

AS INTRODUCED IN THE RAJYA SABHA
ON THE 5TH DECEMBER, 2025

Bill No. XXIX of 2025

THE MOTOR VEHICLES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 2025

A

BILL

further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988

BE it enacted by Parliament in the Seventy-sixth Year of the Republic of India as follows:—

1. (1) This Act may be called the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2025.

5 (2) It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint; and different dates may be appointed for different States and any reference in this Act to the commencement of this Act shall, in relation to a State, be construed as a reference to the coming into force of this Act in that State.

Short Title and
commencement.

Amendment of section 2.	<p>2. In the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (hereinafter referred to as the principal Act), in section 2, after clause (7), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(7A) “dashboard camera” means a video recording device installed on the dashboard, windscreen, or any other suitable location within a motor vehicle, designed to continuously record video footage of the view through the vehicle’s front or rear windscreen or the interior of the vehicle, meeting such specifications as may be prescribed by the Central Government, which may include, but not limited to, minimum resolution, storage capacity, tamper-proof design, and shall be capable of operating during the vehicle’s use for the purposes of road safety, evidence collection, and ensuring accountability.”</p>	59 of 1988. 5 10
Amendment of section 41.	<p>3. In section 41 of the principal Act, after sub-section (2), the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(2A) No application for the registration of a motor vehicle shall be accepted unless the vehicle is equipped with a functioning dashboard camera installed by the manufacturer in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.”</p>	15
Amendment of section 56.	<p>4. In section 56 of the principal Act, after sub-section (1), the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(1A) The installation and proper functioning of a dashboard camera in the manner and as per the standards prescribed by the Central Government shall be a mandatory condition for the issuance or renewal of the certificate of fitness for all motor vehicles.”</p>	20
Amendment of section 64.	<p>5. In section 64 of the principal Act, after clause (a), the following proviso shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(aa) the specifications, standards, manner and procedure of installation, functioning, maintenance, and certification of dashboard camera in motor vehicles as a mandatory safety feature;”</p>	25
Amendment of section 84.	<p>6. In section 84 of the principal Act, after clause (g), the following new clause shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(h) that the vehicle must be equipped with a functioning dashboard camera, which shall record video footage during operation of the vehicle, and such footage shall be preserved for a minimum period of time as prescribed under the rules to be framed in this regard.”</p>	30 35
Amendment of section 109.	<p>7. In section 109 of the principal Act, after sub-section (2), the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(2A) Every motor vehicle, including private, public, commercial and law enforcement vehicles, shall be so constructed and so maintained as to have mandatory dashboard camera installed as per the specifications, standards and conditions as prescribed by the Central Government.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">Provided that it shall be incumbent upon the manufacturers of motor vehicles to ensure that the dashboard camera is pre-installed in all motor vehicles before they are sold, in compliance with the specifications, standards and conditions as prescribed by the Central Government.”</p>	40 45
Amendment of section 110.	<p>8. In section 110 of the principal Act,—</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(i) in sub-section (1), after clause (o), the following new clauses shall be inserted, namely:—</p> <p style="padding-left: 80px;">“(OO) specifications and technical standards for dashboard camera including the type, resolution, field of view, storage capacity, and tamper-proof design;</p>	50

5 (ooo) the placement and mounting of dashboard camera in all motor vehicles, either on the dashboard or within a specified range above or below the windshield, as per standards set by the Central Government, ensuring that they do not obstruct the driver's field of vision or hinder visibility of highway signs or signals”;

(ii) after sub-section (1), the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely—

“(1A) The Central Government may also make rules governing the following matters:—

10 (a) the minimum period of retention of video footage recorded by dashboard camera, and that access to such footage shall be granted only to authorized personnel, on a written request in the prescribed form, in compliance with the data privacy and protection laws for the time being in force;

15 (b) penalties for failure to install or maintain dashboard camera in a functional state, including fines and suspension of vehicle registration;

20 (c) the protection and confidentiality of video footage recorded by dashboard camera, preventing unauthorized access or misuse, and defining conditions under which such data can be accessed or shared by the authorities.”

9. After section 110B of the principal Act, the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

Insertion of new section 110C.

25 “**110C.** (1) The manufacturer of the motor vehicle shall be responsible for ensuring the proper installation and initial functioning of the dashboard camera, while the owner or operator of the vehicle shall be responsible for the maintenance and operation of the dashboard camera at all times while the vehicle is in use.

Responsibilities for Installation, Maintenance, and Operation of dashboard camera.

30 (2) The footage of the dashboard camera shall be securely stored for a minimum period of time as may be prescribed by the Central Government under the rules to be framed in this regard and made available to law enforcement agencies or authorized personnel upon receipt of a written request in the prescribed form, in compliance with data privacy and protection rules for the time being in force.

35 (3) Any failure to ensure the continuous operation of the dashboard camera, tampering with the device, or deletion of footage before completion of the prescribed retention period shall be punishable with fines or suspension of the vehicle’s registration or permit or both, as prescribed by the Central Government.

40 10. In section 161 of the principal Act, after sub-section (4), the following new sub-section shall be inserted, namely:—

Amendment of section 161.

45 “(5) The footage of the dashboard camera, if available and stored in accordance with the prescribed rules, shall be admissible as evidence in investigations, court proceedings, or determinations of liability and compensation related to road accidents, traffic violations, or criminal cases involving motor vehicles, subject to the discretion of the presiding Judge regarding its admissibility and relevance to the case.”

STATEMENT OF OBJECTS AND REASONS

India continues to face a severe road safety crisis, with a sharp rise in road accidents, particularly hit-and-run cases, which have increased by 17.4 per cent. between 2021 and 2024. In this context, dashboard cameras (dashcams) offer a vital solution, providing real-time, tamper-proof evidence in the event of accidents or traffic violations. Dashcams play a crucial role in accurately determining fault, expediting legal proceedings, and ensuring fair insurance settlements.

In addition to their role in accident investigations, dashcams help prevent wrongful accusations, such as false claims of police misconduct or staged encounters. They serve as impartial witnesses, reducing incidents of evidence tampering and corruption that have long plagued India's law enforcement and judicial processes. By promoting transparency, dashcams also serve as a deterrent to unethical practices, upholding citizens' rights under Article 21 of the Indian Constitution, which guarantees the right to life and personal liberty.

Furthermore, the mandatory use of dashcams would foster responsible driving behavior. The awareness of being recorded encourages compliance with traffic rules, potentially leading to a reduction in reckless driving and road safety violations. This measure would complement India's ongoing efforts to enhance road safety and enforce stricter traffic regulations.

The insurance sector, too, stands to benefit from this initiative. Dashcam footage offers clear, reliable evidence in road crash cases, helping insurers resolve claims more fairly and efficiently, while also curbing fraudulent claims. Additionally, the use of dashcams aligns with global best practices, as several countries have already recognized their value in accident investigations, legal proceedings, and road safety enhancements.

Given these factors—the rise in road accidents, the persistent issue of evidence tampering, and the broader societal benefits—this Bill seeks to mandate the installation of dashcams in all motor vehicles. By doing so, it aims to strengthen road safety, promote accountability, and safeguard citizens' rights, contributing to a more just and transparent system.

Hence, this Bill.

FAUZIA KHAN

ANNEXURE

EXTRACTS FROM THE MOTOR VEHICLES ACT, 1988
(59 OF 1988)

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41. (1) An application by or on behalf of the owner of a motor vehicle for registration shall be in such form and shall be accompanied by such documents, particulars and information and shall be made within such period as may be prescribed by the Central Government:

Registration, how to be made.

Provided that where a motor vehicle is jointly owned by more persons than one, the application shall be made by one of them on behalf of all the owners and such applicant shall be deemed to be the owner of the motor vehicle for the purposes of this Act.

Provided further that in the case of a new motor vehicle, the application for registration in the State shall be made by the dealer of such motor vehicle, if the new motor vehicle is being registered in the same State in which the dealer is situated.

(2) An application referred to in sub-section (1) shall be accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

(3) The registering authority shall issue a certificate of registration in the name of the owner] in such form and containing such particulars and information and in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

(4) In addition to the other particulars required to be included in the certificate of registration, it shall also specify the type of the motor vehicle, being a type as the Central Government may, having regard to the design, construction and use of the motor vehicle, by notification in the Official Gazette, specify.

(5) The registering authority shall enter the particulars of the certificate referred to in sub-section (3) in a register to be maintained in such form and manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

(6) The registering authority shall assign to the vehicle, for display thereon, a distinguishing mark (in this Act referred to as the registration mark) consisting of one of the groups of such of those letters and followed by such letters and figures as are allotted to the State by the Central Government from time to time by notification in the Official Gazette, and displayed and shown on the motor vehicle in such form and in such manner as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

Provided that in case of a new motor vehicle, the application for the registration of which is made under the second proviso to sub-section (1), such motor vehicle shall not be delivered to the owner until such registration mark is displayed on the motor vehicle in such form and manner as may prescribed by the Central Government.

(7) A certificate of registration issued under sub-section (3), whether before or after the commencement of this Act, in respect of a motor vehicle, shall, subject to the provisions contained in this Act, be valid only for a period of fifteen years from the date of issue of such certificate or for such period as may be prescribed by the Central Government and shall be renewable.

(8) An application by or on behalf of the owner of a motor vehicle, for the renewal of a certificate of registration shall be made within such period and in such form, containing such particulars and information as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

(9) An application referred to in sub-section (8) shall be accompanied by such fee as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

(10) Subject to the provisions of section 56, the registering authority may, on receipt of an application under sub-section (8), renew the certificate of registration

for such period, as may be prescribed by the Central Government and intimate the fact to the original registering authority, if it is not the original registering authority.

Provided that the Central Government may prescribe different period of renewal for different types of motor vehicles.

(14) An application for the issue of a duplicate certificate of registration shall be made to the last registering authority in such form, containing such particulars and information along with such fee as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

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Refusal of registration or renewal of the certificate of registration.

45. The registering authority may, by order, refuse to register any motor vehicle, or renew the certificate of registration in respect of a motor vehicle (other than a transport vehicle), if in either case, the registering authority has reason to believe that it is a stolen motor vehicle or the vehicle is mechanically defective or fails to comply with the requirements of this Act or of the rules made thereunder, or if the applicant fails to furnish particulars of any previous registration of the vehicle or furnishes inaccurate particulars in the application for registration of the vehicle or, as the case may be, for renewal of the certificate or registration thereof and the registering authority shall furnish the applicant whose vehicle is refused registration, or whose application for renewal of the certificate of registration is refused, a copy of such order, together with the reasons for such refusal.

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Certificate of fitness of transport vehicles.

56. (1) Subject to the provisions of sections 59 and 60, a transport vehicle shall not be deemed to be validly registered for the purposes of section 39, unless it carries a certificate of fitness in such form containing such particulars and information as may be prescribed by the Central Government, issued by the prescribed authority, or by an authorised testing station mentioned in sub-section (2), to the effect that the vehicle complies for the time being with all the requirements of this Act and the rules made thereunder:

Provided that where the prescribed authority or the authorised testing station refuses to issue such certificate, it shall supply the owner of the vehicle with its reasons in writing for such refusal.

Provided further that no certificate of fitness shall be granted to a vehicle, after such date as may be notified by the Central Government, unless such vehicle has been tested at an automated testing station.

(2) The “authorised testing station” referred to in sub-section (1) means any facility, including automated testing facilities, authorised by the State Government, where fitness testing may be conducted in accordance with the rules made by the Central Government for recognition, regulation and control of such stations.

(3) Subject to the provisions of sub-section (4), a certificate of fitness shall remain effective for such period as may be prescribed by the Central Government having regard to the objects of this Act.

(4) The prescribed authority may for reasons to be recorded in writing cancel a certificate of fitness at any time, if satisfied that the vehicle to which it relates no longer complies with all the requirements of this Act and the rules made thereunder; and on such cancellation the certificate of registration of the vehicle and any permit granted in respect of the vehicle under Chapter V shall be deemed to be suspended until a new certificate of fitness has been obtained:

Provided that no such cancellation shall be made by the prescribed authority unless,—

(a) such prescribed authority holds such technical qualification as may be prescribed by the Central Government and where the prescribed authority does not hold the technical qualification, such cancellation is made on the basis of the report of an officer having such qualification; and

(b) the reasons recorded in writing cancelling a certificate of fitness are confirmed by an authorised testing station chosen by the owner of the vehicle whose certificate of fitness is sought to be cancelled:

Provided further that if the cancellation is confirmed by the authorised testing station, the cost of undertaking the test shall be borne by the owner of the vehicle being tested and in the alternative by the prescribed authority.

(5) A certificate of fitness issued under this Act shall, while it remains effective, be valid throughout India.

(6) All transport vehicles with a valid certificate of fitness issued under this section shall carry, on their bodies, in a clear and visible manner such distinguishing mark as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

(7) Subject to such conditions as the Central Government may prescribe, the provisions of this section may be extended to non-transport vehicles.

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64. The Central Government may make rules to provide for all or any of the following matters, namely:—

Power of Central Government to make rules.

(a) the period within which and the form in which an application shall be made and the documents, particulars and information it shall accompany under sub-section (1) of section 41;

(b) the form in which the certificate of registration shall be made and the particulars and information it shall contain and the manner in which it shall be issued under sub-section (3) of section 41;

(c) the form and manner in which the particulars of the certificate of registration shall be entered in the records of the registering authority under sub-section (5) of section 41;

(d) the manner in which and the form in which the registration mark, the letters and figures and other particulars referred to in sub-section (6) of section 41 shall be displayed and shown;

(da) providing for the period of validity of a certificate of registration under sub-section (7) of section 41;

(e) the period within which and the form in which the application shall be made and the particulars and information it shall contain under sub-section (8) of section 41;

(ea) the period of renewal of certificate of registration of different types of motor vehicles under sub-section (10) of section 41;

(f) the form in which the application referred to in sub-section (14) of section 41 shall be made, the particulars and information it shall contain and the fee to be charged;

(fa) the issue of temporary certificate of registration and temporary registration mark under section 43;

(fb) the terms and conditions under which a motor vehicle sold by an authorised dealer shall not require production before a registering authority under sub-section (1) of section 44;

(g) the form in which the period within which the application referred to in sub-section (1) of section 47 shall be made and the particulars it shall contain;

(h) the form in which and the manner in which the application for “No Objection Certificate” shall be made under sub-section (1) of section 48 and the form of receipt to be issued under sub-section (2) of section 48;

(i) the matters that are to be complied with by an applicant before no objection certificate may be issued under section 48;

(j) the form in which the intimation of change of address shall be made under sub-section (1) of section 49 and the documents to be submitted along with the application;

(ja) the form and manner for the electronic submission of the intimation of change of address, documents to be submitted along with such intimation including proof of authentication under sub-section (1A) of section 49;

(k) the form in which and the manner in which the intimation of transfer of ownership shall be made under sub-section (1) of section 50 or under sub-section (2) of section 50 and the document to be submitted along with the application;

(l) the form in which the application under sub-section (2) or sub-section (3) of section 51 shall be made;

(la) specifications, conditions for approval, retro fitment and other related matters for the alteration of motor vehicles under sub-section (1) of section 52;

(lb) the conditions for the alteration of any motor vehicle into an adapted vehicle under sub-section (2) of section 52;

(m) the form in which the certificate of fitness shall be issued under sub-section (1) of section 56 and the particulars and information it shall contain;

(n) the period for which the certificate of fitness granted or renewed under section 56 shall be effective;

(na) the distinguishing mark to be carried on the body of transport vehicles under sub-section (6) of section 56;

(nb) the conditions under which the application of section 56 may be extended to non-transport vehicles under sub-section (7) of section 56;

(nc) the recycling of motor vehicles and parts thereof which have exceeded their life under sub-section (4) of section 59;

(o) the fees to be charged for the issue or renewal or alteration of certificates of registration, for making an entry regarding transfer of ownership on a certificate of registration, for making or cancelling an endorsement in respect of agreement of hire-purchase or lease or hypothecation on a certificate of registration, for certificates of fitness for registration marks, and for the examination or inspection of motor vehicles, and the refund of such fees.

(oa) all or any of the matters under sub-section (1) of section 62B;

(ob) all or any of the matters under sub-section (1) and sub-section (2) of section 63;

(p) any other matter which is to be, or may be, prescribed by the Central Government.

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General conditions
attaching to all permits.

84. The following shall be conditions of every permit—

(a) that the vehicle to which the permit relates carries valid certificate of fitness issued under section 56 and is at all times so maintained as to comply with the requirements of this Act and the rules made thereunder;

(b) that the vehicle to which the permit relates is not driven at a speed exceeding the speed permitted under this Act;

(c) that any prohibition or restriction imposed and any fares or freight fixed by notification made under section 67 are observed in connection with the vehicle to which the permit relates;

(d) that the vehicle to which the permit relates is not driven in contravention of the provisions of section 5 or section 113;

(e) that the provisions of this Act limiting the hours of work of drivers are observed in connection with any vehicle or vehicles to which the permit relates;

(f) that the provisions of Chapters X, XI and XII so far as they apply to the holder of the permit are observed; and

(g) that the name and address of the operator shall be painted or otherwise firmly affixed to every vehicle to which the permit relates on the exterior of the body of that vehicle on both sides thereof in a colour or colours vividly contrasting to the colour of the vehicle centered as high as practicable below the window line in bold letters.

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109. (1) Every motor vehicle shall be so constructed and so maintained as to be at all times under the effective control of the person driving the vehicle.

General provision regarding construction and maintenance of vehicles.

(2) Every motor vehicle shall be so constructed as to have right hand steering control unless it is equipped with a mechanical or electrical signalling device of a prescribed nature.

(3) If the Central Government is of the opinion that it is necessary or expedient so to do in the public interest, it may by order published in the Official Gazette, notify that any article or process used by a manufacturer shall conform to such standard as may be specified in that order.

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110. (1) The Central Government may make rules regulating the construction, equipment and maintenance of motor vehicles and trailers with respect to all or any of the following matters, namely:—

Power of Central Government to make rules.

(a) the width, height, length and overhang of vehicles and of the loads carried;

(b) the size, nature, maximum retail price and condition of tyres, including embossing thereon of date and year of manufacture and the maximum load carrying capacity;

(c) brakes and steering gear;

(d) the use of safety glasses including prohibition of the use of tinted safety glasses;

(e) signalling appliances, lamps and reflectors;

(f) speed governors;

(g) the emission of smoke, visible vapour, sparks, ashes, grit or oil;

(h) the reduction of noise emitted by or caused by vehicles;

(i) the embossment of chassis number and engine number and the date of manufacture;

(j) safety belts, handle bars of motor cycles, auto-dippers and other equipments essential for safety of drivers, passengers and other road users;

(k) standards of the components [including software] used in the vehicle as inbuilt safety devices;

(l) provision for transportation of goods of dangerous or hazardous nature to human life;

(m) standards for emission of air pollutants;

(n) installation of catalytic convertors in the class of vehicles to be prescribed;

(o) the placement of audio-visual or radio or tape recorder type of device in public vehicles;

(p) warranty after sale of vehicle and norms therefor:

Provided that any rules relating to the matters dealing with the protection of environment, so far as may be, shall be made after consultation with the Ministry of the Government of India dealing with environment.

(2) Rules may be made under sub-section (1) governing the matters mentioned therein, including the manner of ensuring the compliance with such matters and the maintenance of motor vehicles in respect of such matters, either generally in respect of motor vehicles or trailers or in respect of motor vehicles or trailers of a particular class or in particular circumstances and such rules may lay down the procedure for investigation, the officers empowered to conduct such investigations, the procedure for hearing of such matters and the penalties to be levied thereunder.

(2A) Persons empowered under sub-section (2) to conduct investigations referred to in sub-section (2) shall have all the powers of a civil court, while trying a suit under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 (5 of 1908) in respect of the following matters, namely:—

(a) summoning and enforcing the attendance of any person and examining him on oath;

(b) requiring the discovery and production of any document;

(c) receiving evidence on affidavit; and

(d) any other matter as may be prescribed.

(3) Notwithstanding anything contained in this section,—

(a) the Central Government may exempt any class of motor vehicles from the provisions of this Chapter;

(b) a State Government may exempt any motor vehicle or any class or description of motor vehicles from the rules made under sub-section (1) subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

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Special provisions as to compensation in case of hit and run motor accident.

161. (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in any other law for the time being in force or any instrument having the force of law, the Central Government shall provide for paying in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the scheme made under sub-section (3), compensation in respect of the death of, or grievous hurt to, persons resulting from hit and run motor accidents.

(2) Subject to the provisions of this Act and the scheme made under sub-section (3), there shall be paid as compensation,—

(a) in respect of the death of any person resulting from a hit and run motor accident, a fixed sum of two lakh rupees or such higher amount as may be prescribed by the Central Government;

(b) in respect of grievous hurt to any person resulting from a hit and run motor accident, a fixed sum of fifty thousand rupees or such higher amount as may be prescribed by the Central Government.

(3) The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make a scheme specifying the manner in which the scheme shall be administered by the Central Government or General Insurance Council, the form, manner and the time within which applications for compensation may be made, the officers or authorities to whom such applications may be made, the procedure to be followed by such officers or authorities for considering and passing orders on such applications, and all other matters connected with, or incidental to, the administration of the scheme and the payment of compensation under this section.

(4) A scheme made under sub-section (3) may provide that,—

(a) a payment of such sum as may be prescribed by the Central Government as interim relief to any claimant under such scheme;

(b) a contravention of any provision thereof shall be punishable with imprisonment which may extend to two years, or with fine which shall not be less than twenty-five thousand rupees but may extend to five lakh rupees or with both;

(c) the powers, functions or duties conferred or imposed on any officer or authority by such scheme may be delegated with the prior approval in writing of Central Government, by such officer or authority to any other officer or authority.

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RAJYA SABHA

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BILL

further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(Dr. Fauzia Khan, M. P.)