

Statutory Instrument No. 75 of 1981

ROAD TRAFFIC ACT  
(Cap. 69:01)

ROAD TRAFFIC (SEAT-BELTS) REGULATIONS, 1981

(Published on 31st July, 1981)

ARRANGEMENT OF REGULATIONS

REGULATION

1. Citation
2. Prohibition of driving or being front seat assenger in certain vehicles without wearing installed seat-belt
3. Prohibition of using certain vehicles which have ceased to be equipped with seat-belts unless re-equipped
4. Penalties

IN EXERCISE of the powers conferred on the Minister of Works and Communications by section 127 (1) of the Road Traffic Act, the following Regulations are hereby made

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Road Traffic (Seat-Belts) Regulations, 1981. Citation
2. (1) Where a motor car, motor omnibus or commercial vehicle is equipped — Prohibition of driving or being front seat passenger in certain vehicles without wearing installed seat-belt
  - (a) with a seat-belt for the driver alone; or
  - (b) with seat-belts for both the driver and a front seat passenger,no person shall, in either case, drive or, in the case referred to in paragraph (b), be a passenger in the front seat of the vehicle on a road unless, at all times while the vehicle is in forward motion, —
  - (i) he is wearing the seat-belt or the appropriate seat-belt, as the case may be; and
  - (ii) that seat-belt is so installed, worn and fastened and in such a condition as to ensure its maximum effectiveness.
- (2) This regulation shall come into operation upon the expiry of the period of 3 months immediately following the day of the publication of these Regulations in the Gazette.
3. (1) Where a motor car, motor omnibus or commercial vehicle was, at any time, equipped — Prohibition of using certain vehicles which have ceased to be equipped with seat-belts unless re-equipped
  - (a) with a seat-belt for the driver alone; or
  - (b) with seat-belts for both the driver and a front seat passenger,but ceased, at any time after the commencement of these Regulations (other than regulation 2), to be equipped, in the case referred to in paragraph (a), with the seat-belt or, in the case referred to in paragraph (b), with either seat-belt or both of them, no person shall use the vehicle on a road unless it is again equipped with that seat-belt or those seat-belts or with a new seat-belt or seat-belts, not inferior in quality, in its or their place, as the case may be.
- (2) Where, in any proceedings in respect of a contravention of this regulation, the court is satisfied that the vehicle, the subject of the proceedings, was at one time equipped —
  - (a) with a seat-belt for the driver alone; or
  - (b) with seat-belts for both the driver and a front seat passenger,

but at some time ceased to be so equipped, the court shall presume that it ceased to be so equipped after the commencement of these Regulations (other than regulation 2) unless the contrary is proved.

Penalties

4. Any person who contravenes these Regulations shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of P100 and to imprisonment for 3 months or in the case of a second or subsequent offence to a fine of P200 and to imprisonment for 6 months.

MADE this 22nd day of July, 1981.

C. BLACKBEARD,  
*Minister of Works and Communications.*

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