



**MINISTRY OF CIVIL SERVICE AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORMS**

**MAURITIUS**

**07 July 2017**

**Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms**

**Circular Note No. 18 of 2017**

**E/152/73/01/01 TF1**

**From: Senior Chief Executive, Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms**

**To: Supervising Officers in Charge of Ministries/Departments**

**Availing of the Services of Illegal Operators by Public Officers**

The attention of this Ministry has been drawn to the effect that an increasing number of public officers are availing of the services of illegal operators (most commonly referred to as "Vans/ Taxis Marrons") to travel between their residence and workplace.

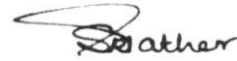
2. It is noted with serious concern that public officers, who ought to maintain the highest degree of discipline and ethical standards, are resorting to unauthorized transport providers at the expense of licensed operators.
3. Officers should be aware that, notwithstanding the fact that the likelihood of passengers being compensated in the course of road accidents involving "Vans/Taxi Marrons" remains doubtful, these vehicles have been reported to seriously destabilize the daily activities of duly licensed operators thus leading to a clear loss in their revenue and even jeopardizing the very sustainability of the business operations of these companies.
4. In the light of the serious threat posed by illegal operators to the financial viability of the transport industry, the Ministry of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport has taken a series of measures including a reinforcement of inspections by the National Transport Authority and the Police to track down defaulters and to preclude the offence of illegal operations. The National Transport Authority has further made it mandatory for licensed operators to affix stickers with clear mention of their authorized operations in order to demarcate them from illegal operators. We have been informed that, henceforth, illegal operators and passengers will be taken to the police stations where they will be required to give a statement.
5. Public Officers, whose travelling expenses are met by the Government, are strongly advised to refrain from resorting to illegal transport operators, and thereby avoid causing prejudice to the legal operators in the industry.

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6. This Ministry relies on your collaboration to draw the attention of all officers posted to your Ministries/ Departments to the need for strict compliance with the law so that they do not bring any discredit to the Civil Service. In case they fail to do so, legal action may be taken against them in line with Section 143A (1) of the Road Traffic Act, which stipulates that "*No person shall travel in a motor vehicle, or hire a motor vehicle as a whole or at separate fares, unless he has ascertained that such vehicle is licensed for the purpose for which he travels in, or hires that vehicle.*"

7. Supervising Officers are requested to bring the contents of this Circular Letter to the attention of all Heads of Parastatal and Statutory Bodies falling under the aegis of their respective Ministries.



(S. K. Pather)

Senior Chief Executive

Copy to: Secretary to Cabinet and Head of the Civil Service