

**PRESS RELEASE**

The Government of Tamil Nadu have issued orders in G.O.No. 604 Home (Tr.V) Department dt. 25.05.2008 making it mandatory for all the Heavy vehicle Drivers to undergo 'one day skill upgradation and refresher training' and produce the certificate by the authorized heavy vehicle's driving schools at the time of endorsement/renewal of heavy vehicle driving licences with effect from 01.10.2008.

2. Necessary instructions have been issued to all the Officers of Transport Department to ensure the implementation of the G.O.

3. As advised by the Institute of Road Transport, Taramani, the course fee to be collected by the driving schools for this proposed one day refresher course/training was fixed **at the maximum of Rs.300/-**. The Zonal Officers of this department have also been asked that any amount below this could be finalized for the driving schools in their Zones by them taking into consideration all the relevant factors such as available infrastructures, number of participants in a particular course etc.,

4. However, in spite of the above clear cut instructions issued by this Office, there are many instances of complaints received about the exorbitant charging of fees by some of the driving schools and issue of certificates without conducting proper classes, which is highly irregular and defeats the very purpose of the intention of giving mandatory one day training.

5. For this, it has been now therefore instructed that effective monitoring of the functioning of the driving schools with regard to the quality of training programmes given and for ensuring collection of only the authorized fee as indicated by the Zonal Officers. They have also been requested to ensure that the drivers/needly public are not subjected to exorbitant demands by driving schools. The Regional Transport Officers/Motor Vehicle Inspectors have also been instructed to closely monitor and take stringent action against the driving schools violating these instructions.

6. The licencees of Driving Schools are also warned that if they are found violating these instructions most stringent action such as suspension and/or cancellation of licences could also be taken against them. Hence, they should guard themselves against such complaints/ resultant disciplinary action.

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