1956 No. 1265

The Motor Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) Order, 1956

Made - - - -	13*th August*, 1956
Coming into Operation	27*th August*, 1956

The Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation in exercise of his powers under section 3 of the Road Traffic Act, 1930(**a**), and of all other powers him enabling in that behalf hereby makes the following Order:—

1.—(1) This Order shall come into operation on the twenty-seventh day of August, 1956, and may be cited as "The Motor Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) Order, 1956".

(2) The Interpretation Act, 1889(**b**), shall apply to the interpretation of this Order as it applies to the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. The Minister hereby authorises the use on roads of motor tractors constructed or adapted for use as grass-cutters or hedge-trimmers, notwithstanding that such vehicles do not comply with Regulation 33 of the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations, 1955(**c**), subject to the condition that the overall width of such a vehicle shall not exceed 7 feet 6 inches except when the vehicle is actually engaged in grass-cutting or hedge-trimming operations.

3. The Motor Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) General Order, 1955(**d**), shall have effect as though—

(1) in Article 9, in paragraph (*a*), after the words "delivery on sale" the following words were inserted:—

"or when proceeding to or returning from a manufacturer or repairer for the purpose of repair or overhaul";

(2) in Article 10—

(*a*) in paragraph (*c*), for the words "9 feet" (where they twice occur) there were substituted the words "11 feet"; and

(*b*) in paragraph (*d*), for the words "8 feet" there were substituted the words "9 feet 6 inches";

(3) in Article 15, at the end of paragraph (*f*) the following words were added—

"and further provided that in the case of a machine designed for use and used solely for the purpose of laying materials for the repair or construction of road surfaces, if the weight transmitted to the road surface by any two wheels in line transversely does not exceed 11 tons, the said Regulation 8 shall not apply;"; and

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(**a**) 20 & 21 Geo. 5. c. 43. (**b**) 52 & 53 Vict. c. 63. (**c**) S.I. 1955/482 (1955 II, p. 2242). (**d**) S.I. 1955/1038 (1955 II, p. 2224).

(4) in the First Schedule, for item 6 of Column 1 there were substituted the following item:—

"6. Motor tractors, heavy motor cars and trailers, constructed for naval, military, air force or civil aviation purposes before the 1st January, 1949",

and for the words in Column 3 opposite item 6 there were substituted the following words:—

"Admiralty or Secretary of State for War or Secretary of State for Air or Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation or Minister of Supply or any contractor making such vehicles for that Minister or any sub-contractor of such contractor.".

Given under the Official Seal of the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation this thirteenth day of August, 1956.

(L.S.) *Denis O'Neill,*
An Under Secretary of the
Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(*This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.*)

This Order authorises the use of tractor mounted hedge-trimmers and grass-cutters which exceed the permitted width for motor tractors laid down in the Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations, 1955, provided that they do not exceed that width when not actually engaged in hedge-trimming or grass-cutting operations.

The Order also amends the Motor Vehicles (Authorisation of Special Types) General Order, 1955, in the following ways:—

(1) it allows straddle carriers to be used on roads when proceeding to or returning from a manufacturer or repairer for repair or overhaul;

(2) it requires combine harvesters to have only one attendant if they exceed 8 feet, but do not exceed 11 feet in width (previously two attendants were necessary for harvesters exceeding 9 feet in width) and requires 24 hours' notice to be given to the police only when combine harvesters making a road journey of more than 5 miles exceed 9 feet 6 inches (instead of 8 feet previously) in overall width;

(3) it gives authority for the restricted use of road surfacing machines not fitted with compensating mechanism to prevent variation of wheel load, provided the axle weight of such machines does not exceed 11 tons;

(4) item 6 of the First Schedule is amended so as to restore the limited exemption given until 1955 for vehicles used for civil aviation purposes, and the property of, or at the time under the control of, the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation.