

**PRESS RELEASE**

Road accidents and consequent deaths is a cause of great concern for us. During the year 2016, 17218 persons and during the year 2017 (up to October) 14077 persons have been killed in road accidents in Tamil Nadu. An analysis of road accident data shows that about 90% road accidents are caused by the faults of drivers mainly due to fatigue by driving long hours leading to physical and mental stress. The Tourist Taxi and Maxi Cab are also contributing significantly towards road accidents and consequent deaths in the State. To reduce the road accidents and consequent deaths caused by the Drivers of Tourist Taxi and Maxi Cab, instructions have been issued by the Road Safety Commissioner to adhere to legal provisions of Motor Vehicles Act 1988 read with provisions of Motor Transport Workers Act 1961. Accordingly, no Driver of Tourist Taxi and Maxi Cab should drive more than eight hours in a day and forty eight hours in a week with one day rest for every seven days.

Tourist Taxi and Maxi Cab Drivers should not be allowed, after completion of first duty, to perform second consecutive duty. The annual medical checkup and a valid annual Personal Accident cover is also essential. If any of the Tourist Taxi/ Maxi cab Driver or operators found violating any of the legal provisions, then action will be taken for suspension of Driving Licence of the Tourist Taxi and Maxi Cab drivers. Permit and Fitness Certificate of such vehicle will also not be renewed by the Transport Department. These existing legal provisions are to be adhered with the purpose of reducing road accidents and consequent deaths in the State. All are requested to kindly co-operate to save the valuable lives of their near and dear ones.

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