - (a) another speed limit sign that is facing drivers using that part of the road and that indicates a different speed limit; or

- (b) the end of the road;

### **PART- 3: TURNS**

#### **11. Making left turns**

If you turn left at an intersection, you must do so from a position as near as practicable to the left edge of the part of the road used by the main body of moving vehicles.

**Penalty: 12 units**

#### **12. Turning right: entering intersections**

If you turn right at an intersection:

- (a) from a road on which vehicles are permitted to travel in both directions – you must approach and enter the intersection from a position to the left of, parallel to, and as near as practicable to the dividing line, or if there is no dividing line, the centre of the road;
- (b) from a road on which all traffic is required to travel in the same direction – you must approach and enter the intersection from a position as near as practicable to the right edge of the part of the road used by the main body of moving vehicles.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

#### **13. Making right turns**

If you turn right at an intersection, you must turn so that your vehicle passes as near as practicable to the right of the centre of the intersection.

**Penalty: 12 units**

#### **14. Making U-turns**

- (1) You must not make a U-turn unless:
  - (a) You have a clear view in each direction from which traffic may approach; and
  - (b) it is safe to make the turn.



- (2) You must not make a **U-turn** at an intersection or a road, if there is a sign with the words **NO U TURN** or a sign like Figure 2 in Schedule 5 related to the intersection or any part of the road.
- (3) When making a U-turn, you must give way to any pedestrian or vehicle.
- (4) If you make a U-turn at an intersection, you must do so from a position as near as practicable to the centre of the road.

**Penalty: 12 units**

#### **PART 4: SIGNALS FOR CHANGING DIRECTION OR BRAKING**

##### **15. Requirement to give a change of direction signal**

- (1) Before:
  - (a) turning to the right or left; or
  - (b) moving your vehicle to the right or left; or
  - (c) Making a U-turn
- (1) You must give a change of direction signal as described in Regulation 18 for a period long enough to give a reasonable warning to other road users.
- (2) Despite sub-regulation (1), you do not have to give a change of direction signal if:
  - (a) You are following the direction of the road; or
  - (b) You are entering a roundabout and Regulation 32&41 does not apply to you;
- (3) Before entering a line of traffic from a stationary position near the edge of a road, you must give a change of direction signal for at least five seconds.

**Penalty: 12 units**

##### **16. How must you give change of direction signals?**

- (1) If your vehicle is equipped with direction indicator lights, you must use the left direction indicator lights to indicate an intention to turn left or move to the left; and you must use the right direction indicator lights to indicate an intention to turn right or move to the right or make a U-turn.

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- (2) You must not operate a direction indicator light unless:
  - i) You are using it in compliance with sub-regulation (1);
  - ii) You are using hazard warning lights, and the direction indicator light is part of the system of hazard warning lights.
- (3) After completing a move to the right or left, or a u-turn, you must make sure that the direction indicator light is turned off.
- (4) If your vehicle is not equipped with direction indicator lights and:
  - (a) you intend to turn right or move to the right or make a U-turn, you must use your hand and arm to give a change of direction signal by extending the right arm and hand horizontally and at right angles from the side of the vehicle;
  - (b) you intend to turn to the left, or move to the left, you must use your hand and arm to give a change of direction signal by extending the left arm and hand horizontally and at right angles from the side of the vehicle.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

### **17. Braking signals**

- (1) If you are driving a motor vehicle and you stop or suddenly reduce speed, you must give a stop signal.
- (2) If your vehicle has brake lights, the operation of the brake lights is taken to be the stop signal.
- (3) If your vehicle does not have brake lights or has brake lights that are not in working order, you must use your hand and arm to give a stop signal by extending your right arm from the right side of the vehicle, with the upper arm horizontal and the forearm and hand pointing upwards;

**Penalty: 12 units.**

## **PART- 5: OBEYING SIGNS AND ROAD MARKINGS**

The Authority and Traffic Police shall identify locations and put up requirement of signs and road markings to respective municipal authorities or relevant agencies. The Municipal authorities or relevant agencies shall provide the signs or mark the roads as per the standards provided by the Authority and Traffic Police.

## **18. STOP signs and stop lines**

- (1) If you come to a STOP sign like Figure 3 in Schedule-VII you must stop your vehicle before, and as near as practicable to, the stop line (if any) related to the sign.
- (2) If there is no stop line relating to the sign, you must stop your vehicle as near as practicable to and before the intersection.
- (3) If you come to a stop line marked on the road at or near an intersection you must obey it as you would at a stop sign.
- (4) After stopping at a STOP sign or stop line, you must give way to any vehicle travelling on any intersecting road.
- (5) After stopping at a STOP sign or stop line, you must, if you are turning at an intersection, give way to any pedestrian crossing the road you are turning into.
- (6) You must not move beyond a hand-held STOP sign that is facing you.

**Penalty 14: units**

## **19. GIVE WAY signs and give way lines**

- (1) If you come to a **GIVE WAY** sign like Figure 4 in Schedule-VII or a give way line related to an intersection, you must give way to any vehicle travelling on any intersecting road
- (2) If you come to a GIVE WAY sign or a give way line related to an intersection, and you are turning, you must give way to any pedestrian crossing the road you are turning into.
- (3) If you come to a give-way line or face a GIVE WAY sign at a bridge or narrow section of the road, you must give way to an oncoming vehicle that is between you and the far end of the bridge or narrow section of road.

**Penalty: 14 units**

## **20. BRIDGE LOAD LIMIT signs**

If you come to a sign with the words **BRIDGE LOAD LIMIT**, like Figure 5 in Schedule-VII or fixed to, or placed near, a bridge, you must not drive past the sign if the gross vehicle weight of your vehicle exceeds gross weight shown on the sign.

## **21. NO TRUCKS and NO BUSES signs**

Signs for city bus stops shall be put up after being identified by the Authority and Traffic Police.

- (1) If you are driving a truck, you must not continue past a sign like Figure 6 in Schedule VII (a “**NO TRUCK**” sign).
- (2) If you are driving a bus, you must not continue past a sign like Figure 7 (a **no-buses sign**).
- (3) Sub regulation (1) does not apply to you if:
  - (a) you are driving a truck and your destination is beyond the sign and there is no other route; or
  - (b) you are being escorted by the police or an authorized person; or
  - (c) you have a permit issued by the Authority allowing you to travel past the sign.

**Penalty : 14 units**

## **22. One Way roads**

If you come to a **ONE WAY** sign as shown in Figure 8 in Schedule-VII, you must not travel in a direction other than that indicated by the arrow.

**Penalty: 14 units.**

## **23. Obeying instructions shown by other signs**

- (1) If you come to one of the following signs related to an intersection, you must obey the instructions on it until you have left the intersection:
  - (a) a sign like Figure 9 in Schedule-VII (indicating that you must travel straight ahead)
  - (b) sign like Figure 10 in Schedule-VII (prohibiting left turns)

- (c) sign like Figure 11 in Schedule-VII (prohibiting right turns)
- (2) If you come to a NO ENTRY sign like Figure 12 in Schedule-VII (prohibiting entry);

**Penalty: 14 units**

## **PART 6: GIVING WAY TO PEDESTRIANS, VEHICLES AND ANIMALS**

### **24. Lane Changing**

- (1) On a double lane road, you must:
    - i. Always overtake from the right;
    - ii. Drive on the left lane at low speed;
- Drive on the right lane at higher speed but not exceeding the prescribed speed limit;  
Use correct indicator light while changing the lane.

### **25. Giving way to a pedestrian on a pedestrian crossing**

- iii) You must approach a pedestrian crossing at a speed that will allow you to stop if necessary before reaching it.
- iv) You must give way to pedestrian/s on a pedestrian crossing.

**Penalty: 14 units**

### **26. Stopping at a crossing where another vehicle has stopped**

You must not drive or ride onto a pedestrian crossing if another vehicle facing in the same direction as your vehicle and on the part of the road used by the main body of moving vehicles is stopped or about to stop at the crossing.

### **27. Giving way when entering or leaving a road**

- (1) When you are driving or riding out of a car park, petrol station, private driveway, or other land adjacent to a road, you must give way to a pedestrian or vehicle travelling in either direction along the road or a footpath or nature strip.
- (2) When you are making a turn into a car park, petrol station, private driveway, or other land adjacent to a road, you must give way to any:
  - (a) Pedestrian or rider of a bicycle on a footpath; and

- (b) Pedestrian on the road;
- (3) If you are making a turn into a private driveway or other land adjacent to a road, you must give way to a vehicle on the road to which you would be required to give way if you were making the turn at an intersection.

**Penalty: 14 units**

**28. Giving way at a cross intersection without signs**

- (1) When you come to an intersection of two or more roads other than a T-intersection or roundabout, and there are no STOP or GIVE WAY signs:
  - (a) If you go straight ahead, you must give way to any vehicle on your right, whether that vehicle is going straight ahead or turning right; and
  - (b) if you turn right, you must give way to:
    - (i) any vehicle on your right, whether that vehicle is going straight ahead or turning right; and
    - (ii) any oncoming vehicle that is going straight ahead or turning left; and
    - (iii) any pedestrian who is crossing the road you are turning into; and
  - (c) if you turn left, you must give way to :
    - (i) any vehicle that is approaching on your right; and
    - (ii) any pedestrian who is crossing the road you are turning into.

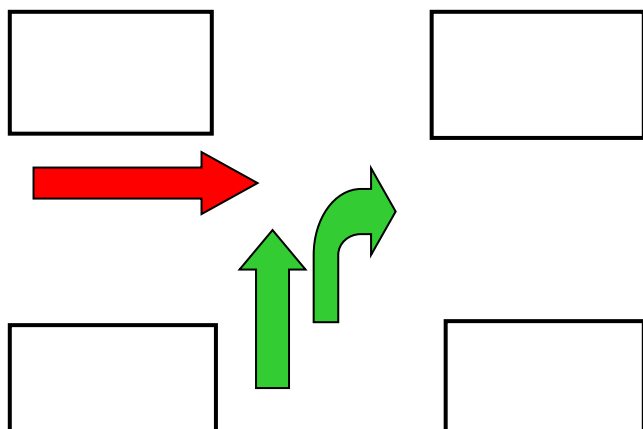
**Penalty: 14 units**

**29. Giving way at a T-intersection without traffic lights**

- (1) If you come to T- intersection from a road that ends at the intersection, you must give way to:
  - (a) any vehicle on the continuing road; and
  - (b) any pedestrian who is crossing the road you are entering into.

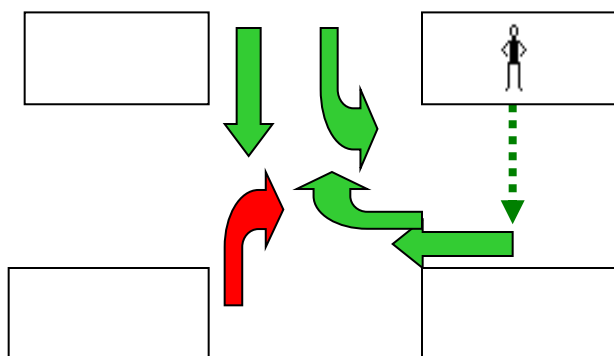
**Penalty: 14 units**

**30. Giving way at an intersection with signs**



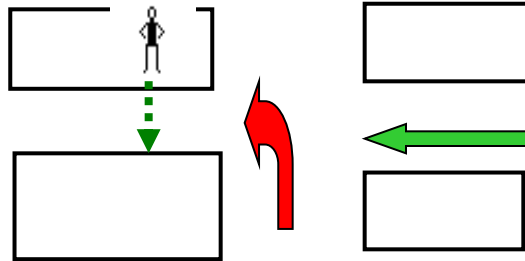
If you turn right, you must give way to:

- (i) Any vehicle on your right, whether that vehicle is going straight ahead or turning right; and
- (ii) Any oncoming vehicle that is going straight ahead or turning left; and
- (iii) Any pedestrian who is crossing the road you are turning into; and



If you turn left, you must give way to:

- (i) Any vehicle that is approaching on your right; and
- (ii) Any pedestrian who is crossing the road you are turning into.



**Penalty: 14 units**

### **31. Giving way at an intersection with signs**

If you turn right at an intersection, and come to:

- (a) a STOP sign or a GIVE WAY sign; or
- (b) a stop or give way line;

You must give way to a vehicle that:

- (c) is facing the front of your vehicle, is approaching it and is going straight ahead; or
- (d) is facing the front of your vehicle, is approaching it and is turning left.

**Penalty: 14 units**

### **32. Giving way to VVIP/VIP and police or emergency vehicle**

You must give way to, and do everything reasonably practicable to get out of the way of a VVIP/VIP and police vehicle or an emergency vehicle giving warning of its approach.

**Penalty: 16 units**



**33. Giving way when moving out of a parked position**

You must give way to a vehicle on a road when you move out of a stationary position on to part of the road used by the main body of moving vehicles.

**Penalty: 14 units**

**PART -7: ROUNDABOUTS**

The Authority and Traffic Police shall identify locations for roundabouts and the municipal or local authorities shall build the roundabouts as per the standards/design prescribed by the Authority and Traffic Police.

**34. Giving a change of direction signal when entering and leaving aroundabout.**

- (1) You must give a right change-of-direction signal before you enter a roundabout if you are going to leave the roundabout more than half way around it.
- (2) You must give a left change of direction signal when you enter a roundabout if you are going to exit at the first exit after you enter.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**35. Giving way when entering a roundabout.**

When you enter a roundabout, you must give way to any vehicle within the roundabout that is approaching from your right.

**Penalty: 14 units**

**36. Driving or riding within a roundabout.**

When you are within a roundabout, you must keep the central traffic island on your right.

**Penalty: 14 unit**

**PART-8: KEEPING LEFT AND OVERTAKING**

**37. Keeping as far left as practicable**

While driving on a road, you must keep your vehicle as close and practicable to the left edge of the part of the road used by the main body of moving vehicles, unless:

- a) You are overtaking a vehicle; or
- b) You are turning right, or signalling an intention to make a right turn.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**38. Keeping passing vehicles on your right**

- (1) If you are passing a vehicle that is travelling in the opposite direction, you must keep to the left of the vehicle, unless you and the (other) vehicle are (both) turning right.

**Penalty: 12 units**

- (2) A driver of a motor vehicle travelling downhill must stop to give way to a vehicle that is travelling uphill, in places where the road is narrow.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**39. Overtaking**

- (1) If you overtake a vehicle, you must overtake to the right of the vehicle unless the vehicle is making, or signalling an intention to make a right turn.
- (2) If you overtake a vehicle, you must keep your vehicle at a safe distance from the other.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

- (3) You must not move directly in front of a vehicle after overtaking it until you are at a safe distance.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

- (4) If you are facing a sign like Figure 13 in Schedule VII you must not overtake another vehicle until after you pass a sign like Figure 14 in Schedule VII.

**Penalty: 14 units.**

- 5) Overtaking shall not be permitted in built up areas and bends.

**Penalty: 14 units**

#### **40. Giving way to overtaking vehicles**

If another vehicle is overtaking you on the right, you must not increase speed until you have been completely overtaken by the vehicle.

**Penalty: 12 units**

#### **41. Following too closely (Tailgating)**

You must keep your vehicle at a safe distance( normally a car's length) from the rear of any vehicle ahead.

**Penalty: 12 units**

#### **42. Entering blocked intersections**

You must not enter an intersection that is blocked or likely to become blocked before you have cleared it.

**Penalty: 11 unit**

### **PART-9: STOPPING AND PARKING VEHICLES**

#### **43. General exemptions to regulations about stopping**

- (1) You may stop your vehicle in a way that would otherwise be prohibited by a regulation in this Part if:
- (a) You need to do so to avoid a collision or to obey another provision of these rules; or
  - (b) Your vehicle has been disabled, and you remove it as soon as practicable.

- (2) Despite any Regulation in this Part, you may stop or park your vehicle if a sign or road marking indicates that it is permitted.

#### **44. Sign restricting stopping or parking**

- (1) If a **NO STANDING** sign like **Figure 15 in schedule-VII** is erected on or beside a road, you must not park or stop a vehicle if any of it is within the area to which the sign applies.
- (2) If a parking sign like **Figure 16 in Schedule-VII** is erected on or beside a road, you must not stop a vehicle except to pick up or set down passengers, or passengers and luggage or park a vehicle, so that any part of it is in the area to which the sign applies unless you comply with any conditions or restrictions referred to by words or symbols on the sign.
- (4) If a sign like **Figure 17 in Schedule-VII** includes the word '**PARKING**' and the words indicating a number of hours or minutes. You must not allow your vehicle to remain continuously in the area to which the sign applies for more than the number of hours or minutes shown on the sign.

#### **45. No stopping on or near intersections or crossings**

You must not stop your vehicle if part of it is within an intersection, or within 10 metres of the nearest edge of an intersection road or within 20 metres of a pedestrian crossing.

**Penalty: 12 units**

#### **46. No stopping in certain areas**

Unless you are about to reverse or park, you must not stop your vehicle if part of it is on the road and in any of the following places:

- (a) between another vehicle and the centre of the road;
- (b) blocking a footpath, lane-way or private driveway, or so close to it as to get in the way of other vehicles that may go in or out;
- (c) besides an excavation or obstruction on a road, if the vehicle would get in the way of other traffic;
- (d) on a bridge or other elevated structure.

- (e) blind curves and on the road side of built up area except at a designated parking provided.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**47. Stopping in a loading zone, truck zone, or works zone**

- (1) You must not stop your vehicle in a loading zone indicated by a sign like Figure 18 in Schedule-VII, unless your vehicle is:
  - (a) a bus actually engaged in picking up or setting down people; or
  - (b) a truck actually engaged in picking up or setting down goods; or
  - (c) authorised by the Authority to stop in the zone.
- (4) If you are driving a vehicle described in sub-regulation (1) (a), (b), or (c) you must not stop or park:
  - (a) for longer than the period shown on the loading zone sign; or
  - (b) if there is no period shown on the sign – for longer than 30 minutes.
- (5) Dumping of construction materials on road and footpaths shall not be permitted.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**48. Stopping in for taxis and buses**

- (1) You must not stop your vehicle in a taxi rank indicated by a sign like **Figure 19 in Schedule-VII**, unless your vehicle is a taxi.
- (2) You must not park a vehicle in a bus zone indicated by a sign like Fig. 20 in Schedule-VII, unless your vehicle is a bus.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**49. Areas where you must not park vehicle**

- i) you must not park a vehicle, other than a bicycle, on a footpath unless the Authority permits it.
- ii) you must not park a vehicle along an express way or two lane road.
- iii) between another vehicle and the centre of the road;

- iv) blocking a footpath, lane-way or private driveway, or so close to it as to get in the way of other vehicles that may go in or out;
- v) besides an excavation or obstruction on a road, if the vehicle would get in the way of other traffic;
- vi) On a bridge or other elevated structure.
- vii) blind curves and on the road side of built up area except at a designated parking provided.

**Penalty: 20 units**

#### **50. Stopping entirely within a parking area or parking bay**

You must not stop a vehicle if it is partly inside and partly outside:

- a) the area to which a parking sign applies; or
- b) a single parking bay.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

#### **51. Position of stationary vehicles on roads**

(1) You must not park a vehicle on a road, unless it is:

- a) facing the same direction as the traffic, parallel and as near as practicable to the left edge of the road on a two-way road, or either edge of the road on a one-way road.
- b) at least 1 metre from any vehicle in front or behind; and
- c) placed so that it does not unduly obstruct vehicles travelling along the road.

(2) Despite sub-regulation (1), your vehicle does not have to be parked parallel to the edge of the road if you park it in an area where angle parking is allowed or required;

(3) If you park a two-wheeler next to the edge of the road, it must have at least one wheel as near as practicable to that edge.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

**52. Angle parking**

- (1) If you stop or park your vehicle where there is a sign like **Figure 21 in Schedule-VII** marked **ANGLE PARKING or ANGLE**, you must position your vehicle so that the angle between the side of the vehicle and the edge of the road is, as nearly as possible, the angle indicated on the sign or road marking.
- (2) If no angle is indicated on the sign or road markings you must position your vehicle so that there is an angle of approximately 45 degrees between its side and the edge of the road.
- (3) If you stop or park your vehicle in an area to which a parking sign applies where there is a sign marked **ANGLE PARKING OR ANGLE**, you must stop or park with the front of the vehicle nearest the edge of the road.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

**53. Parking areas with signs referring to meters or tickets**

If you stop or park your vehicle in an area to which a parking sign applies or where a sign like Fig 22 in Schedule-VII refers to a meter, you must obey any instructions on the sign or meter.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

**54. Leaving motor vehicles unattended**

You must not leave a motor vehicle unattended without first making sure that:

- (a) the engine is switched off, and the starting key is removed from the ignition switch;
- (b) the parking brake has been applied effectively; and
- (c) the vehicle is locked, if practicable .

**Penalty: 12 units**

**PART-10: LIGHTS AND WARNING DEVICES ON VEHICLES**

**55. Use of lights when driving or riding at night**

- (1) You must not drive or ride a vehicle at night unless you use whichever of the following lights as required by the Registration and Licensing Regulations to be fitted to the vehicle:

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- (a) headlights;
  - (b) tail lights;
  - (c) number plate lights;
- (2) You may tow a vehicle at night if it has operating red lights attached to the rear.

**Penalty: 12 units**

### **56. Use of lights on high beam**

- (1) If the headlights on your vehicle are in the high beam position at night, you must put them in the low beam position if an approaching vehicle comes within 200 metres.
- (2) You must keep the headlights of your vehicle in the low beam position until the approaching vehicle has passed
- (3) If the headlights on your vehicle are in the high beam position, you must put them in the low beam position if you are driving or riding behind a moving vehicle that is less than 200 metres away.
- (4) You may flash your vehicle's headlights briefly from the low beam position to the high beam position to provide a warning to the driver or rider of the vehicle in front of you in the opposite direction.
- (5) You must always keep the head lights of your vehicle in low beam position while driving in city/town area.

**Penalty: 12 units**

### **57. Display of dazzling lights on vehicles**

You must not use a light on your vehicle in a way that is likely to dazzle the driver or riders of other vehicles.

**Penalty: 11 units**



**58. Use of lights on stationary vehicles**

- (1) If you stop or park a vehicle that is 2.2 metres wide or more on a road at night, you must make sure that lights are switched on to warn other persons of the presence and size of the vehicle.
- (2) Sub-regulation (1) does not apply if street lighting makes the vehicle visible from at least 200 metres.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**59. Use of warning systems on buses and hazard warning lights**

- (1) If your vehicle is fitted with hazard warning lights, you must switch them on if you have stopped your vehicle in a position that creates a hazard for other road users; or
- (2) You must not switch on your hazard warning lights if your vehicle is moving, unless it is moving slowly and creating a hazard.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**60. Use of horns and similar warning devices**

- (1) You must not use or allow a horn or a similar warning device except when necessary or desirable to give a warning to other road or footpath users.
- (2) A driver while driving on a public road must ensure that the vehicle does not create undue noise either by way of excessive acceleration of the vehicles engine while in a stationary position or using the horn indiscriminately and repeatedly, in a manner that is likely to disturb the neighbourhood.

**Penalty: 12 units**

- (3) You must use horn when facing a sign like Figure 23 in Schedule 5.

**Penalty: 14 units**

**PART-11: SPECIAL RULES APPLYING TO PEDESTRIANS**

**61. Application of this Part**

This part applies to you if you are a pedestrian.

**62. Moving into the path of vehicles**

You must not put yourself or anyone else in danger by moving into the path of an oncoming vehicle.

**Penalty: 2 units**

**63. Prohibited crossing places on roads**

You must not cross a road if there is a pedestrian crossing within 20 metres.

**Penalty: 2 units**

**64. Duties of pedestrians crossing roads**

You must cross the road by the shortest and most direct route practicable.

**Penalty: 2 units**

**65. Standing or remaining on roads**

You must not obstruct traffic by unreasonably remaining on a road.

**Penalty: 2 units**

**66. Pedestrians travelling on roads**

- (1) You must not travel on a road if there is a footpath that is practicable for you to use.
- (2) If you are travelling on a road, you must travel as close as is practicable to the edge of the road.
- (3) You must not travel more than two abreast on a road.

**Penalty: 2 units**

**67. Moving vehicles**

You must not attempt to get on a moving vehicle

**Penalty: 14 units**

**68. Accident due to carelessness of a pedestrian**

For the purpose of determining compensation for a person who dies, becomes disabled or sustains injury due to his own carelessness or otherwise, shall depend on the verdict of court.

**PART-12: SPECIAL RULES APPLYING TO THE OCCUPANTS OF VEHICLES**

**69. Application of this part**

This Part applies to you if you are the driver, rider, passenger or occupant of a motor vehicle.

**70. Wearing a seatbelt**

If you are the driver of or passenger in, a moving motor vehicle other than a motor cycle, you shall wear a seatbelt that is properly adjusted and fastened if one is fitted to the seat you are in.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**71. Keeping entirely inside a motor vehicle**

You shall not:

- (a) Travel on the outside of a motor vehicle, except a motor cycle;
- (b) Put part of your body outside a window or door of a motor vehicle; or
- (c) Drive a vehicle if a person in or on the vehicle is contravening this regulation;

**Penalty: 12 units**

**72. Opening doors and getting out of a vehicle**

- (1) If it is likely to cause injury to a person or damage to any vehicle, you must not:
  - (a) open or leave open a door of a vehicle; or
  - (b) get off, or get out of, a vehicle.
- (2) You must not drive a bus in motion while a door of the bus is open.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**73. Helmets for two-wheeler riders and passengers**

- (1) If:
  - (a) You are riding a two-wheeler; or
  - (b) You are a pillion passenger on a two-wheeler you must wear on your head a securely fitted protective helmet that has been approved by the Authority.
- (2) If you are riding a two-wheeler you must make sure that any pillion passenger is wearing on his or her head a securely fitted protective helmet.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**74. Position of passengers on two-wheelers**

- (1) If you are a passenger on a two-wheeler, you must sit astride and facing forward on a pillion seat behind the driver's seat.
- (2) You must not travel as a pillion passenger on a motor bike unless it has footrests suitable for your use, and you are using them.
- (3) You must not ride a two-wheeler with more than one pillion passenger, or if a passenger is not complying with sub-regulations (1) or (2).
- (4) You must not ride two-wheeler carrying a child on your lap/back and in front of the rider

**Penalty: 14 units**

**75. Control of vehicles and visibility**

- (1) A driver of a vehicle shall:
  - (a) have proper control of it and a full view of the road and traffic ahead and to each side of you.
  - (b) make sure that you have adjusted a rear vision mirror or other device to get a clear view of the road and traffic behind you.

- (2) not use cell phone/hand-set phone while driving.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**76. Interfering with the driver's control of a vehicle**

If you are a passenger in or on a vehicle, you must not interfere with the driver's control of the vehicle or unreasonably obstruct his or her view of the road or traffic.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**77. Riding in a trailer**

You must not ride or drive a vehicle that is towing a trailer with a person on or in it unless:

- (a) The trailer is being towed by a tractor which is travelling at no more than 25 km/h.
- (b) the Authority has exempted the trailer from this requirement by notice in writing given to the owner of the trailer.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**PART 13: MISCELLANEOUS ROAD RULES**

**Division 1: Rules for enforcement agencies; and drivers and riders of vehicles**

**78. Duty of a driver in the event of an accident**

- (1) If you are the driver of a vehicle involved in an accident in which:
  - a) person is killed or injured or might be injured;
  - b) any property is damaged;

You must as soon as practicable after the accident give:

- a) Your name and address; and
- b) the name and address of the owner of the vehicle;
- c) the registered number of the vehicle;

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to:

- (a) every person injured, or their representative; and
  - (b) the owner of any property damaged if they are present;
- (2) If you are the driver or rider of a vehicle involved in an accident:
- (a) in which a person is killed or injured; or
  - (b) in which any driver or rider has failed to give information as provided in Section (1); or
  - (c) in which any vehicle is towed away or carried away on another vehicle; or
  - (d) where the Authority requires all accidents to be reported,

You must as soon as is practicable report or arrange to report full particulars of the accident to the nearest open police station or the office of the Authority unless a member of the police force has already taken those particulars at the scene of the accident.

### **Penalty: 30 units**

- (3) If you are the driver or person in-charge of the vehicle:
- (a) you should take all reasonable steps to evacuate any injured persons who require medical treatment;
  - (b) the vehicle(s) involved in any accident should not be removed from site where the accident occurred until such time an investigation is conducted by a member of the police force or any authorised officer, unless it is necessary to move the vehicle(s) to save human life or property.

### **Penalty: 20 units**

## **79. Hit and Run**

A person shall not flee from the crash/incident scene without informing the police or the Authority.

### **Penalty: 50 units**

## **80. Accident Reporting System**

- 1) In the event of a motor vehicle accident, the Traffic Division of Royal Bhutan Police shall take the lead role in the rescue operation.
- 2) Motor vehicle accidents involving a commercial passenger vehicle shall be subject to joint investigation by representatives of Traffic Division of Royal Bhutan Police and the Authority
- 3) The team shall submit first hand accident report to the head of their organisations immediately and the detailed report within 7 days of the accident or earlier
- 4) In all other cases not involving commercial passenger vehicles referred under subsection (2), the Traffic units of Royal Bhutan Police shall submit details of every accident case on a monthly basis to the Head quarter of Traffic Division and the Headquarter of Traffic Division shall share the report with the Authority.
- 5) All insurance claims after an accident shall be based on certification by the Traffic Police.

## **81. Driving a vehicle in an area other than a road**

- (1) You must not drive a vehicle unless:
  - (a) you are driving on a part of one of those areas that is built for vehicles to cross; or
  - (b) you are entering or leaving land adjoining a road by the shortest practicable route and no vehicle crossing is available.

**Penalty: 12 units.**

## **82. Removing a hazardous substance from the road**

If you are the driver of a vehicle from which any material that might cause injury to any person or damage to any vehicle or might obstruct traffic, is thrown, dropped, placed, or left upon any road, you shall ensure that the material is removed as soon as practicable.

**Penalty: 11 units**

## **83. Towing or transporting a vehicle/machinery**

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- (1) You must not drive or ride a vehicle that is towing another vehicle if the size, weight, or loading of the towed vehicle is such that you cannot safely control both vehicles
- (2) You must not tow a motor vehicle unless a person who is licensed to drive the towed vehicle is in charge of it and can safely control it.
- (3) You must not tow another motor vehicle connected to the towing vehicle by a chain, rope, fabric strap, or wire unless the space between the two vehicles is no more than four metres, or if either vehicle is a motor cycle, 2.5 metres.

***(4) You must not ride in a vehicle/machinery that is being transported or towed.***

**Penalty: 12 units**

### **84. Insecure or over-hanging loads**

#### **(1) Heavy Vehicle**

- (i) You must not drive, ride, or tow a vehicle with a load that is not adequately restrained, or with a load that is hanging or projecting in a hazardous manner from the vehicle.
- (ii) Maximum height of the load should be up to cabin level of the vehicle and not exceeding it, subject to loading capacity as specified in Schedule II.

#### **(2) Light Vehicles**

- (i) The laden and un-laden weight should not exceed the gross vehicle weight and the height of load should not exceed 30 cm above the carrier.
- (ii) The load volume of the pickup shall not exceed 30 cm above the cabin level but within the gross vehicle weight
- (iii) The authorized person may direct such vehicles for weighing and shall produce officially printed results.
- (iv) Vehicles shall not carry loads protruding outside the body in excess of its length.

**Penalty: 13 units**

### **85. Driving a motor vehicle in reverse**

You must not drive a motor vehicle in reverse unless:

- (a) You do so only for a reasonable distance; and
- (b) You can do so safely.



**Penalty: 12 units**

**86. Obscene letters and graffiti on vehicle body or part**

Writing of obscene letters and graffiti on the body of vehicles shall not be allowed.

**87. Bill boards, banners and stickers on vehicle body**

Display of billboard, banners and stickers on the vehicle body shall not be allowed except for the company name and logo.

**Penalty: 12 units**

**Division 2 Part -I: Rules for people in charge of animals and stray animals**

**88. Owners of animals to be responsible for their animals**

Owners of animals shall not release animals freely in built up areas and highways.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**Part –II: Rules for vehicles carrying hazardous goods**

**89. Movement and entry timing for vehicles carrying hazardous goods**

The movement and timing for entry into built up areas/towns/cities of vehicles carrying hazardous goods<sup>2</sup> shall be regulated and closely monitored by the Authority and Traffic Police. Such vehicles shall also be provided separate parking areas and stop points by the Municipality or Authority.

**Penalty: 20 units**

**Part –III: Rules for people riding bicycles**

**90. Bicycle riders shall abide by the following rules:**

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<sup>2</sup>Hazardous goods include explosives, fuel, gas, detonators, poisonous goods etc.

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- a) As far as practicable, bicycle riders must ride on the bicycle lanes wherever it is provided. If lanes are not provided or marked, you must ride as far as practicable, on the left edge of the road.
- b) The Bicycle riders must wear reflective gear between dusk and dawn to make sure you can be seen in car headlights. Bicycle riders must wear bright colored clothing to be easily seen by motorists.
- c) Bicycle riders shall park their bikes at designated bicycle parking only and not along footpaths or the road.
- d) Shall always wear a bicycle helmet firmly buckled with the chin strap.
- e) Shall not ride bi-cycles in restricted areas.
- f) Cyclists must not ride without holding the handlebars with at least one hand, must not allow themselves to be towed by another vehicle, and must not carry, tow, or push objects which hamper their cycling or endanger other road users.
- g) Cyclists must keep to the left of the carriageway and give an appropriate arm signal when they wish to turn.
- h) Two or more cyclists must not ride side by side.
- i) When walking and pushing their bicycles on foot, Cyclists shall be classified as pedestrians and abide by using pedestrian footpath.
- j) Cyclists shall remain as far to the side of the roadway as practicable in the normal direction of travel, but place themselves in a 'primary position' when deciding to make a turn.
- k) Cyclists shall not leave their cycle blocking a path.
- l) Cyclist shall maintain a safe distance while overtaking another cyclist or motorist.
- m) Shall obey all traffic rules

### **91. Cycle specifications**

Cycle shall:

- a) Have an efficient brake,
- b) Be equipped with a bell capable of being heard at a sufficient distance, and carry no other audible warning device, and
- c) Be equipped with a red reflecting device at the rear, and devices ensuring that the bicycle can show a white or yellow light at the front.

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Other requirements shall include:

- i) Orange pedal reflectors visible from the front and rear, and
- ii) Wearing reflective materials that are visible both at the front and rear of the Clothing.
- iii) Safety helmet with straps

### **92. Age requirement**

The minimum age requirement for a person to cycle in the urban areas and highways shall be 16 years of age. This age requirement will not be applicable for children cycling in private premises.

### **93. DOs and Don'ts**

#### **(i) DOs**

- a) keep sufficient gap when cycling behind a motor vehicle in slow moving traffic
- b) take extra care on wet or icy roads or when it is windy
- c) use your bell as a warning device only
- d) take extra care and look well ahead for uneven road surfaces, drains and others
- e) allow extra space when overtaking parked vehicles as the doors may open suddenly

#### **(ii) Don'ts:**

##### **Don't**

- a) ever hold on to or lean against stationary vehicles
- b) ever weave in and out of moving traffic
- c) ever carry a passenger unless your bicycle has been built or specially adapted to carry one
- d) ever use a personal entertainment system when cycling
- e) ever use a mobile phone while cycling
- f) ever ride on or across a footpath.

### **94. PENALTIES**

Non-compliance to the above Rules and Regulations shall be penalized as follows:

<b>Sl#</b>	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Penalty Unit/Amount</b>
1	Riding without a Helmet	15 Units/ Nu.750
2	Bicycle not complying to the set standards	15 Units/Nu.750
3	Under aged children riding a bicycle in urban areas and highways.	30 Units/Nu.

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		1500
4	Riding a bicycle in urban areas under the influence of alcohol	35 Units/Nu.1750
5	Parking a bicycle in wrong areas	11 Units/Nu.550
6	Not wearing bright colored clothing or jacket	15 Units/Nu.750
7	Cycle without warning bell	15 Units/Nu.750
8	Using mobile phone while riding the cycle	20 Units/Nu.1000

***95. Accident between motor vehicle and bi-cycle***

An accident between a motor vehicle and a bi-cycle shall be deemed at par with any other motor vehicle accident.

## **CHAPTER- 4: ENFORCEMENT MECHANISMS**

### **1. Purpose of the Regulations**

The Purpose of the Regulations is to:

- (a) set down the procedures for the use of alcohol testing devices, speed measuring devices, and portable weighing devices;
- (b) establish the procedures for the issue of Transport Infringement Notices;
- (c) establish safe hours of driving for drivers of medium and heavy vehicles in the course of trade or business;
- (d) Establish procedures for enforcement of these regulations

### **2. Parts**

These Regulations are divided into the following parts:

Part-1 Testing, Measuring and Weighing Devices

Part 2: Transport Infringement Notices

Part 3: Hours of Driving

## **PART-1: TESTING, MEASURING AND WEIGHING DEVICES**

### **Division-1: Alcohol Testing Device**

#### **3. Alcohol testing devices**

- (1) Any standard alcohol testing device may be used by the authorized person to detect alcohol content in the blood of the person, breath or urine accurately

Any person refusing to undergo alcohol test shall be considered as having exceeded the permissible limit by default

**Penalty: 35 units**

#### **4. Proper use of device**

An authorized person or a police officer must use an alcohol – testing device in accordance with the manufacturers' specifications and Regulation 4.

#### **Division-2: Speed Measuring Device**

##### **5. Speed measuring device**

Any measuring device, which may be used for testing a vehicle speed accurately;

##### **6. Noise measuring device**

Any measuring device, which may be used for measuring the noise level of the vehicle accurately;

##### **7. Testing of speed measuring device**

(1) The test of a device must establish the speed computing components of the device and:

- (a) that it complies with the manufacturer's circuit design; and
- (b) that it is in a properly maintained electrical condition.

(2) The tests of a device must establish that it is properly calibrated.

(3) The testing officer must record and retain the results of the test, including:

- (a) the speed at which the calibration was effected and the number of times at each speed the calibration was effected; and
- (b) the date the test was made and the ambient temperature at the time of the test.

(4) The testing officer must seal a device that passes the test to prevent any interference with it.

If a device is repaired or altered it must be tested and sealed again.

##### **8. Sealing of speed measuring device**

(3) The testing officer must seal the device if the test confirms that:

- (a) the circuit complies with the manufacturer's circuit design; and
- (b) the device is in a satisfactory electrical condition; and

- (c) the frequencies generated at the calibration point, indicate speed readings within a limit of error of plus or minus 5 kilometres per hour.

## **9. Use of speed measuring device**

An authorized person or a police officer must not use the device:

- (a) contrary to the manufacturers specifications; or
- (b) if it has not been tested as set out in the Regulations.

## **Division-3: Fixed and Portable weighing device**

### **10. Definition**

**‘Portable Weighing Device’** means a portable mechanical or electrical device used for measuring the weight of a motor vehicle or luggage.

**‘Testing Officer’** has the same meaning as set out in Regulation 6.

**‘Fixed weighing device’** means mechanical or electronic/electrical device which is fixed on the ground used for measuring the weight of the motor vehicle or luggage

### **11. Testing of portable weighing device**

- (1) The loads applied for the purpose of testing a weighing device must be one ton or more.
  - (2) Under sub-regulation (1), there is a maximum allowable limit of error of plus or minus 2 percent.
  - (3) A portable weighing device must be tested and sealed by the testing officer.
- 6. If a portable weighing device is repaired or altered the device must be tested and sealed again.
  - 7. The Authority or the implementing agency should be equipped with the appropriate weighing device;

### **12. Portable weighing devices must be sealed**

The testing officer must seal a portable-weighing device, which passes the test to prevent interference with the mechanism or circuitry of the device without breaking the seal.

**13. Use of a portable weighing device**

- (1) An authorized person or a police officer must not use a portable weighing device:
  - (a) contrary to the manufacturers specifications; or
  - (b) if it has not been tested as set out in these Regulations;
- (2) To ascertain the weight carried on an axle with a portable weighing device, the device must be placed under each of any two tyres on the axle so that the whole weight borne by the axle is borne by the devices;
- (3) The sum of the readings indicated by each of the devices taken while the axle load is bearing on the devices is to be taken to be weight carried on the axle;
- (4) The sum of the reading for each axle weighed is taken to be the gross vehicle weight.

**14. Records of tests**

- (1) The Testing officer must keep records of all portable-weighing devices tested and sealed as follows:
  - (a) the identifying number of each device;
  - (b) the date on which the test was conducted;
  - (c) the result of the test; and
  - (d) the signature of the person who conducted the test.

**15. Interference with portable weighing device**

A person must not, without proper authority, wilfully interfere with the mechanism or circuitry of a portable weighing device or the seal affixed to a device.

**Penalty: 15 units**

**PART-2 (a): TRANSPORT INFRINGEMENT NOTICE (TIN)**

**16. Application of Part**

This part applies to drivers of motor vehicles, passengers, and pedestrians



## **17. Definition**

‘**Notice**’ means Transport Infringement Notice for offences related to all nature arising out of the use or as a result of the use of a motor vehicle.

## **18. Penalties for transport infringement**

The penalty for a transport infringement is set out opposite the short description of the infringement in Schedule 6.

## **19. Service of notice**

- (1) The authorised person or a police officer may serve an infringement notice by:
  - (a) Personally handing it over to the person committing an offence; or
  - (b) Enclosing it in an envelope and fixing it to the vehicle with adhesive tape, in case of a parking offence.
- (2) While serving a notice under sub-section (1), the authorised person or a police personnel may take possession of the driving licence or the registration certificate from the person committing an offence and release only after the penalty has been paid.
- (3) In the event of the driver not in possession of any vehicle document, the authorised person or the police personnel must ground the vehicle at the nearest police station or the office of the Authority and release it only on production of document(s) and payment of relevant penalty.
- (b) The authorised person or police personnel must serve the notice to the person driving the vehicle, on the spot.

## **20. Form of infringement notice**

- (1) A notice must refer to the fact that:
  - (a) it is a notice for traffic infringement; or
  - (b) it is a notice for parking infringement; or
  - (c) it is a notice for other infringement not included under (a) and (b)

- (2) A notice must contain:
  - (a) the date on which the notice is issued;
  - (b) the number of the notice;
  - (c) the name and address of the person alleged to or have committed the infringement.
  - (d) the date and approximate time and place of commission of the infringement; and
  - (e) the registration number and type of the motor vehicle;
  - (f) a brief description of the kind of infringement alleged to have been committed
  - (g) clear instructions for payment of penalty;
  - (h) a statement to the effect that if the amount of penalty is not paid on time as indicated in the notice, an additional penalty of 15 units shall be imposed every week up to period of 4 weeks, thereafter the matter shall be forwarded to the Traffic disciplinary Committee.
  - (i) the fact referred under sub-section 22(2); and
  - (j) the name and position of the police personnel or the authorized person issuing the notice.
- (3) In Schedule 6, the description of an offence is taken to be proper description of the Regulations or the provision of the Act relating to the offence.

**21. Procedure for recording of offences and forwarding of documents after issuance of Transport Infringement Notice**

1. The officials of Authority or Police issuing the Transport Infringement Notice shall update the records in the system within 24 hours
2. In absence of ICT facilities, the officials of the police shall forward the list of Transport Infringement Notice issued to the nearest Authority's office for update
3. The police shall forward the seized documents to the Authority if defaulters fail to claim the documents within seven days of seizure

## **22. Payment of penalty**

Payment of penalty may be made by delivering the amount at the address specified as the address for payment of the penalty within seven working days.

**Penalty: 15 units per week**

## **Part-2 (b): REGULATIONS FOR TRAFFIC DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE**

### **23. Traffic Disciplinary Committee**

The Authority shall institute Traffic Disciplinary Committee at two levels:

- (i) Authority level, chaired by the Head of the Department; and
- (ii) Regional Level, chaired by the Head of the Regional Transport Office

### **24. Constitution of the Committee**

Each committee shall consist of at least five members and shall include a representative from the Traffic Police.

### **25. Powers and functions of the Traffic Disciplinary Committee**

- i) The Committee shall review cases involving major traffic offences and impose penalty which may include punching offence hole(s) on the license, suspension and cancellation;
- ii) The Committee shall obtain a statement of fact in writing from the offender to establish the fact on the case under review;
- iii) The period of suspension of a license shall be six months or as may be determined by the Court of Law for cases referred to the Court;
- iv) The Committee shall review the cases received for appeals and may alter or overrule any earlier decisions taken thereof;
- v) The Authority-level Committee may reprimand the enforcing officials in the event that:
  - (a) The official(s) has forwarded the case without sound judgement;

- (b) The official reissues a license under suspension, without prior approval of the Committee.

## **26. Frequency of Committee Meeting**

The Committee shall meet once in a month or as may be required based on the receipt of cases requiring Committee's review.

## **27. Grievance Redressal Mechanism**

The Authority-level committee may accept and review:

- i) Cases forwarded by the Regional-Level Committee;
- ii) Any appeals made by the offenders against the decision taken by the Regional-Level Committee;
- iii) Any appeals against the decision of the Regional-Level committee submitted in writing within 10(ten) days.

## **28. Road safety Education Programs for Drivers' behavioural Change**

The Authority may:

- i) subject the offenders of traffic rules to undergo road safety educational programs aimed at behavioural improvement;
- ii) issue a certificate as testimony of attendance to such educational programs;
- iii) require the offenders to produce the certificate of attendance referred under (ii) above as one of the requirements for re-issuance of the license which has been either punched or suspended.

## **29. Alteration of the Committee's decision**

- i) The alteration of committee's decision shall mean lifting of the suspension imposed, or reinstatement of the offence holes punched on the ordinary license, or both;
- ii) For reinstatement of each offence hole, the review period shall be one year from the date of earlier decision taken by the committee;
- iii) A Regional-level committee may alter its previous decisions if the offender:

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- a) has displayed sustained improvement of his/her driving behaviour;
  - b) has not committed any traffic rule violation during the review period;
  - c) has attended the road safety educational program organized by the Authority;
  - d) has made an appeal for review of the decision after the review period;
  - e) is within the age limit prescribed for the vehicle type for which the license is held;
  - f) has submitted a medical fitness certificate for driving, in case his/her license was suspended against offences related to drink driving or driving under the influence of drugs.
- iv) The Authority-level Committee may alter its previous decisions or any decision taken by the Regional –level Committee if:
- a) in its opinion, the decision taken by the Regional –level committee was biased and not based on sound judgement;
  - b) the decision was so taken without fulfilling the requirements set out in the Act and the Regulations;
  - c) the offender has fulfilled all the requirements specified under 7 i) a,b,c,d,e, and f under (iii) above;
  - d) the minimum review period of 12 months for ordinary license has been fulfilled.
- v) Professional Driving License holders shall not be eligible for re-instatement after three offence punches.
- vi) Any person holding Professional Driving License found driving personal vehicle under the influence of alcohol shall be penalized for under Professional License Category in Schedule – X.
- vii) Any person found driving under the influence of drugs and Psychotropic substance shall be penalized as per provisions of the Penal Code of Bhutan.

### **i. Categorization of serious offences**

Serious offences requiring committee's review and decision shall be as specified under schedule –X

**Schedule-X: Schedule of major offences and penalties to be imposed by the Traffic Disciplinary Committees**

Sl#	Description of Offence	Penalty in addition to indemnification for the damage caused	
		Ordinary License	Professional License
1	dangerous driving resulting into death or permanent disability	As per Provisions under Penal Code of Bhutan (2000) or as determined by the Court of Law or a penalty of 50 units or both	As per Provisions under Penal Code of Bhutan (2000) or as determined by the Court of Law or a penalty of 50 units or both
2	dangerous driving resulting in damage of private or public property	One punch hole besides payment of compensation for the damage caused	One punch hole besides payment of compensation for the damage caused
3	Hit and Run resulting in death or permanent disability	As per Provisions under Penal Code of Bhutan (2000) or as determined by the Court of Law or a penalty of 50 units or both	As per Provisions under Penal Code of Bhutan (2000) or as determined by the Court of Law or a penalty of 50 units or both
4	Hit and Run resulting in damage to public or private property	One punch hole besides payment of compensation for the damage caused	One punch hole besides payment of compensation for the damage caused
<b>Penalty for any offences from Sl# 5 to 13 shall be as follows</b>			
		1 <sup>st</sup> Offence- monetary	1 <sup>st</sup> Offence- monetary
5	Over Speeding	penalty units from Schedule	penalty units from Schedule
6	Dangerous Over Taking	of fines and penalties;	of fines and penalties and
7	Entering one way traffic	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offence: Punch one hole	One Punch;
8	Wrong/Dangerous overtaking	on Driving License and	2 <sup>nd</sup> Offence: Punch one
9	Carrying Excess load/Passengers	Monetary Penalty	additional offence hole on
10	Carrying non detachable and protruding load without approval from the Authority	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offence: Punch 2 holes on driving License and Monetary Penalty	Driving License and Monetary Penalty
11	Using hand held mobile phones while driving	4 <sup>th</sup> Offence: Punch three holes and suspend license for 6 months. Penalty 35 units	3 <sup>rd</sup> Offence: Suspend License for 6 months with two punch holes
12	Aggressive driving/dangerous driving		

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13	Driving under influence of alcohol / drink driving	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Offence:</b> Monetary Penalty units from the Schedule of fines and Penalties in the Road Safety and Transport Regulations <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:</b> <i>Punch One Hole on the Driving License and Monetary Penalty</i> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Offence:</b> <i>Punch Two Holes on the Driving License and Monetary Penalty</i> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Offence:</b> <i>Suspend the license for six months with the two punch holes.</i> <b>5<sup>th</sup> Offence:</b> <i>Cancel Driving License</i>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Offence:</b> Monetary Penalty plus one punch hole on the Driving License <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:</b> Punch One additional Hole plus impose monetary penalty <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Offence:</b> Suspend License for Six Months with monetary penalty <b>4<sup>th</sup> Offence:</b> Punch Three Holes and Cancel Driving License
14	<b>Unlicensed driving</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Offence:</b> Monetary Penalty (35units) from the Schedule of fines and Penalties in the Road Safety and Transport Regulations <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Offence:</b> penalty 70 units <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Offence:</b> penalty 105 units <b>4<sup>th</sup> Offence:</b> forward case to police for charge sheeting to court	

### **PART-3: HOURS OF DRIVING**

#### **30. Hours of driving**

- (1) For the purpose of this part, in calculating the hours of driving:
  - (i) any driving of a passenger transport vehicle, whether inside or outside Bhutan is counted;
  - (ii) any two or more periods of time are counted as a continuous period unless separated by an interval of not less than 30 minutes during which the driver is able to obtain rest and refreshment; and
- (c) the following time is counted as part of the time spent in driving:

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- (i) Any time spent by the driver on or in a passenger transport vehicle, whether or not the driver was sleeping or resting;
- (ii) any time spent by the driver on any work connected with a passenger transport vehicle or the load carried on it;

### **31. Restriction on period of driving or distance**

- (1) A driver of a passenger transport vehicle, at any time, shall not drive such a motor vehicle for a continuous period exceeding 8 hours.
- (2) The license holder of a passenger transport vehicle must keep a stand-by driver for a journey that is likely to take more than 8 hours.

**Penalty: 30 units**

### **32. Other Offences**

A person must not allow or employ another person to drive a passenger transport vehicle other than in accordance with this part.



**SCHEDULE-VI: TRANSPORT INFRINGEMENT**

Sl#	Brief description of offences	Penalty Unit	Penalty Amount (in Nu.)
1	<b>Speeding</b> Exceeding any speed limit	35	1750
2	<b>Failing to give way</b> Fail to give way to pedestrian on designated areas	14	700
3	Fail to give way in other areas	14	700
4	Fail to give right of way to police or emergency vehicles	16	800
5	<b>Keeping left</b> Fail to keep left of the on-coming vehicle	12	600
6	Fail to keep left of centre	12	600
7	Fail to keep as far left as practicable	12	600
8	Diverge when unsafe	14	700
9	Not stopping to give way to a vehicle coming up-hill	15	750
10	Pass to the right of right turning vehicle	12	600
11	<b>Overtaking</b> Overtake vehicle from the left or unsafe distance	12	600
12	Increase speed or fail to move to the left when being overtaken	12	600
13	Disobeying “No overtaking” signs	14	700
14	Moving directly in front of the other vehicle after overtaking	12	600
15	<b>Signalling</b> Fail to give signal	12	600
16	Fail to cancel a wrong signal or incorrectly operating signal	12	600
17	Not giving way to a moving vehicle while coming	14	700

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	out of a stationery position		
18	<b>Turning</b> Perform unsafe ‘U’ turn	12	600
19	Making incorrect left or right turn	12	600
20	Disobeying the “one way only” sign	14	700
21	<b>Lighting</b> Fail to have head lights and tail lights <b>ON</b> at night	12	600
22	Fail to have all other prescribed lights <b>ON</b> at night or driving with any of the prescribed lights damaged	12	600
23	Brake and signal lights not in working condition	15	750
24	Lighting system not clean or obscures the vision	15	750
25	Display of dazzling lights on vehicle	11	550
26	<b>Insurance</b> Driving without a valid certificate of insurance		
	Passengers buses (including taxis)	35	1750
	Other heavy vehicles	20	1000
	Light vehicles	15	750
	Two Wheelers	12	600
27	Failing to produce Insurance Certificate on the spot	15	750
28	<b>Commercial vehicles (passenger buses/taxis)</b> Interfering with any equipment inside a vehicle without permission from the driver or the owner	25	1250
29	Carrying passenger in excess of the specified seating capacity (Penalty for each excess passenger)	20	1000
30	Driver not in proper dress or not behaving properly	14	700
31	Fail to display fare chart	25	1250

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32	Fail to display Professional Driving License	20	1000
33	Charging excess fare (per passenger)	20 +refund of excess fare	1000 plus refund of excess fare
34	Passenger not in possession of ticket	12	600
35	Fail to issue ticket to the passenger	20	1000
36	Charging excess luggage charge in case of passenger buses	10	500
37	Driving a passenger bus with passengers beyond the permissible driving hours or distance per trip	30	1500
<b>Parking</b>			
38	Not parking within designated parking Area	11	550
39	Parking in a no standing /no parking area	11	550
40	Causing undue obstruction as a result of wrong parking	11	550
41	Parking in front of private drive	11	550
42	Parking on foot path	11	550
43	Double parked	11	550
44	Stopping/parking in the middle of the road	11	550
45	Unauthorized parking in the reserved parking area	11	550
<b>Pedestrian</b>			
46	Move in to the path of vehicle	2	100
47	Alight from or board moving vehicle	2	100
48	Remaining or standing on the road carriage way	2	100
<b>Safety</b>			
49	Ride two wheeler without helmet or with passenger without helmet	15	750
50	Ride 2-wheeler with a passenger/load not securely seated/placed in a side car or a pillion seat	15	750
51	Open door or alight from vehicle to impede traffic or endanger other person	15	750
52	Drive or travel with any part of the body	11	550

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	protruding		
53	Drink/Drunk driving	35	1750
54	Refusal to hand-over the key or vehicle document to authorized person when found to be driving under the influence of alcohol	25	1250
55	Faulty tyres (passenger buses and taxi)	30	1500
56	Vehicle door open while in motion (buses and taxis)	20	1000
57	No fire extinguisher or fire extinguisher not working condition (in case of passenger buses)	12	600
58	Driving on neutral gear	16	800
59	Using mobile/handset phone while driving	20	1000
60	Not wearing seat belts	12	600
61	Spilling gravels, sand, oils and dangerous materials along the road.	20	1000
62	Hit and Run	50	2500
63	Reckless driving	35	1750
64	Fail to remove accident/damaged vehicle from the road	20	1000
65	Fail to install safety equipment in passenger buses (such as fire extinguisher, first aid box etc.)	20	1000
66	Frequent stopping of passenger buses at unauthorized locations along the highway	20	1000
67	Driving with children or animal on the lap	25	1250
68	Using vehicles with tinted windshield and front door glasses	25	1250
<b>Over-loading</b>			
69	Exceeding weight limits (per extra MT)	30	1500
70	In-secured load	20	1000
71	Fail to display weight information of the vehicle	15	750
72	Refusal to obey the instructions to get the load weighed	25	1250
73	Refusal to remove part of the load with which the vehicle is over loaded	30	1500
<b>Environment</b>			
74	Washing vehicles on road side Brookes/streams and rivers	10	500

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75	Littering along the road	20	1000
76	Emitting excessive smoke by the vehicles	20	1000
77	Excessive noise from the engine or unnecessary horn	30	1500
78	Fail to produce emission test certificate/fail to do emission test.	30	1500
79	Invalid emission test certificate	20	1000
80	Fail to produce emission certificate on the spot	15	750
<b>Driving licence</b>			
81	Unlicensed driving	35	1750
82	Not in possession of a driving license while driving	15	750
83	Refusal to produce license on demand	15	750
84	Fail to display “L” plates while learning to drive	20	1000
85	Learning to drive without a valid learner permit/license	15	750
86	Learner driver not accompanied by an experienced driver holding a valid license	20	1000
87	Driving a Taxi without a valid taxi-driving license (Professional Driving License).	35	1750
88	No learner license on the spot	10	500
<b>Registration and Fitness Related</b>			
89	Using unregistered vehicle	16	800
90	Not following the numbering and colour standards prescribed by the authority	15	750
91	Number plates obscured, not clearly distinguishable, covered, altered, defaced or not fixed	15	750
92	Registration or insurance label obscured, altered, defaced or not fixed	12	600
93	Driving a motor vehicle without a valid certificate of road worthiness (Fitness): Passenger Bus and Taxis	20	1000

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	Trucks and other Heavy Vehicles	15	750
	Light Vehicles	14	700
	Two Wheelers	12	600
94	No fitness/Road Worthiness certificate on the spot	15	750
95	Fail to produce registration certificate for inspection on the spot	15	750
96	Driving a vehicle with an invalid registration certificate	10	750
<b>Miscellaneous</b>			
97	Reverse when unsafe	12	600
98	Drive motor vehicle on footpath, bicycle path or reserved areas	12	600
99	Place or leave dangerous substance (including stones) on the road	12	600
100	Leave motor vehicle unattended with keys in ignition, brake not secured, wheels not turned in and with motor running	12	600
101	Follow too closely in a vehicle (Tailgating)	12	600
102	Fail to obey traffic instruction	14	700
103	Enter a blocked intersection or one that is likely to be blocked	11	550
104	Use, permit or allow the use of motor vehicle when prohibited by notice	16	800
105	Failure to pay the fine within the specified period of 7 days (penalty per week up-to a maximum period of 4 weeks).	15/week up to 4 weeks	750/week up to 4 weeks
106	Failure to pay penalty within four weeks after issue of TIN	15/week up to 4 weeks + 1 punch hole on Driving license	Punch 1 hole on the Driving License in addition to 4 weeks penalty
107	Unauthorized interference with other's vehicle	12	600
108	Use of horn in prohibited areas	14	700

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109	Repeated offence	20	1000
110	Charging an authorized person	20	1000
111	Blowing horns at odd hours and in residential areas	20	1000
112	Use of vacuum horn	20	1000
113	Private vehicles operating as commercial vehicles, i.e. carrying paid passengers like a taxi	35	1750
114	Smoking in a vehicle (per occasion)	10	500
115	Splashing water to side-walkers/pedestrians	20	1000

### **Standard Road and Traffic Signs**

#### **33. Mandatory or Regulatory Signs**

#### **34. Application of Regulatory Signs**

Regulatory signs shall be used to inform road users of selected traffic laws or regulations and indicate the applicability of the legal requirements. They are usually circular in shape.

Regulatory signs shall be installed at or near where the regulations apply. The signs shall clearly indicate the requirements imposed by the regulations and shall be designed and installed to provide adequate visibility and legibility in order to obtain compliance. Regulatory signs shall be retro reflective or illuminated to show the same shape and similar colour during day and night.

#### **35. Size of Regulatory Signs**

The sizes and colour for regulatory signs shall be as shown below:

- i. **All urban areas-** Radius-17" (diameter-34")
- ii. **All National highways:** Radius-20" (Diameter-40")
- iii. **Express ways:** Radius-22.5" (Diameter- 45")
- iv. **Colour:** White background with red border and black legend and red bars
- v. **Design:** Circular

**Note:** The minimum size may be used on low-speed roadways where the reduced legend size would be adequate for regulation or where physical conditions preclude the use of the other sizes.

The oversized size may be used for those special applications where speed, volume, or other factors result in conditions where increased emphasis, improved recognition, or increased legibility would be desirable.

Examples are as shown in figure-1,2,5,7,8,9 under schedule-VII.

### **36. Warning or Cautionary Signs**

These signs warn of dangerous or unusual conditions ahead such as curve, turn, dip or side road that might call for a reduction of speed or an action in the interest of safety and efficient traffic operations. They are usually triangular-shaped and have a white background with red border and black legend.

### **37. Application of warning or Cautionary Signs**

The use of Warning or Cautionary signs shall be based on an engineering study or engineering judgement. The use of warning signs should be kept to a minimum as the unnecessary use of Warning signs tend to breed disrespect for all signs.

### **38. Size of Warning Signs**

The size for warning signs shall be as shown below:

- a. **All urban roads-** 34"x34"x34"
- b. **All National highways:** 40"x40"x40"
- c. **Express ways:** 45"x45"x45"
- d. **Colour:** White background with red border and black legend
- e. **Design:** Triangular

Examples of Warning Signs are as shown in figures 27,28,29,30... in Schedule -VII

### **39. Information and Direction Signs**

These signs tell you about distance, destination and facilities or services along the road. They are usually rectangular with a blue background and white legend. The size of informatory and direction signs are given below:

- a) **All urban areas-**24"x36"
- b) **All National Highways:** 30"x40"



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- c) **Express ways:** 30"x40"
- d) **Colour:** Blue background with black or white legend
- e) **Design:** rectangular

Examples of common informatory and direction signs are as shown in figures 46,47,48,49,50... under Schedule -VII

**SCHEDULE- VII: Traffic Signs**



**Fig.1** Speed limit



**Fig.2** No 'U' Turn



**Fig.3** Stop sign



**Fig.4** Give Way



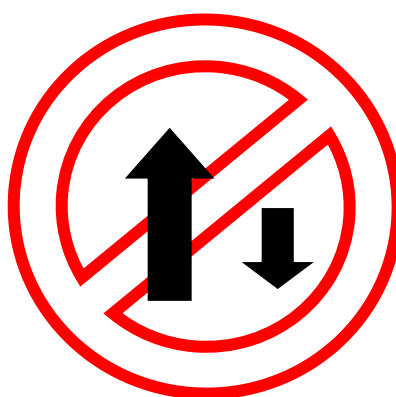
**Fig.5** Load (weight) restriction



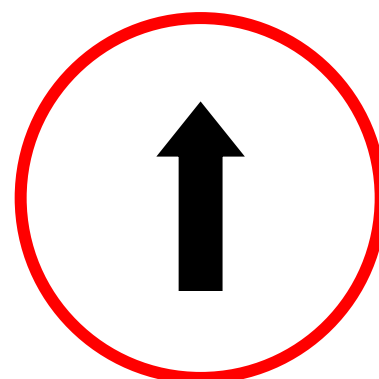
**Fig. 6** No Trucks allowed



**Fig.7** No buses allowed



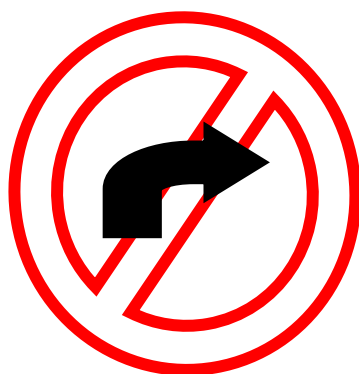
**Fig.8** One Way



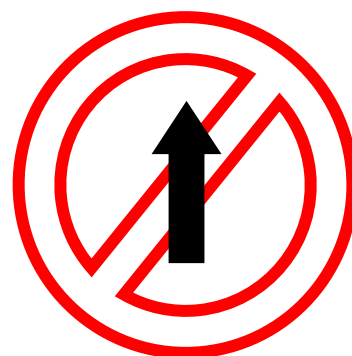
**Fig.9** Straight ahead



**Fig.10** No left turn



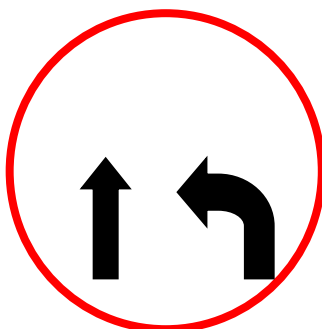
**Fig.11** No right turn



**Fig.12** No entry



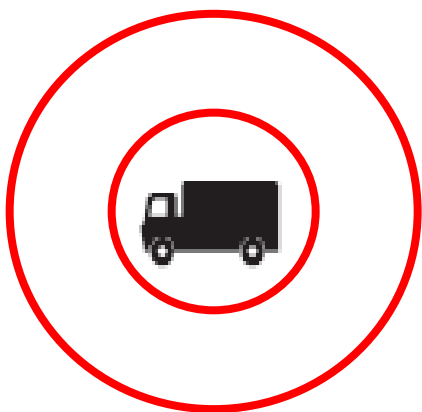
**Fig.13** No Overtaking



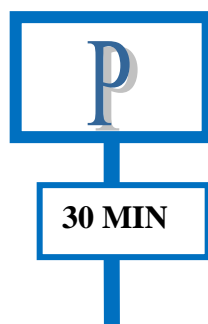
**Fig.14**Overtaking permitted



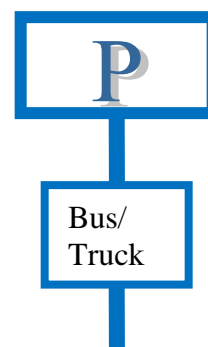
**Fig. 15** No standing



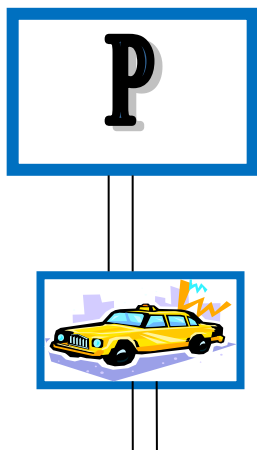
**Fig.16** Designated for buses or Trucks only for loading and unloading



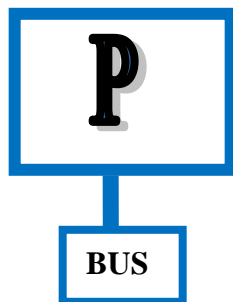
**Fig.17** Time bound parking



**Fig.18** Same as 16



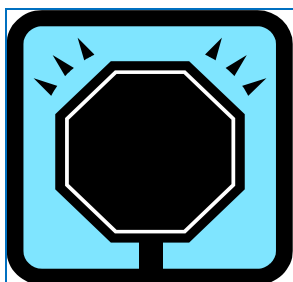
**Fig.19** Taxi Parking



**Fig.20** Bus Parking



**Fig.21** Angle Parking



**Fig.22** Metered Parking



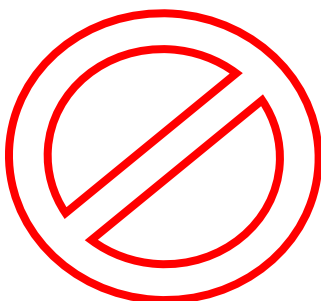
**Fig.23** Use Horn



**Fig.24** Pedestrians prohibited



**Fig.25** Use of horns prohibited



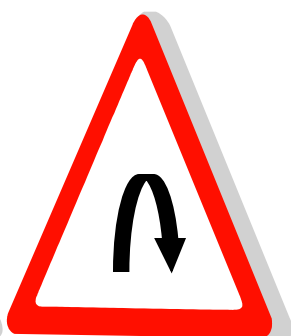
**Fig.26** No Parking



**Fig.27** Left hand curve



**Fig.28** Right hand curve



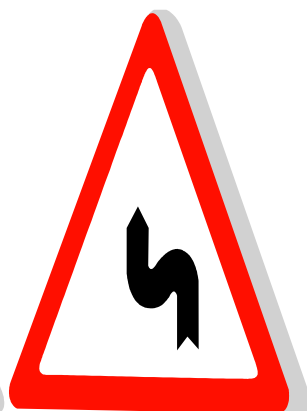
**Fig.29** Left hair pin bend



**Fig.30** Right hair pin bend



**Fig.31** Right reverse



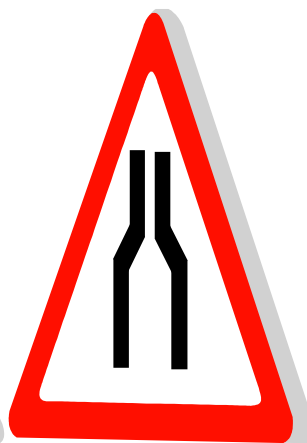
**Fig.32** Left reverse bend



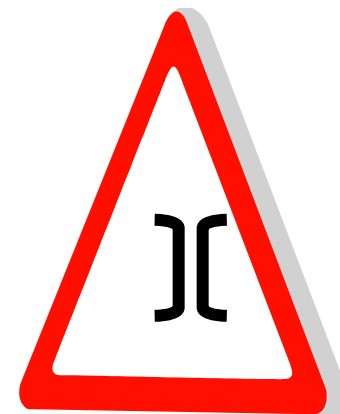
**Fig.33** Steep ascent



**Fig.34** Steep descent



**Fig.35** Narrow road ahead



**Fig.36** Narrow bridge



**Fig.37** Slippery Road



**Fig.38** Loose gravel



**Fig.39** Pedestrians crossing



**Fig. 40** School ahead



**Fig. 41** Side (feeder) road right



**Fig.42** Side(feeder)road left



**Fig.43** Dangerous dip



**Fig.44** Speed breaker/uneven road



**Fig.45** Public telephone



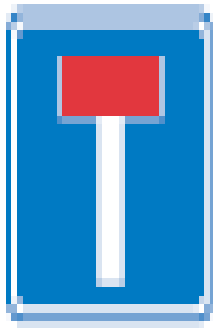
**Fig 46.** Fuel station



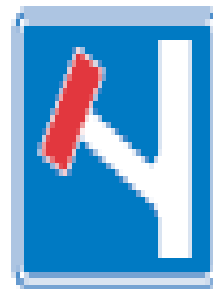
**Fig.47** First Aid post



**Fig.48** Speed cameras



**Fig.49** No Through road for traffic



**Fig.50** No through road for traffic  
in the direction indicated  
from junction ahead

**SCHEDULE- VIII: Taxi and Bus fare Model**

**Taxi Fare Computation Model**

**Table – 1: Input costs & expected margin for taxi operations**

<b>Capital expenses</b>	
<b>Cost of New Vehicle (Nu.)</b>	
<b>Life assumed in years</b>	
<b>Rate of Interest on capital cost (per annum)</b>	
<b>Annual recurring expenses (fixed costs) in Nu</b>	
<b>Registration &amp; renewal</b>	
<b>Insurance premium</b>	
<b>Fitness test</b>	
<b>Emission test</b>	
<b>Driver's salary</b>	
<b>Variable costs</b>	
<b>Cost of fuel per litre (Nu.)</b>	
<b>Kilometers per litre of fuel</b>	
<b>Percentage of oil &amp; lubricants cost to fuel cost</b>	
<b>Cost of one tyre with tube (Nu.)</b>	
<b>Tyre life assumed (in kms.)</b>	
<b>Repairs &amp; Maintenance cost per month (Nu.)</b>	
<b>Profit margin assumed (on operating cost)</b>	
<b>Intra-city operations</b>	
<b>Inter-city operations</b>	

**Table-1.1: Operating profile of taxi operations**

<b>Average daily utilization assumed (in kms.)</b>	
<b>Intra-city operations</b>	
<b>Inter-city operations</b>	
<b>Overall monthly utilization observed as per field surveys used to calculate average "Repairs &amp; Maintenance Cost per Km."</b>	



**Table – 1.2 : Cost based fare computation model for taxis**

Expenditure Head	NU Per KM	
	Intra City	Inter City
<b>1) Fixed Costs</b>		
<b>a) Cost of financing</b>		
<b>b) Registration &amp; renewal</b>		
<b>c) Insurance</b>		
<b>d) Fitness test</b>		
<b>e) Emission test</b>		
<b>f) Driver's salary</b>		
<i>Sub-total (a to g)</i>		
<b>2) Variable Costs</b>		
<b>a) Fuel</b>		
<b>b) Oil &amp; lubricants</b>		
<b>c) Tyre &amp; tubes</b>		
<b>d) Repairs &amp; maintenance</b>		
<i>Sub-total (a to d)</i>		
<b>Total Operating Cost (1 + 2)</b>		
<b>Profit Margin</b>		
<b>COST BASED FARE</b>		

**Fare computation model/formula for passenger buses**

**Table-2: Input costs & expected margin for buses**

<b>Expenditure Head</b>	<b>Nu.Per Km</b>		
	<b>22-30 Seater Bus (Hilly Terrain)</b>	<b>Luxury/Coaster Bus (Hilly terrain)</b>	<b>58 Seater Bus (Plain Terrain)</b>
<b>Cost of new vehicle</b>			
<b>Life assumed in years</b>			
<b>Rate of Interest on capital cost (in %)</b>			
<b>Salvage value assumed as % to new vehicle cost</b>			
<b>FIXED COSTS</b>			
<b>Registration &amp; renewal annual expenses</b>			
<b>Trade license fees per annum</b>			
<b>Insurance premium per annum</b>			
<b>Driver's salary per month</b>			
<b>Conductor's salary per month</b>			
<b>Bus staff ratio (driver &amp; conductor) including leave reserve</b>			
<b>Administrative staff cost per month</b>			
<b>Counter/office rental per month</b>			
<b>Printing &amp; Stationary expenses per month</b>			
<b>Telephone &amp; other miscellaneous expenses per month</b>			
<b>VARIABLE COSTS</b>			
<b>Cost of fuel per litre</b>			
<b>Kilometers per litre of fuel</b>			
<b>Oil &amp; Lubricants cost to fuel cost in %</b>			
<b>Cost of one tyre with tube</b>			
<b>Tyre life assumed in kms.</b>			
<b>Repairs &amp; maintenance cost per month including spare-parts and manpower</b>			
<b>PROFIT MARGIN ASSUMED (ON OPERATING COST) In %</b>			

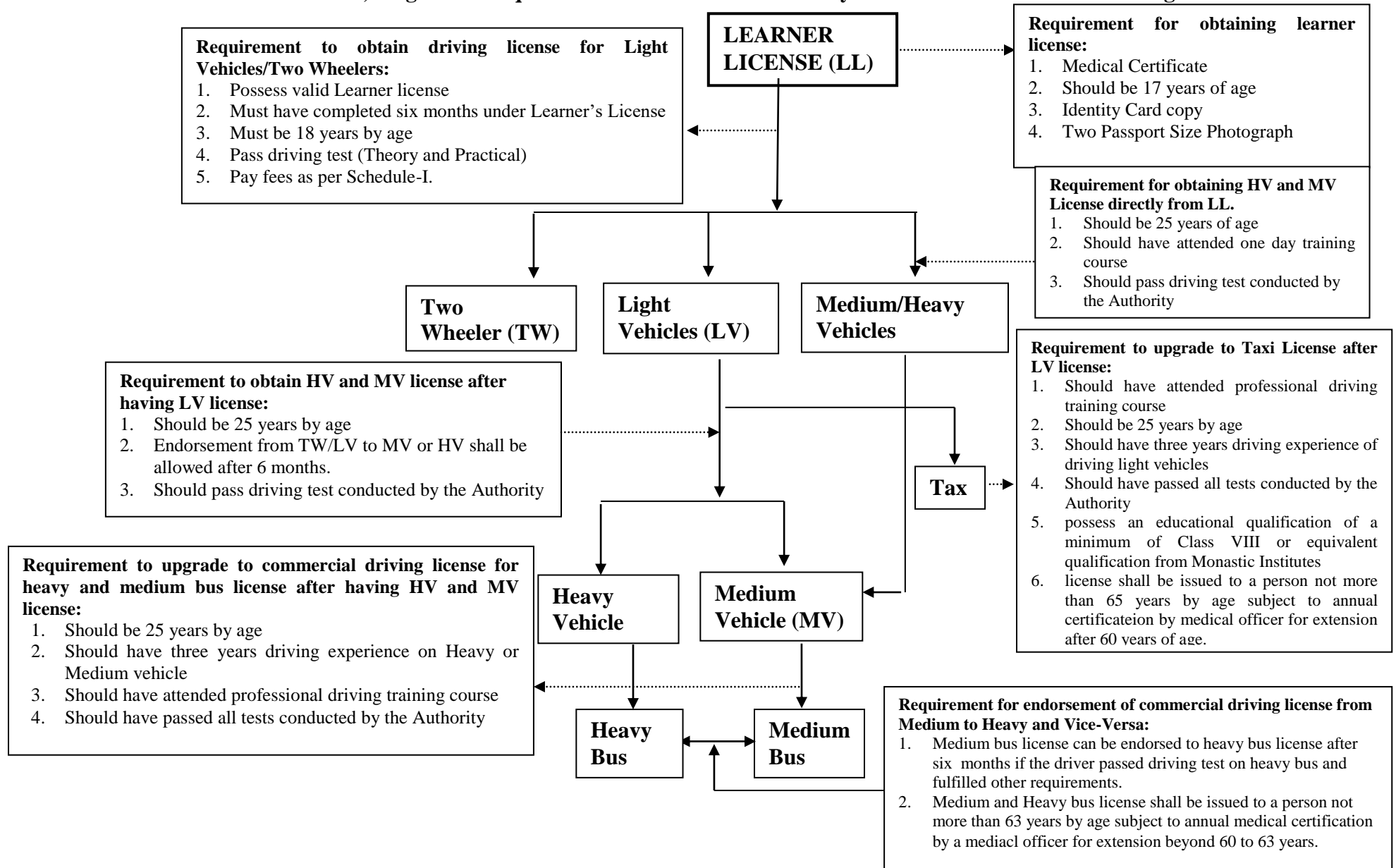
*Table-2.1: Operating profile of buses*

Parameter	22-30 Seater bus	Luxury/Coaster bus	58 Seater bus (Plain Terrain)
Average monthly utilisation assumed (in kms.			
Carrying capacity			
Expected load factor in %			

*Table-2.2: Cost based fare computation model for buses*

EXPENDITURE HEAD	Nu. Per KM		
	22-30 Seater Bus (Hilly Terrain)	Luxury/ Coaster Bus (Hilly Terrain)	58 Seater Bus (Plain Terrain)
<b>1) Fixed Costs</b>			
a) Cost of financing (repayment + interest)			
b) Registration & renewal annual expenses			
c) Trade license fees			
d) Insurance premium			
e) Driver's salaries			
f) Conductor's salaries			
g) Administrative staff			
h) Counter/office rentals			
i) Printing & stationery expenses			
j) Telephone & other miscellaneous expenses			
k) Salvage value spread over life span			
<i>Sub-total (a to k)</i>			
<b>2) Variable Costs</b>			
a) Fuel			
b) Oil & lubricants			
c) Tyre & tubes			
d) Repairs & maintenance			
<i>Sub-total (a to d)</i>			
<b>Total Operating Cost (1 + 2)</b>			
<b>Profit margin</b>			
<b>EXPECTED EARNINGS PER BUS KM.</b>			
<b>FARE PER PASSENGER KM.</b>			

## SCHEDULE-IX: Procedure, Stages and Requirement for issuance of Ordinary and Commercial Vehicle Driving Licenses



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