
3rd Session Second Parliament Trinidad and Tobago
17 Elizabeth II



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
Act No. 3 of 1969

[L.S.]

AN ACT to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic
Ordinance, Ch. 16. No. 3.

[Assented to 12th February, 1969]

BE IT ENACTED by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, ^{Enactment}
by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and
House of Representatives of Trinidad and Tobago, and
by the authority of the same, as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as the Motor Vehicles and ^{Short title}
Road Traffic (Amendment) Act, 1969.

Ordinance
amended
Ch. 16. No. 3

2. The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Ordinance is amended—

(a) in section 2—

- (i) by deleting the definition of "Inspector";
- (ii) by inserting in their appropriate alphabetical order the following definitions—

"Assistant Transport Commissioner",
"Automotive Licensing Officer",
"Motor Vehicles Officer" and
"Motor Vehicles Supervisor" mean
respectively any persons carrying
out the provisions of this Ordinance
relating to the licensing, registration
and examination of vehicles;

"Minister" means the member of the
Cabinet to whom responsibility for
the subject of Road Traffic is
assigned;

"Motor Vehicles Inspector" means any
person carrying out the provisions
of this Ordinance relating to the
inspection and making of reports on
the condition of vehicles and
includes the person for the time
being performing the duties of
Automotive Licensing Officer in the
Ward of Tobago;

"Transport Commissioner" means the
person mentioned in subsection (1)
of section 4;

"Transport Officer" includes the Trans-
port Commissioner, the Assistant
Transport Commissioners, Motor
Vehicles Inspectors, Automotive
Licensing Officers, Motor Vehicles
Officers and Motor Vehicles Super-
visors;";

(b) by repealing and replacing section 4 as
follows—

"Appointment of Transport Commissioner, Assistant Transport Commissioner, &c.

4. (1) The Transport Commissioner is the Licensing Authority and shall be charged with responsibility for the registration, the licensing and inspection of all motor vehicles and issue of driving permits and such other matters as are assigned to him by this Ordinance or any regulations made thereunder.

(2) The Assistant Transport Commissioners, Automotive Licensing Officers, Motor Vehicles Inspectors, Motor Vehicles Supervisors and Motor Vehicles Officers shall carry out the powers and duties conferred on such officers by this Ordinance and any regulations made thereunder.

(3) Transport Officers mentioned in subsection (2) shall be under the direction of the Transport Commissioner who may assign such officers as may be necessary to such localities as he may consider necessary for the proper carrying out of the provisions of this Ordinance and any regulations made thereunder.

(4) The Automotive Licensing Officer for the Ward of Tobago shall be the Motor Vehicles Inspector for the said Ward.";

(c) by inserting immediately after section 4 thereof, the following sections—

"Transport Officers to have powers, &c., of members of the Police Service

4A. (1) In the exercise of powers and duties conferred on him by this Ordinance and any regulations made thereunder every Transport Officer shall have the powers, authorities and privileges and shall be entitled to all the immunities given by any law from time to time in force to any member of the Police Service.

(2) Where any Transport Officer makes a complaint against any person, any other Transport Officer may appear before the magistrate who is trying or inquiring into the matter of the said complaint, and shall have the same privilege as to addressing the said magistrate and as to examining the witnesses adduced in the said matter as the Transport Officer who made the complaint would have had.

Precept of
appoint-
ment

4B. (1) On the appointment of any person to be a Transport Officer, the Transport Commissioner shall deliver or cause to be delivered to him a precept authorising him to act as such.

(2) The precept shall be in the following form:

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

THE MOTOR VEHICLES AND
ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE

To of

I,, Transport Commissioner do under and by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Ordinance hereby issue to you this precept authorising you to perform the duties of

.....
.....

Transport Commissioner

Equipment

4C. Every Transport Officer shall be provided with a manual describing his powers and duties, a badge and such uniform and other equipment as may be approved by the Minister. Such badge shall be

evidence of the office of a Transport Officer and shall in all cases be displayed by every such officer when exercising the duties of his office. The cost of these articles of clothing and equipment shall be defrayed from such funds as may be provided for the purpose by Parliament.

Motor
Vehicle
Supervisor
to perform
duties of ill
or absent
Automotive
Licensing
Officer

4D. Where the Automotive Licensing Officer is unable to carry out his duties temporarily due to illness or short absence from duty the Transport Commissioner may assign any other Transport Officer to perform the duties of the Automotive Licensing Officer and that officer may exercise all the powers of the Automotive Licensing Officer under this Ordinance.

Penalty for
assaulting or
obstructing
Transport
Officer

4E. A person who assaults, obstructs or resists any Transport Officer in the execution of his duty, or aids or incites any other person to assault, obstruct or resist any Transport Officer in the execution of his duty, is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred dollars or to imprisonment for six months.

Power to
stop and
inspect
vehicles

4F. (1) Every driver of a motor vehicle shall, on the request of a Transport Officer in uniform, if such officer shall put up his hand as a signal for that purpose, cause a motor vehicle to stop and remain stationary as long as may be reasonably necessary.

(2) A driver of a motor vehicle who contravenes or fails to comply with subsection (1) is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred dollars or to imprisonment for six months.”;

(d) by substituting for the expressions "Licensing Officer" and "Inspector" wherever these expressions occur in the Ordinance the expressions "Automotive Licensing Officer" and "Motor Vehicles Inspector" respectively;

(e) by adding after section 44C thereof the following new sections:

"Drivers to
comply
with
traffic direc-
tions

44D. Where a police constable in uniform is engaged in the regulation of traffic in a road, or where a traffic sign, being a sign of the prescribed size, colour and type, or of another character authorised by the Licensing Authority under section 44B or where a notice of the Commissioner of Police under section 44F has been lawfully placed on or near a road, a person driving or propelling a vehicle who—

(a) neglects or refuses to stop the vehicle or to make it proceed in or keep to, a particular line of traffic when directed so to do by the police constable in the execution of his duty; or

(b) fails to comply with the indication given by the sign or the notice,

is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of one hundred dollars, or in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine of two hundred and fifty dollars.

Experi-
mental
traffic
schemes

44E. (1) Where it appears to the Commissioner of Police expedient so to do for the purpose of carrying out an experimental scheme of traffic control he may, with the consent of the Minister, and after giving such notice as the Minister may direct, make regulations for

Fourth
Schedule

regulating vehicular traffic in any manner specified in the Fourth Schedule.

(2) Any provision contained in regulations under this section may be made so as to apply at all times on specified days or during specified periods, and either throughout the day or during any specified part of the day, and to vehicular traffic generally or to such traffic of any class or description specified in the regulations, and regulations under this section may make different provision for different classes or descriptions of traffic.

(3) A person who contravenes, or fails to comply with, regulations under this section is liable to a fine of two hundred dollars, or in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine of three hundred dollars.

(4) Where there is any conflict or variance between regulations made under this section and regulations made by the Governor-General or by the Transport Board, the regulations made by the Governor-General or the Board shall be read with such modifications as are necessary to bring them into conformity with those of the Commissioner under this section.

(5) Regulations under this section shall not continue in force for a period longer than three months after the making thereof, together with such further period (if any) not exceeding six months as the Minister may at any time before the expiration of the regulations direct.

(6) Regulations made under this section shall be published in the *Gazette* and in at least one daily newspaper circulating in Trinidad and Tobago.

Temporary
pro-
hibition or
restriction
of traffic
on roads

44F. (1) Subject to the provisions of this section in any case where a road is liable to be thronged or obstructed, the Commissioner of Police may by Order restrict or prohibit the use of that road or of any part thereof by vehicles or by vehicles of any particular class or description to such extent and subject to such conditions or exceptions as he may consider necessary.

(2) The Commissioner may at any time by notice restrict or prohibit temporarily the use of a road or any part of a road by vehicles or by vehicles of any particular class or description for the purpose of—

- (a) avoiding danger or obstruction to persons or other traffic using the road or any other road; or
- (b) preventing damage to the road or to any building on or near the road; or
- (c) facilitating the passage of vehicular traffic on the road or any other road or from any premises.

(3) The provisions which may be made by a traffic regulation, Order or notice shall be any provision prohibiting, restricting or regulating the use of a road or any

part of the width thereof by vehicular traffic or by such traffic of any class or description specified in the Order, either generally or subject to exceptions so specified, and either at all times or at times on days or during periods so specified, and, without prejudice to the generality of this subsection, any provision—

- (a) requiring such traffic to proceed in a specified direction or prohibiting its so proceeding;
- (b) specifying the part of the carriage-way to be used by such traffic proceeding in a specified direction;
- (c) prohibiting or restricting the parking, stopping or waiting of vehicles or the loading and unloading of vehicles;
- (d) prohibiting the use of roads by through traffic;
- (e) prohibiting or restricting overtaking;
- (f) regulating the speed of vehicles.

(4) An Order made or notice issued under the foregoing provisions of this section may suspend any statutory provision of a description which could have been contained in the Order or notice or, in

the case of an Order under subsection (1), any statutory provision prohibiting the use of roads by through traffic, and any such provision (other than one contained in the Order or notice) shall have effect subject to the Order or notice.

(5) An Order under subsection (1) shall not without the approval of the Minister continue in force for a longer period than one month from the making thereof.

(6) A notice issued under subsection (2) shall not continue in force for a longer period than fourteen days from the date thereof.

(7) A person who uses or permits the use of a vehicle in contravention of a restriction or prohibition imposed by an Order under subsection (1) is liable to a fine of fifty dollars or in the case of a second or subsequent conviction to a fine of one hundred dollars.

(8) A person is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty-five dollars, if he unlawfully and without just cause or excuse removes from the position where it is placed, alters or defaces a notice of the Commissioner under subsection (2).

Restrictions
on parking
in certain
streets

44G. (1) Notwithstanding any rule of law to the contrary, but subject to this section, a motor vehicle shall not be parked—

(a) at any time of the day or night on any portion of Knox Street between St. Vincent Street and Abercromby Street in

the City of Port-of-Spain, by any person not being a member of the House of Representatives or of the Senate or his servant or agent;

(b) at such times and on such portion of any road as are designated by Notice given by the Minister and published in the *Gazette*, by any person not being—

(i) a member of the diplomatic corps and his staff (duly authorised by the Head of Mission) representing such countries and institutions as are specified in the Notice or his servant or agent;

(ii) a person belonging to such other classes of persons as are specified in

the Notice
or his ser-
vant or
agent,

and any statutory
provision respect-
ing parking on
such roads (other
than one contain-
ed in the Notice)
shall have effect
subject to the
Notice.

(2) Where a member of the House of Representatives or of the Senate or a member of the diplomatic corps or his staff or other person as is mentioned in subsection (1) (b) (ii) or their servants or agents parks a motor vehicle on a road pursuant to this section, the motor vehicle shall have attached to it in the prescribed position, a special identification mark of the kind prescribed by the Minister.

(3) A person who contravenes or fails to comply with the provisions of subsection (1) is guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine of fifty dollars.”;

(f) by adding the following Schedule thereto—

“FOURTH SCHEDULE

(Section 44E)

Scope of experimental traffic regulations that may be made by the Commissioner of Police

1. For prescribing the routes to be followed by all classes of traffic, or by any particular class or classes of traffic or vehicles, from one specified point to another, either generally or between any specified times.

2. For prescribing streets which are not to be used for traffic by vehicles, or by vehicles of any specified class or classes, either generally or at specified times.

3. For regulating the relative position in the roadway of traffic of differing speeds or types.

4. For prescribing the places where vehicles or vehicles of any particular class or description may not turn so as to face in the opposite direction to that in which they were proceeding, or where they may only so turn under conditions prescribed by the regulations.

5. For prescribing the conditions subject to which, and the times at which, articles may be loaded on to or unloaded from vehicles, or vehicles of any particular class or description, on streets.

6. For prescribing the conditions subject to which, and the times at which, vehicles, or vehicles of any particular class or description, delivering or collecting goods or merchandise, or delivering goods or merchandise of any particular class or classes, may stand in streets, or in streets of any class or description, or in specified streets.

7. For prescribing rules as to precedence to be observed as between vehicles proceeding in the same direction, in opposite directions, or when crossing.

8. For prescribing places in streets where vehicles, or vehicles of any particular class or description, may, or may not, wait either generally or at particular times.

9. For prescribing cab ranks and ranks and stopping places of omnibuses and other public conveyances."

(g) by repealing section 78 thereof.

Passed in the House of Representatives this 31st day of
January, 1969.

G. R. LATOUR
Clerk of the House

Passed in the Senate this 11th day of February, 1969.

J. E. CARTER
Clerk of the Senate