

MINISTRY OF LAND TRANSPORT

COMMUNIQUÉ

INCREASE IN PENALTY POINTS FOR USING A HANDHELD PHONE OR MICROPHONE WHILE DRIVING

The Ministry of Land Transport wishes to inform the public that the Road Traffic (Amendment of Schedule) (No. 2) Regulations 2026, gazetted on Saturday, 06 June 2026, introduces stricter consequences for distracted driving in an effort to enhance safety across our national road network as from Wednesday, 10 June 2026.

Accordingly, the current range of penalty points applicable for *“using a hand-held microphone or telephone handset whilst driving”* will be increased from ‘3 to 6’ penalty points to ‘5 to 10’ points.

This revision is part of the ongoing national efforts to deter dangerous driving behaviours as operating a handheld communication device while driving significantly impairs concentration, delays reaction times, and drastically elevates the risk of severe, preventable road accidents.

The public is reminded that by virtue of Regulation 90 of the Road Traffic (Construction and Use of Vehicles) Regulations 2010, *“no person shall, while driving a motor vehicle, use a handheld or a hand-free microphone or telephone handset to answer or make a call no matter how urgent the call is”* and offenders are liable to the payment of fines as per provision laid down in the Road Traffic Act.

The Ministry strongly appeals to all drivers and road users to demonstrate responsibility behind the wheel and urge motorists to prioritise safety on the road.

Ministry of Land Transport
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