

PROPOSAL FOR DRAFT AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION No. 53

(Uniform provisions concerning the approval of category L3 vehicles with regard to the installation of lighting and light-signalling devices)

(India proposals are marked in ~~strike through~~ and *blue text*)

GENERAL :

UN Regulation No. 53 currently mandates:

1. Fitment of Front Position Lamps for L3 category vehicles.
2. Headlamp shall automatically be ON when the engine is running or/alternatively the daytime running lamp shall automatically be ON when the engine is running.

Although the front position lamp fitment is mandatory as per UN R 53, as per para 6.13.7.1. of this regulation, the activation of front position lamp is optional when daytime running lamp is ON. The reason for such provision, in our understanding, could be that daytime running lamp also serves the purpose of identifying the vehicle presence when viewed from the front. This situation is also applicable when vehicle has a provision of automatic headlamp "ON" switching (AHO). Hence, India proposes that activation of front position lamp is also made optional, when AHO is activated.

In addition to the above, with the provision of either AHO or DRL available on the vehicle the front position lamp becomes redundant for the purpose of identifying the presence of the vehicle when viewed from the front. Hence, India proposes that fitment of front position lamps shall be made optional for L3 category vehicles.

There is also a need to bring clarification in paragraph 5.10 of UN R 53 regarding activation of front position lamp or the passing beam headlamp, if there is no front position lamp, the rear position lamp since two wheeler may have lighting systems working on DC system or AC system or both.

A. PROPOSAL

- 1) Paragraph 5.10., amend to read:

- 5.10 The electrical connections shall be such that the front position lamp or the passing beam headlamp, if there is no front position lamp, the rear position lamp and the rear-registration-plate illuminating device cannot be switched on or off otherwise than simultaneously unless otherwise specified.

However the above condition is not applicable during the time period between master control switch (Ignition Switch) on and the starting of the engine.

2) Paragraph 5.11.1., amend to read:

“5.11.1. If installed, the daytime running lamp shall automatically be ON when the engine is running. If the headlamp is switched on, the daytime running lamp shall not come on when the engine is running.

If no daytime running lamp is installed, the headlamp shall automatically be on when the engine is running. *In this case the front position lamp(s), if fitted, may be switched ON individually or together when headlamp(s) is/are automatically switched ON.*

3) Paragraph 5.14.6., may be deleted:

~~5.14.6. Front position lamp (paragraph 6.6.);~~

4) New Paragraph 5.15.5 may be added as below:

“5.15.5. Front position lamp (paragraph 6.6.);”

B. JUSTIFICATION

1. The intent of the front position lamp is to indicate the ‘presence of the motorcycle’ when viewed from the front.
 2. Mandatory presence of front position lamp on motorcycle could be useful when there is no provision of AHO or DRL in a vehicle.
 3. If a vehicle is having provision of AHO or DRL, the presence of the motorcycle from front is much more perceivable than with front position lamp. Hence the need of front position lamp has become redundant.
 4. As per the current text of UN R 53, the activation of this lamp is optional when daytime running lamp is ON. The reason for such provision, in our understanding, could be that daytime running lamp also serves the purpose of identifying the vehicle presence when viewed from the front. This situation is also applicable when vehicle has a provision of automatic headlamp "ON" switching (AHO).
 5. Two wheelers use lighting systems working on DC system or AC system or both. It is also a practice to have some lamps on AC and some on DC. The lamps working on DC system can switch ON with ignition switch in ON position and the lamps on AC system will become ON, only when engine is started.
 6. By keeping front position lamp optional, the manufacturers shall also be allowed to fit front position lamp on motorcycles, if they plan so.
 7. This proposal will reduce power consumption by lamps and also the vehicle cost.
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