# **POLICE COMMUNIQUÉ**

It is observed with much concern that in the regions of Pailles and Camp Chapelon, along Motorway M1, the existing panel fence, found in the middle of the carriageways has been damaged at several locations.

The attention of the general public is drawn to section 349 of the Criminal Code Act and Regulations 2(1) (d) and 10(1) of the Road Traffic (Motor-ways) Regulations 1964 coupled with sections 154 and 163 (1)(a)(iii) of the Road Traffic Act, which are reproduced hereunder:-

#### Criminal Code Act Section 349(1)

#### Damaging public property, private enterprise or vehicle

(1) Any person who willfully destroys, breaks down, damages, or renders useless, by any means, in whole or in part, any building, bridge, ship, vessel, boat, bridge, dike, causeway or other erection, any **public property**, any engine, utensil or any article used in the business of a country estate, or of a manufacture belonging to another person or any vehicle belonging to another person, shall be punished by **penal servitude not exceeding 20 years and by a fine not exceeding 25,000 rupees**.

#### Road Traffic (Motor-ways) Regulations 1964

## Regulation 2(1)(d)

"excluded traffic" means-

- (i) all vehicles which do not have pneumatic tyres
- (ii) Carts;
- (iii) animals ridden, led or driven ; and
- (iv) pedestrians

## Section 10(1)

No person shall at any time, while on foot, go or remain on any part of a motorway other than a verge except in so far as it is necessary for him to do so to get to a verge or to secure compliance with any of these regulations or to recover or move any object which has fallen on a motor-way or to give help which is required by any other person in any of the circumstances specified in paragraph (2) of the Regulation 5 of these regulations.

## Road Traffic Act Section 154 and 163(1)(a)(iii)

#### 154. Obstruction of motor vehicle

Any person who deliberately or negligently obstructs the passage of a motor vehicle on a road shall commit an offence.

# 163. (1)(a)(iii) Any person who without lawful excuse contravenes this Act, shall commit an offence.

(b) Any person who commits an offence under this Act shall, on conviction, be liable, where no special penalty is provided, to a fine **not exceeding 100 000 rupees and to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 5 years**.

Members of the public are informed that the practice of crossing the motorway along the carriageways is a real hazard to their own safety and that of other road users. Pedestrians are advised to use footbridges and / or pedestrian crossings manned by automated traffic lights or regulated by Police Officers in uniform.

Mr. A.K. Dip, PMSM Ag. Commissioner of Police

31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 Office of the Commissioner of Police

Police Headquarters,

Line Barracks,

Port Louis