Circular No.15/2017

Sub : Use of Beacon Light on Police Vehicles - reg
Ref : Notification No: G.S.R 423(E) Dtd : 01/05/2017 of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, New Delhi

The use of Beacon Lights on Vehicles was governed by the provisions of Rule 108 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989. Govt. of India has comprehensively amended the above rule.

The amended Sub-Rule 4 of Rule 108 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989 states:

"1. The vehicles on Office duty which are designated to the following emergency and Disaster Management duties may be allowed to use Multi-Coloured red, blue and white light on its top, namely:

   a) The duties relating to control of fire.
   b) The Duties by Police for Maintenance of Law and Order.
   c) The duties relating to Management of Natural Disaster including Earthquake, Flood, Land slide, Cyclone, Tsunami and manmade disasters including Nuclear Disaster, Chemical Disaster and Biological Disasters.

2. The Multi-Coloured light shall not be put to use when the vehicle is not on the designated duty."

The notification further prescribed that the Transport Department of the State should list out the authorities to whom the permission to use vehicles specified in clause (a) and (b) above have been given and issue stickers to be displayed by such vehicles on their windscreens and also inform the general public about the list of authorities who have such permission to use beacon lights.

From the amended rules, it is clear that Beacon lights are permitted for Police vehicles only when they are deployed for maintaining of Law and order, Management of disaster and other similar emergency purposes. It is also to be borne in mind that Police vehicles are authorized to use only Multi-Coloured Beacon light when deployed for the above purpose. It has been stated that the vehicles that are eligible for using Beacon Light should bear the certificate which is issued by the Motor Vehicle Department on the
windscreen. The Transport commissioner has already been addressed in this regard.

The allotment of Certificate/Sticker from the Transport Commissioner does not confer the right to use Beacon light; it is only an enabling provision. Beacon lights will be used only when the vehicles as deployed purpose cited above. All Unit Heads are instructed to ensure compliance and bestow their personal attention in this regard.

Dr. T P Senkumar IPS
State Police Chief

To : All Officers in List ‘B’
Copy : CAs to all Officers in PHQ
To Circular Book/Stock File Records