

(Legislative Supplement No. 10)

LEGAL NOTICE NO. 30

THE TRAFFIC ACT

(Cap. 403)

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred upon the Minister for Power and Communications by section 119 of the Traffic Act, the following Rules are hereby made:—

THE TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) RULES, 1971

1. These Rules may be cited as the Traffic (Amendment) Rules, 1971. Citation.

2. The Traffic Rules are hereby amended by the deletion of rule 41 and the substitution therefor of the following— Replacement of rule 41 of the Traffic Rules. Cap. 403 (Sub. Leg.).

Weights and dimensions of vehicles.

41. (1) Subject to the provisions of section 56 of the Act, the maximum weights referred to in subsection (2) of section 55 of the Act shall be as follows—

- (a) the maximum weight of any motor vehicle fitted with pneumatic tyres shall not, whether laden or unladen, exceed—
- (i) vehicle with two or three axles . . 22,500 kg.
 - (ii) vehicle with four or five axles 38,000 kg.
 - (iii) vehicle with six or more axles . . 43,000 kg.
- (b) the maximum weight of any motor vehicle fitted with solid tyres, lawfully on a road under these Rules, shall be 75 per cent of the maximum weight specified for that type of vehicle under subparagraph (a) of this paragraph;
- (c) the maximum weight, inclusive of all accessories, of any motor vehicle fitted with crawler type tracks shall not exceed 16,300 kg.;
- (d) notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraphs (a) and (b) of this paragraph, the weight which may be transmitted to the road in the case of a wheeled motor vehicle—
- (i) by any one wheel, shall not exceed 3,200 kg.;
 - (ii) by way of any axle fitted with four or more wheels, shall not exceed 8,000 kg.;

- (iii) by way of any two adjacent axles which are more than 2.1 metres apart and which have two wheels on each axle, shall not exceed 12,700 kg.;
- (iv) by way of any tandem axle group, having two wheels on each axle, shall not exceed 11,300 kg.;
- (v) by way of any two adjacent axles which are more than 2.1 metres apart and which have two wheels on one axle and four or more wheels on the other, shall not exceed 14,300 kg.;
- (vi) by way of any tandem axle group having two wheels on one axle and four wheels on the other, shall not exceed 12,700 kg.;
- (vii) by way of any two adjacent axles which are more than 2.1 metres apart and which have four or more wheels on each axle, shall not exceed 16,000 kg.;
- (viii) by way of any tandem axle group having four or more wheels on each axle, shall not exceed 14,500 kg.;

Provided that, in the case of any tandem axle group, where the load of a vehicle is such that the equal distribution of such load between wheels within a tandem axle group cannot be ensured or cannot be maintained regardless of road profile or road conditions, the appropriate load figure given in this paragraph shall be reduced by ten per cent;

- (e) notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph (c) of this paragraph, in the case of a motor vehicle fitted with crawler type tracks the weight transmitted to the road between two parallel planes extending across the full width of the vehicle shall not exceed the appropriate amount in the following table—

*Distance between planes Permitted maximum
transmitted weight*

	<i>kg.</i>
Less than 1 metre	8,000
1 metre to less than 2 metres	14,700
2 metres to less than 3 metres	15,000
3 metres or over	16,300

- (f) not more than seventy-five per cent of the laden weight of any motor vehicle (other than a motor-cycle) shall be transmitted to the road by any two wheels of the vehicle;

- (g) for the purposes of this paragraph, each person apparently over the age of sixteen years, and every two persons of or under that age, shall be deemed to weigh 65 kg. when carried on a vehicle;
 - (h) where the application of the provisions of this paragraph result in two or more different weights being applicable to a particular vehicle, the lower or lowest of such weights shall be deemed to be the maximum weight of that vehicle for the purposes of subsection (2) of section 55 of the Act.
- (2) The maximum dimensions referred to in subsection (2) of section 55 of the Act shall be as follows—
- (a) the overall width of a motor vehicle, together with any load projecting over the overall width of the vehicle, shall not exceed 2.5 metres;
 - (b) the maximum overall length of a motor vehicle, together with any load projecting over the overall length of the vehicle, shall not exceed—
 - (i) goods vehicle with two axles—10 metres;
 - (ii) passenger vehicle with two axles—11 metres;
 - (iii) vehicle with three or more axles—11 metres;
 - (iv) articulated vehicle—14 metres;
 - (c) the overall height of a motor vehicle, laden or unladen, shall not exceed 3.8 metres measured from the road surface.
- (3) No trailer shall be used on any paved all-weather road if the weight or dimensions of such trailer exceed those laid down for a motor vehicle having the same number of axles as such trailer by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this rule.
- (4) The overhang of a vehicle shall not exceed 50 per cent of the wheelbase of the vehicle.
- (5) No load shall be carried on any vehicle—
- (a) which projects, beyond the overall width of the vehicle by more than 15 cm. on either side;
 - (b) which projects beyond the overall length of the vehicle by more than 1.8 metres;
 - (c) which projects to the rear beyond the overall length of the vehicle by more than 60 cm. but not more than 1.8 metres unless the rear extremity of the load is plainly indicated by a conspicuous red marker by day and by a red light at night;

(d) which is not at all times wholly clear of the road surface.

(6) No motor vehicle shall tow more than one trailer or other towed vehicle on a road:

Provided that a semi-trailer directly superimposed on the drawing vehicle shall not be counted as a trailer for the purposes of this paragraph.

(7) Where a trailer or vehicle is towed on a road by a motor vehicle—

(a) no rope, bar or other device used for such tow shall exceed 4.5 metres, and the presence thereof shall be made easily distinguishable to other road users;

(b) the overall length of the combination of vehicles, including any towing device, shall not exceed 18 metres.

(8) For the purposes of this rule—

“axle” means a line joining all wheels the centres of which can be included between two parallel transverse planes one metre apart extending across the full width of the vehicle concerned;

“tandem axle group” means two axles which are more than one metre but not more than 2.1 metres apart;

“wheel” means any wheel of a vehicle by means of which part of the weight of the vehicle is transmitted to the road.

Amendment
of rule 84 of
the Traffic
Rules.

3. Rule 84 of the Traffic Rules is hereby amended by renumbering the existing rule as paragraph (1) and by the addition of the following—

(2) The driver of any vehicle who fails to comply with any prohibition or mandatory requirement imposed by any traffic sign of class A, class D, or class E in the Eighth Schedule to these Rules shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine not exceeding one thousand shillings.

Amendment
of Eighth
Schedule to
Traffic Rules.

4. The Eighth Schedule to the Traffic Rules is hereby amended—

(a) by the insertion immediately after note 5 preceding sign A1 of the heading

CLASS A—REGULATORY SIGNS;

(b) in the column headed “INDICATION” opposite sign A16 by the deletion of the words “as at A18” and the substitution therefor of the words “of class E”;

(c) by the deletion of sign A18;

(d) by the insertion immediately before sign B1 of the heading—

CLASS B—WARNING SIGNS;

(e) by the insertion immediately before sign C1 of the heading—

CLASS C—INFORMATIVE SIGNS;

(f) by the deletion of class E and all detail appearing thereafter to the end of the Schedule and the substitution therefor of following—

CLASS E—ROAD MARKINGS

1. The traffic signs consisting of lines or other markings hereinafter specified may be placed on or adjacent to a road for the purpose of conveying a warning, a requirement or information to, or imposing a prohibition on, users of the road.

2. (1) In the following paragraphs of this division—

“carriageway marking” means a traffic sign consisting of a line or mark placed on the carriageway of a road;

“kerb marking” means a traffic sign consisting of a line or mark placed on an upstanding curb along a road;

“longitudinal line” means a line placed on the carriageway of a road and following approximately the direction of traffic flow;

“transverse line” means a line placed on the carriageway of a road transversely to the traffic flow and extending across that portion of the road, or the traffic lanes, to which it applies.

(2) Carriageway markings relating to the regulation of opposing traffic flows and kerb markings to control the parking of vehicles shall be coloured yellow, and all other carriageway or kerb markings shall be coloured white.

(3) All lines forming part of a carriageway marking shall be at least 100 mm. wide:

Provided that no traffic sign shall be unlawful merely by reason of the fact that any such line is less than 100 mm. wide if the line is clearly visible.

3. (1) A carriageway marking consisting of a continuous yellow longitudinal line shall impose a mandatory requirement that every vehicle being driven along the length of road to which the marking has been applied shall be so driven as to keep the marking on the right-hand, or off-, side of the vehicle.

(2) A carriageway marking consisting of a continuous yellow longitudinal line in conjunction with a broken yellow longitudinal line shall prohibit the crossing or straddling

of the continuous line by a vehicle being driven along the length of road to which the marking has been applied unless—

- (a) the broken line is crossed or straddled immediately before the continuous line is crossed or straddled; or
- (b) the lines are crossed for the purpose of returning to the left-hand side of the road following a lawful crossing or straddling under subparagraph (a); and
- (c) in either case, such crossing or straddling can be accomplished without endangering or inconveniencing any other vehicle travelling along the road.

(3) A carriageway marking consisting of a broken yellow longitudinal line shall prohibit the crossing or straddling of that line at any time when such crossing or straddling would endanger or inconvenience any other vehicle travelling along the road.

4. (1) A carriageway marking consisting of a continuous white longitudinal line, other than a line used to define the extreme outer edge of the normal carriageway, shall prohibit the crossing or straddling of the line by any vehicle being driven along the length of road to which the marking has been applied.

(2) A carriageway marking consisting of a broken white longitudinal line shall prohibit the crossing or straddling of that line at any time when such crossing or straddling would endanger or inconvenience any vehicle travelling in the traffic lane which is being encroached upon.

5. (1) A carriageway marking consisting of a continuous white transverse line accompanied by a traffic sign of class A or class D in this Schedule shall impose a mandatory requirement that any vehicle travelling along the portion of the road, or in the traffic lane, to which the marking applies shall stop before crossing the line and shall prohibit such crossing until—

- (a) the instruction of the accompanying sign has been complied with; and
- (b) such crossing can be accomplished without endangering or inconveniencing any other vehicle.

(2) A carriageway marking consisting of a broken white transverse line accompanied by another traffic sign shall prohibit the crossing of that line by a vehicle travelling along the portion of the road, or in the traffic lane, to which the marking applies unless the requirements of the accompanying sign have been complied with.

6. A kerb marking consisting of a continuous yellow line, whether accompanied by another traffic sign or not, shall prohibit the stopping of any vehicle, other than a bicycle, on the length of road along which the marking has been placed at any point between the two ends of the marking, otherwise than for long as may be necessary—

- (a) to comply with the movement of traffic or the requirements of another traffic sign; or

- (b) to enable a person to board or to alight from the vehicle; or
- (c) to enable goods to be loaded on to or unloaded from the vehicle.

7. A carriageway marking consisting of continuous white or yellow diagonal hatched lines bounded by continuous lines of the same colour shall indicate the proximity or situation of road refuges, traffic islands or turning zones and shall prohibit the crossing or straddling of the continuous bounding lines by any vehicle.

8. A carriageway marking consisting of parallel white longitudinal lines in a series extending transversely across the full width of the carriageway and used in conjunction with traffic sign B35 shall indicate crossing places for pedestrian traffic, and shall impose a mandatory requirement that vehicles travelling along the road concerned to give way to pedestrians crossing the carriageway within the area covered by the lines.

9. A carriageway marking consisting of two or more continuous white transverse lines accompanied by any traffic sign indicating that stopping or parking within the area bounded by the two outermost lines is restricted to vehicles of a specified type shall prohibit the stopping within that area of any vehicle other than one of the specified type.

10. Carriageway markings of appropriate form may be used for conveying route information, instructions or warning to road users.

11. The prohibitions or requirements of a traffic sign of class E shall not apply—

- (a) to a vehicle being used for fire brigade, ambulance or police purposes;
- (b) to anything done by a vehicle through circumstances beyond the control of the driver, or to avoid an accident;
- (c) to anything done in order to pass a stationary vehicle so long as such passing may be accomplished without endangering or inconveniencing any other moving vehicle;
- (d) to anything done with the permission of, or to comply with any direction given by, a police officer in uniform.

5. The Traffic Rules are hereby amended by the deletion of the Eleventh Schedule.

Deletion of
Eleventh
Schedule to
Traffic Rules.

Made this 19th day of February, 1971.

R. G. NGALA,
Minister for Power and Communications.