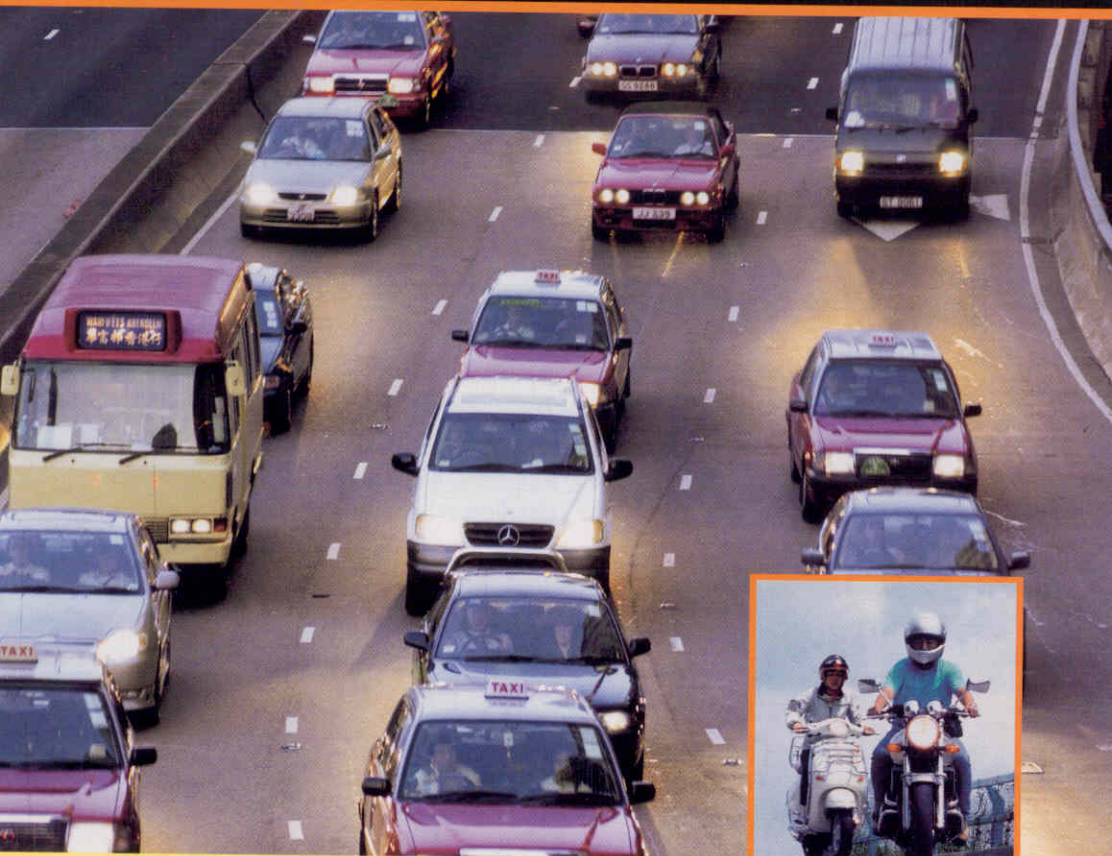


Be Safe Be Bright Turn on the Lights



With effect from 1 July 2002,
drivers are required to comply
with the amended regulations
on the use of vehicle headlamps
and hazard warning lights.



The legislation in respect of the use of vehicle headlamps and hazard warning lights has been amended to enhance road safety. All motorists (including motorcyclists) should take note of the following legislative requirements stipulated by the amended Regulations -



1. During the hours of darkness (including dusk and dawn) or in poor visibility conditions (e.g. in rain or fog), the driver of a motor vehicle is required to turn on all obligatory front lamps, obligatory headlamps and obligatory rear lamps of his vehicle while driving. Where a system of street lights is in operation or in the face of approaching traffic, the lighted headlamps must be dipped to an angle that is incapable of dazzling other road users.

2. The driver of a motor cycle or a motor tricycle is required to turn on all obligatory front lamps, obligatory headlamps and obligatory rear lamps of his vehicle at all times (including daytime) while driving. The lighted headlamps should be dipped except during the hours of darkness or in poor visibility conditions where no system of street lights is in operation and the vehicle is not being driven in the face of approaching traffic.





3. The driver of a motor vehicle is required to turn on the hazard warning lights if his vehicle breaks down or stops for an emergency reason on an expressway or a road with a speed limit exceeding 50 km/h.
4. As a safety practice, the driver of a motor vehicle is also allowed to turn on the hazard warning lights when his vehicle is likely to be a hazard to other road users (e.g. when parking or making sudden deceleration because of congestion ahead) whether it is stationary or in motion on any roads.

Offences and penalties

Contravention of the relevant provisions of the amended Regulations is liable to a fine of \$5,000 and 3 months' imprisonment on first conviction; and a fine of \$10,000 and 6 months' imprisonment on second or subsequent conviction.

Enquiries

Enquiries about the use of motor vehicle lights can be directed to the Transport Department hotline 2804 2600. More information is also available at the Department's website at <http://www.info.gov.hk/td>.

This leaflet is only a general guide. The relevant legislation is set out in Regulation 47 of the Road Traffic (Traffic Control) Regulations made under the Road Traffic Ordinance (Chapter 374).