

No. 344.

THE MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC  
LAWS, 1954 TO 1959.

(LAWS 61 OF 1954, 35 OF 1957 AND 25 OF 1959.)

REGULATIONS MADE UNDER SUB-SECTION (1) OF SECTION 3.

In exercise of the powers vested in him by sub-section (1) of section 3 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Laws, 1954 to 1959, His Excellency the Governor, with the advice of the Executive Council, has been pleased to make the following Regulations :—

I. These Regulations may be cited as the Motor Vehicles Regulations, 1959. Short title  
61 of 1954  
35 of 1957  
25 of 1959.

PART I.—PRELIMINARY.

2. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires :— Interpre-  
tation.

“dealer” means a person who imports or keeps for sale motor vehicles, but a dealer ceases to be such in respect of any motor vehicle, which is used by him or with his authority otherwise than for demonstration purposes ;

“Law” means the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Laws, 1954 to 1959 ;

“motor omnibus” means a public service motor vehicle having seating accommodation for more than six passengers and further includes a vehicle licensed for use both as a motor omnibus and a motor lorry ;

“self-drive motor vehicle” means a public service motor vehicle hired out to the driver by the hirer or his agent ;

“visitor” means a person who enters Cyprus for a *bona fide* non-immigration purposes, such as touring, recreation, health, family reasons, study or business, and whose stay in Cyprus is, in the opinion of the Registrar, of a temporary nature but shall not include any person who is employed in Cyprus or who enters Cyprus to take up employment for a period exceeding six months or who normally resides in Cyprus.

PART II.—REGISTRATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

3. The Governor may appoint a public officer to be Registrar of motor vehicles (in these Regulations called “the Registrar”) for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of these Regulations with respect to the registration and licensing of motor vehicles and licensing of drivers. Appoint-  
ment of  
Registrar.

4. The Registrar may appoint Deputy Registrars for carrying out and exercising all such duties and powers under these Regulations as may be assigned to him by the Registrar and also appoint such other officers as may be necessary in any district for carrying out and exercising therein, on his behalf, any duties or powers under these Regulations as may be assigned to them by the Registrar. Appoint-  
ment of  
Deputy  
Registrars.

5. The Registrar shall cause to be kept in such form as he may direct— Registers to  
be kept.

(a) a general register (hereinafter called “the register”), for the registration of motor vehicles ;

(b) a demonstration register (hereinafter called “the demonstration register”), for the registration of dealers in motor vehicles for demonstration purpose ;

- (c) a visitors' register (hereinafter called "the visitors register"), for the registration of motor vehicles imported by visitors as in these Regulations provided ;
- (d) a register of driving licences in Cyprus and renewal cards of such licences ;
- (e) a register of international driving licences issued in Cyprus ;
- (f) a register of international certificates and of international permits issued in Cyprus.

**Registration of motor vehicles.**

6. No person shall use or drive a motor vehicle or shall suffer or permit a motor vehicle to be used or driven unless such vehicle is registered under the provisions of these Regulations :

Provided that an unregistered motor vehicle may be driven on a road for the purpose of its being registered or inspected.

**Application for registration.**

7. The owner of an unregistered motor vehicle who desires to register it shall lodge with the Registrar an application in the Form A of the First Schedule hereto containing the particulars therein set out.

**Registration.**

8.—(1) The Registrar before registering any motor vehicle shall verify all the particulars contained in the application and may, if he deems it necessary, send any such vehicle to be examined by an examiner for the purpose of ensuring that it is of such construction and in such condition as may be necessary for the purpose for which it is sought to be registered.

(2) The Registrar, if satisfied of the road-worthiness of the motor vehicle and that it complies in all respects with every condition applicable to its particular type or class and that its circulation is not otherwise restricted nor prohibited under the provisions of any Law or public instrument in force for the time being and on payment of the fee provided under Part I of the Schedule to the Law, shall assign an identification mark to such vehicle and register it by entering in the register the particulars of such vehicle.

(3) The identification mark mentioned in paragraph (2) of this regulation shall conform as to shape, lettering, numbering and otherwise with the provisions set out in the Second Schedule hereto :

Provided that the identification mark shall bear, in addition to any other letters before any other letter or figure thereon—

- (a) the letter "T" in the case of a public service motor vehicle, registered as such ;
- (b) the letter "Z" in the case of a self-drive motor vehicle registered as such.

(4) If a motor vehicle does not bear on it an identification mark as provided by these Regulations, this fact shall be regarded as *prima facie* evidence that the vehicle has not been registered and any police officer may detain such vehicle until enquiries have been made.

**Certificate of Registration.**

9. A certificate of registration, as in the Form B of the First Schedule hereto, shall be given to the owner of the motor vehicle and such certificate of registration shall be regarded as *prima facie* evidence that the motor vehicle to which it refers has been registered.

**Cancellation of Registration.**

10.—(1) The registration of a motor vehicle shall remain valid so long as the vehicle is kept in use and shall only be cancelled if the owner thereof by an application in writing requests the Registrar to cancel its registration or if the Registrar is satisfied that the vehicle has been destroyed or rendered

permanently unserviceable or permanently removed from Cyprus or it has not been relicensed for three years.

(2) The owner of a motor vehicle which has been destroyed or rendered permanently unserviceable or permanently removed from Cyprus or has not been relicensed for three years shall within seven days from the occurrence of such event give notice in writing to the Registrar.

11. Notwithstanding any other provisions of these Regulations the Registrar may refuse to register, or may cancel the registration of, any motor vehicle which, in his opinion, so nearly resembles the colour and general appearance of a military or police vehicle as to be likely to be mistaken for any such military or police vehicle.

Vehicles likely to be mistaken for military or police vehicles.

12.—(1) The Registrar may, on the application of any person who satisfies him that he is a *bona fide* dealer in motor vehicles issue to such person a dealer's licence and assign to him such number of identification marks as to the Registrar may seem fit, having regard to the extent of the business of such person as a dealer in motor vehicles.

Demonstration vehicles of dealers.

(2) A dealer's licence shall be valid for a period of six months and shall authorise the holder to use on any road any type of motor vehicle with which he deals for demonstration to prospective purchasers.

(3) Upon the assignment to him of any identification mark, the dealer shall procure, at his expense the necessary plate on which the allotted mark must appear. Every such plate shall be of a size approved by the Registrar; it shall have a white background, the lettering and numbers thereon being coloured red and shall, whilst a motor vehicle is used on any road for demonstration purposes in pursuance of a dealer's licence, be attached to, and exhibited on, such motor vehicle in such manner and in such place as the Registrar may direct.

(4) With the exception of the driver and the person or persons testing the motor vehicle with a view to purchase, no other person or any goods shall be carried on any motor vehicle used for demonstration purposes in pursuance of this regulation.

(5) A dealer's licence may be cancelled at any time at the absolute discretion of the Registrar, if satisfied that the holder has not observed the provisions of this regulation and thereafter, he may refuse to issue to the previous holder any dealer's licence for any period not exceeding twelve months:

Provided that any person aggrieved by such cancellation or refusal may within fifteen days of such cancellation, appeal to the Governor in Council, whose decision thereon shall be final and conclusive.

13. Notwithstanding anything in these Regulations contained the Registrar may, on the application of a visitor, who imports a motor vehicle for his own use, register, without any charge, such motor vehicle in the visitors' register, if satisfied that the motor vehicle is furnished with a valid international certificate granted under an international convention with respect to the international circulation of motor vehicle to which Cyprus may have adhered and complies in all other respects with the requirements of such convention.

Visitors' imported vehicles.

14.—(1) Where the person entitled to the possession of a motor vehicle is not the absolute owner thereof, but is registered in the register, any person claiming to be the absolute owner thereof (hereinafter called "the claimant") may apply to the Registrar to enter his name in the register as the absolute owner in addition to the name of the registered owner.

Position of registered owner who is not absolute owner

(2) On receipt of any such application the Registrar shall cause the registered owner to be informed by registered post and shall call on him

to show cause, within fourteen days, why the name of the claimant should not be so entered in the register.

(3) If the registered owner agrees that the name of the claimant should be so entered in the register or if he fails to show cause, within the aforesaid period, why the name of the claimant should not be so entered, the Registrar shall enter the name of the claimant in the register accordingly and he shall be deemed to be the absolute owner for the purposes of these Regulations.

(4) If the registered owner proceeds to show cause the Registrar shall enquire into the circumstances and shall make such order thereon as he may think fit and any person whose name is, as the result of the enquiry entered in the register by the Registrar as the absolute owner of the motor vehicle shall be deemed to be the absolute owner for the purposes of these Regulations.

(5) The absolute owner of a motor vehicle whose name has been entered in the register under the provisions of these Regulations, shall, on ceasing to be the absolute owner thereof, require the Registrar to remove his name from the register, and the Registrar shall comply with such requisition on receiving the same.

(6) The Registrar may, if satisfied that the absolute owner of a motor vehicle has ceased to be the absolute owner thereof remove the name of such absolute owner on being required to do so by the registered owner.

Change of  
ownership.

15.—(1) On the change of ownership of a motor vehicle otherwise than by death—

- (a) the motor vehicle shall not be used for more than seven days after such change of ownership unless the new owner is registered as the owner thereof ;
- (b) the registered owner shall within seven days inform the Registrar in writing of the name and address of the new owner, and of the date of the change of ownership of the motor vehicle ;
- (c) the registered owner shall within seven days deliver his certificate of registration to the Registrar.

(2) Application for registration of a new owner may be made before the actual transfer of the motor vehicle but the registration of a new owner shall not be effective until the old certificate has been surrendered to the Registrar.

(3) On the death of the registered owner of a motor vehicle the person into whose custody the motor vehicle shall come shall within seven days of its coming into his custody give notice of the fact to the Registrar, who shall give such instructions as he may think fit as to the use of the motor vehicle pending the registration of the new owner. Any person to whom permission to use the motor vehicle pending such registration is given by the Registrar shall for the purposes of these Regulations be deemed to be the owner during the period for which such permission is given.

(4) On the registration of a new owner, the Registrar shall make the necessary alterations to the certificate of registration, and shall deliver the altered certificate to the new registered owner or, if more convenient, a new certificate of registration may be issued.

Owner  
leaving  
Cyprus  
temporarily.

16.—(1) If the owner of a motor vehicle leaves Cyprus for a period exceeding six months, the motor vehicle shall not be used from the expiration of that period until his return to Cyprus, unless some other person is registered as the owner.

(2) The owner may nominate a person to be registered as the owner during his absence, and the owner may be re-registered on his return.

17.—(1) The identification marks shall be fixed and remain fixed on the motor vehicle in accordance with these Regulations and shall at all times be kept unobscured and easily distinguishable.

Requirements regarding identification marks.

(2) No other figures or letters shall be placed near to the identification marks in such a manner as to be liable to render it more difficult to read or distinguish the identification marks of the vehicle when in motion.

(3) In this regulation the expression "identification marks" has the same meaning as in regulation 8.

### PART III.—LICENSING OF MOTOR VEHICLES.

18. Subject to the provisions of regulation 26 (3) no person shall use or drive or suffer or permit a motor vehicle to be used or driven for which a motor vehicle licence is not in force, or use or suffer or permit to be used a motor vehicle for a purpose not authorised by, or in contravention of any condition of, the motor vehicle licence in force for the use thereof :

Motor vehicles to be licensed.

Provided that any motor vehicle registered in the demonstration register may be used or driven on any road for any demonstration purpose by the person duly registered thereof or duly authorised by him in this respect.

19.—(1) A motor vehicle licence may be issued by the Registrar which shall specify the type or class of the motor vehicle for which it is issued and the purpose for which such motor vehicle is to be used and particulars thereof shall be entered in the register.

Issue of licences for motor vehicles.

(2) Applications for the issue of a motor vehicle licence shall be made as in Form C of the First Schedule hereto.

(3) The Registrar shall not issue a motor vehicle licence unless the motor vehicle has been duly registered and he is satisfied that the motor vehicle does not differ in any respect from the particulars in the register.

(4) No motor vehicle licence shall be issued unless the motor vehicle conforms in all respects to the conditions laid down under these Regulations as to construction and equipment.

(5) Licences for registered motor vehicles shall be in the Form D of the First Schedule hereto.

(6) No person shall use, or allow or suffer to be used, a motor vehicle except as a motor vehicle of the type or class and for the purpose for which such vehicle is licensed under this regulation :

Provided that where a motor vehicle is licensed for use as both a motor omnibus and a motor lorry such motor vehicle may be used for both such purposes.

(7) For the purpose of this regulation, "type or class of the motor vehicle" means—

- (i) a motor omnibus ;
- (ii) a public service motor vehicle of not more than six passenger seats ;
- (iii) a motor lorry ;
- (iv) a private motor vehicle ;
- (v) a motor bicycle (with or without side car) ;
- (vi) a motor tricycle ;
- (vii) an autocycle ;
- (viii) a road roller ;
- (ix) a tractor ;
- (x) a self-drive motor vehicle ;
- (xi) any other type of motor vehicle.