

L.N. 44 of 2006

**TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDINANCE
(CAP. 65)**

Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Regulations, 2006

IN exercise of the powers conferred by article 54 of the Traffic Regulation Ordinance, the Minister for Urban Development and Roads has, after consultation with the Malta Transport Authority, made the following regulations:

1. The title of these regulations is the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Regulations, 2006, and they shall be read and construed as one with the Motor Vehicles Regulations, hereinafter referred to as “the principal regulations”.

Citation.
L.N. 128 of 1994.

2. For regulation 131 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:-

Substitutes
regulation 131 of
the principal
regulations.

“Driver’s
licence and
tag.

131. (1) No person shall drive any vehicle used for the carriage of passengers for hire or reward unless that person is in possession of the appropriate driving licence as provided for in the Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) regulations and an identification tag issued to him by the Authority.

(2) A driver who wishes to be granted an identification tag shall submit an application to the Authority on the prescribed form.

(3) The said identification tag shall only be issued by the Authority to that driver who –

(a) is in possession of the appropriate driving licence,

(b) in the opinion of the Authority is of good repute,

(c) attends regularly a course of instruction approved by the Authority and successfully undergoes an examination at the end of the said course, and

(d) in the case of a taxi driver upon the acceptance to adhere to and signing of a Code of Conduct developed by the Authority.

(4) For the purpose of this regulation, a person is not considered to be of good repute if he:

(a) has been convicted, during the previous five years, of a crime liable to a term of imprisonment of three months or more or a fine of at least two hundred liri,

(b) has been convicted, during the previous two years, of offences against traffic or road transport regulations. Applicants for an identification tag shall thus submit to the Authority a Police conduct certificate.

(5) The Authority may withdraw an identification tag where the holder no longer satisfies the good repute requirement.

(6) The Authority may suspend an identification tag until a final judgement is given where the holder is charged in Court with a criminal offence which is liable to a term of imprisonment of not less than three months or a fine of not less than two hundred liri.

(7) The driver of any motor vehicle used for the carriage of passengers for hire or reward shall, while carrying passengers, wear the identification tag in a conspicuous place on the chest in a manner that it may be easily seen.

(8) No driver shall make use of an identification tag other than that issued to him by the Authority and such identification tag shall not be transferable from one driver to another.

(9) The driver of any motor vehicle used for the carriage of passengers for hire or reward shall, whilst on duty, wear a uniform of the pattern and colour as approved by the Authority.”.

Substitutes
regulation 235 of
the principal
regulations.

3. For regulation 235 of the principal regulations there shall be substituted the following:

“Taxi drivers’
dress and tag.

235. (1) The driver of a taxicar shall wear while on duty a uniform consisting of a light blue shirt, navy blue cardigan, navy blue trousers and black shoes in winter and a light blue shirt, navy blue trousers and black shoes or sandals in summer.

(2) Drivers of taxicars shall wear their uniform in a proper manner and shall keep it clean and in a good state of repair.

(3) Taxi drivers shall, while on duty, also wear in a conspicuous place on the left side of their chest, the identification tag prescribed by the Authority.

(4) No driver of a taxicar shall make use of an identification tag other than that issued to him by the said Authority and such identification tag shall not be transferable from one driver to another.

For the purpose of this regulation, the words “while on duty” shall mean the time while the driver of a taxicar is waiting on a taxi stand or while exposing the taxicar for hire and while the driver is driving the taxicar whether when carrying passengers in the taxicar or not.”.

4. In regulation 240 of the principal regulations, for the words “by any officer of the Authority” there shall be substituted the words “by any officer of the Authority or by a local warden”.

Amends regulation 240 of the principal regulations.

5. Regulation 244 of the principal regulations, shall be amended as follows:

Amends regulation 244 of the principal regulations.

(a) immediately after the words “saloon type” there shall be added the words “, externally painted white,”; and

(b) for the words “eight adult passengers” there shall be substituted the words “five adult passengers”.

6. Regulation 248 of the principal regulations shall be amended as follows:

Amends regulation 248 of the principal regulations.

(a) in sub-regulation (1) for the words “A plate, measuring 130 mm by 20mm”, there shall be substituted the words “A plate or a sticker, measuring 130mm by 80mm”; and

(b) in sub-regulation (2), immediately after the words “M” there shall be added the words “,75 millimetres in height and 60 millimetres in width,”.

7. Regulation 249 of the principal regulations shall be substituted by the following:

Substitutes regulation 249 of the principal regulations.

“249. (1) All taxicars shall display an electrically illuminated TAXI sign which shall be fitted on the front middle part of the roof between the front doors.

(2) The sign shall display the word ‘TAXI’ in black letters on a white background in the case of taxicars which are licensed to operate in Malta and the word ‘TAXI’ in red letters on a white background in the case of taxicars which are licensed to operate in Gozo, and the word ‘TAXI’ shall be visible from the front and rear of the vehicle.

(3) The dimensions of the sign shall be such that the surface of the sign which is capable of being illuminated shall be approximately 110 millimetres in height, approximately 150 millimetres in width and approximately 450 millimetres in length.

(4) The sign shall be constructed of a durable material, be weatherproof and capable of being securely mounted on the roof of the vehicle.

(5) The sign shall be kept lit at all times between sunset and sunrise, except when the vehicle is hired:

Provided that when a taxicar is on a taxi stand, only the vehicle placed first on the stand shall keep such sign so lit.”.