

Serial Number 1951/131

THE TRAFFIC REGULATIONS 1936, AMENDMENT NO. 9

B. C. FREYBERG, Governor-General

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government House at Wellington, this 6th day of
June, 1951

Present :

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the Transport Act, 1949, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, doth hereby make the following regulations.

REGULATIONS

1. (1) These regulations may be cited as the Traffic Regulations 1936, Amendment No. 9, and shall be read together with and deemed part of the Traffic Regulations 1936* (hereinafter referred to as the principal regulations).

(2) These regulations shall come into force on the seventh day after the date of their notification in the *Gazette*.

2. Regulation 6 of the principal regulations is hereby amended by inserting after clause (1), the following clause:—

“(1A) Regulation 11 hereof (relating to motor vehicle inspection) shall not apply to any power cycle, being a pedal bicycle fitted with a motor attachment for its propulsion.”

3. (1) Regulation 7 of the principal regulations (as substituted by regulation 5 of the Traffic Regulations 1936, Amendment No. 1) is hereby revoked, and the following regulation substituted:—

“REGULATION 7—LIGHTS

“(1) Save as provided by clause (11) hereof, no person shall operate a motor vehicle during hours of darkness unless it is equipped as provided in this regulation, and no person shall drive, stand, park, or leave a motor vehicle on any road during hours of darkness unless the lamps required by this regulation display lights in manner herein prescribed.

“(2) Every motor vehicle other than a motor cycle or trailer shall be equipped with two, and not more than two, head lamps attached thereto, which shall—

“(a) Be of approximately equal candle power:

“(b) Be placed one towards each side of the vehicle, and in such manner that they direct a beam of light ahead of the vehicle:

* Statutory Regulations 1936-37, Serial number 86/1936, page 319. (Reprinted with Amendments Nos. 1 to 3, Statutory Regulations 1947, Serial number 1947/44, page 124.)

Amendment No. 4: Statutory Regulations 1948, Serial number 1948/129, page 388.

Amendment No. 5: Statutory Regulations 1948, Serial number 1948/170, page 517.

Amendment No. 6: Statutory Regulations 1948, Serial number 1948/212, page 875.

Amendment No. 7: Statutory Regulations 1949, Serial number 1949/142, page 586.

Amendment No. 8: Statutory Regulations 1950, Serial number 1950/189, page 577.

- “(c) Display beams of light of sufficient power to enable substantial objects and the nature of the road surface to be clearly visible during hours of darkness under normal driving and atmospheric conditions to a driver of normal vision at a distance of at least 150 ft. directly in front of the vehicle.
- “(3) Any motor vehicle may be equipped, in addition to the head lamps aforesaid, with—
- “(a) Two, and not more than two, forward facing lamps (hereinafter referred to as the side lamps) of low and approximately equal candle power, one being fitted at each side of the vehicle :
- “(b) One or two, but not more than two, forward facing auxiliary head lamps for use only in terms of paragraph (c) of clause (6) of this regulation :
- “(c) A lamp displaying a white light to the rear for use while backing the motor vehicle fixed permanently in a dipped position as described in clause (5) hereof and so adjusted that the light can be displayed only while the motor vehicle is moving backwards in gear or while the beams of light from both the headlights cannot be displayed.
- “(4) The head lamps attached to any motor vehicle shall be focussed and adjusted so that under all conditions of use the centre line of the main beam of light from each lamp—
- “(a) Does not rise above a horizontal plane when the vehicle is on a horizontal surface ; and
- “(b) Is projected either parallel to the longitudinal centre line of the vehicle or leftwards from that parallel position.
- “(5) In clauses (7) to (10) of this regulation references to the dipped position of a lamp are references to the adjustment, temporary or otherwise, of a lamp so that when the motor vehicle to which it is attached is on a horizontal surface the centre line of the beam of light from the lamp descends at the rate of not less than 4 in. in 10 ft. measured horizontally.
- “(6) In clauses (7) to (10) of this regulation references to dipping the lights are references to the control of the lamps attached to a motor vehicle so that—
- “(a) The lights from both head lamps assume a dipped position ; or
- “(b) The light from the off side head lamp becomes extinguished, and simultaneously the light from the near side head lamp assumes a dipped position, and the lights from two side lamps become or remain displayed ; or
- “(c) The lights from both the head lamps become extinguished, and simultaneously either the light from one auxiliary head lamp in a dipped position is displayed, and the lights from two side lamps become or remain displayed, or the lights from two auxiliary head lamps in a dipped position are displayed, with or without side lamps ; or
- “(d) Some other method or device for the elimination of glare is used of a kind, make, or type approved by the Minister in terms of clause (6) of regulation 10 of these regulations.
- “(7) The driver of a motor vehicle shall dip the lights when otherwise the lights would be likely adversely to interfere with the vision of a driver or rider of any other vehicle in motion on a road.

“(8) The driver of a motor vehicle shall use the lights from side lamps instead of from head lamps, or shall dim or dip the lights from the head lamps—

“(a) When the light from some artificial source other than the head lamps is sufficient to enable substantial objects and the nature of the road surface to be clearly visible at a distance of 150 ft. directly in front of the vehicle; or

“(b) When approaching an intersection for the time being under control of a police officer or traffic officer.

“(9) Subject to the provisions of clause (16) hereof, the driver or person in charge or control of a stationary motor vehicle shall either dim the lights from the head lamps or shall use the lights from side lamps instead of from head lamps.

“(10) No person shall operate a motor vehicle during the hours of darkness unless either the head lamps are in a permanently dipped position or any apparatus for dipping the lights is in efficient working order.

“(11) Every motor vehicle, including any trailer, shall be equipped with one or two tail lamps showing a red light visible at least 300 ft. to the rearward and attached at the rear of the vehicle. If only one tail light is attached, it shall be attached at the longitudinal centre line or at the off side of the vehicle; and, if two tail lights are attached, they shall be attached one at the off side and the other at the near side of the vehicle.

“(12) The registration plate carried on the rear of every motor vehicle shall be illuminated by a white light, the beams of which are not visible from the rearward, so as to render the figures and letters thereon clearly visible at a distance of 60 ft.

“(13) Any motor vehicle may be equipped with not more than one spot lamp providing a spot light which has a moveable beam. A spot lamp may be used only for purposes or occasions for which the lights from the head lamps are not suitable, and must then be used in a reasonable manner so as not to interfere with the vision of other users of the road and so as not to cause annoyance to any person.

“(14) A fire engine may be fitted near its longitudinal centre line and at a height of not less than 3 ft. 6 in. from the ground with a lamp displaying to the front a red light through an aperture of not less than 6 in. in diameter. The said light shall be displayed only while the fire engine is responding to an alarm of fire.

“(15) The lights from side lamps or from any lamps attached to a motor vehicle, other than those (not being side lamps) described by the preceding clauses of this regulation or approved by the Minister in terms of clause (6) of regulation 10 of these regulations, shall be covered with frosted glass, a diffusing lens, or other material which has the effect of diffusing the light.

“(16) The lights or any of the lights prescribed by this regulation need not be displayed while the motor vehicle is stationary on the roadway, so long as the vehicle is lighted from some artificial source so that its position on the roadway is clearly visible at a distance of 150 ft.

“(17) In the case of a motor vehicle of any of the kinds referred to in regulation 6 hereof (not being a power cycle), it shall be sufficient compliance with the requirements of this regulation if the vehicle is provided with at least three lamps the light of which is visible for 300 ft. under normal atmospheric conditions one at each side of the

vehicle placed so as to display a white light to the front and sides thereof, and one at the rear of the vehicle placed so as to display a red light to the rear thereof and not to be visible from the front thereof, and those lamps need not be permanently attached to the vehicle.

“(18) Except as permitted by clauses (3), (14), and (19) of this regulation, no vehicle shall be equipped with a lamp that displays towards the rear any light other than a red light or with a lamp or reflecting surface that displays towards the front any red or reddish light or with a lamp or reflecting surface that displays a blue light :

“Provided that this clause shall not apply to lamps of low candle power in the interior of a passenger vehicle serving to light the interior for the convenience of passengers.

“(19) Every motor vehicle drawing a trailer and every motor vehicle which with its load exceeds 7 ft. in width or 20 ft. in length shall be equipped with a lamp having an aperture of not less than 3 square inches in area and fitted as high as is practicable at the front and near the longitudinal centre line of the vehicle so as to display a light of blue colour directed forward horizontally to the vehicle and clearly visible at a distance of not less than 300 ft. in normal atmospheric conditions :

“Provided that this requirement shall not apply to omnibuses, service cars, or service coaches as defined by the Passenger Service Vehicle (Constructional) Regulations 1936,* or to any trackless trolley omnibus.

“(20) Every motor vehicle (including a trailer) which or the load of which exceeds 7 ft. in width or extends on the off side more than 3 ft. 6 in. from the longitudinal centre line of the vehicle shall be equipped with two lamps, one fitted as near as is practicable to the extremity of the off side of the vehicle or load (whichever extends the farther to the offside), and the other fitted as near as is practicable to the extremity of the near side of the vehicle or load (whichever extends the farther to the near side), and in no case farther than 6 in. from that extremity, displaying in a forward direction a light substantially white in colour, clearly visible at a distance of 300 ft. in normal atmospheric conditions :

“Provided that nothing in this clause shall be deemed to affect the provisions of regulation 12 hereof.”

T. J. SHERRARD,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

* Statutory Regulations 1936, Serial number 79/1936, page 281.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

[*This note is not part of the regulations, but is intended to indicate their general effect.*]

Regulation 2 exempts power cycles from the necessity of carrying warrants of fitness.

Regulation 3 amends the provisions of the principal regulations relating to lights, and, in particular, makes provision for the use of not more than two auxiliary head lamps and the use of a white backing light.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act, 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette* : 7th day of June, 1951.

These regulations are administered in the Transport Department.