

# Guj amber-lights Centre's traffic fines, cuts up to 90%

## Retains Hefty Penalties For Serious Violations

Kapil Dave & Dipak Dash | TNN

**Gandhinagar/ New Delhi:** Barely 10 days after the amended Motor Vehicles Act (MVA) came into force, the Gujarat government on Tuesday notified the fines for some of the traffic offences which are 25 to 90 per cent less than those notified by the Centre.

The state government's justification to reduce the penalties on "compassionate and humanitarian" ground is now likely to pave way for other states to notify the fines. The Gujarat government reiterated its commitment to ensure safety on roads by emula-

### FINE BALANCE

Offence	Notified by Centre	Notified by State
Obstructing fire tender and ambulance	10,000	1,000
Triple seat riding	1,000	100
Driving without helmet	1,000	500
Wrong side driving (2 & 4 wheeler)	5,000-10,000	1,500 & 3,000
Driving without licence (2 & 4 wheeler)	5,000	2,000 & 3,000
Polluting vehicle	10,000	3,000
Driving without registration	5,000-10,000	2,000
Racing in public places	5,000-10,000	5,000-10,000
Over Speeding LMV	2000	2000-3000



Figures in %

ting Centre's hefty fine policy for serious offences like rash and drunken driving, which remain unchanged. The new fines will come into force from

September 16.

"Our priority is not collecting fines or filing cases against people. However, implementing law is not possible

without punitive action. We have taken a compassionate and humanitarian approach and reduced fines. No concessions can be granted in cases where people lose their lives. There will be a sustained clampdown against serious traffic offences," said chief minister Vijay Rupani.

The Gujarat government has largely tweaked the fines that fall under the "compoundable" offences category, which empowers the state governments to designate officers who can collect the fine on the spot and let the offender go. These include not wearing seatbelt, helmet, triple-riding on two-wheelers, speeding, plying vehicles without pollution under control certificate and driving without licence and registration certificate.

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