

No. RT-11021/40/2014-MVL  
Government of India  
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways  
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Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street,  
New Delhi -110001.

Dated 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2016.

To

- 1) The Principal Secretaries(Transport)/The Secretaries (Transport)/The Transport Commissioners of all the States/UT Administrations except Govt. of Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.
- 2) The Secretary(Home/Transport), Government of Tamil Nadu and Gujarat.

**Sub:** Driving licence for hearing impaired persons – reg.


Sir/Madam,

In view of the PIL191 of 2013 in the High Court of Judicature of Bombay filed by Amit Ashok Tribhuvan V/s Regional Transport Officer and Ors, a meeting under the Chairmanship of Joint Secretary(Transport) was held on 6<sup>th</sup> May, 2016 to discuss the issue of grant of driving licences for hearing impaired. It was decided to seek the views of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi on the subject. The views of AIIMS was received on 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016 which were circulated to all the State Government vide letter of even number dated 23<sup>rd</sup> June, 2016 for comments. The same are reproduced hereunder :-

"2. Driving is primarily a visual function with little inputs from hearing. Many developed countries give hearing impaired people the privilege of being able to drive. If a person is rehabilitated with hearing amplification (hearing aid or cochlear implant) and can hear reasonably with the same then there seems little reason to deprive him or her of a driving license. For patients not fully rehabilitated some countries do grant the privilege to drive. This is important with regard to opportunities we wish to grant to the disabled. It is well recognized that the loss of hearing does not pre-se impact the ability to drive. As an added precaution, should be asked to display on the car a sign indicating the driver is hearing impaired. All such applicants should take a stringent driving test under the actual road condition circumstances as is the case for normal individuals."

3. It is requested that the application for driving licences to the hearing impaired applicants may be considered as per para-2 above while deciding the issue of any hearing impaired applicant under section 8(4) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Yours faithfully,

  
(Priyank Bharti)  
Director (MVL)

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