

# International Driving Permit (IDP)

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**In news**– The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has recently issued a notification for greater facilitation of citizens in the issue of International Driving Permit (IDP) across the country.

## **What is International Driving Permit (IDP)?**

- It is issued to an applicant who holds a valid Indian Licence and who is a resident of India.
- The application shall be made in Form 2 or in writing to the RTO within whose jurisdiction the applicant resides, specifying the countries to be visited and the duration of stay etc.
- **India, being a signatory to Convention on International Road Traffic of 1949 (Geneva Convention), is required to issue IDP** as provided under this Convention, for the acceptance of the same on reciprocal basis with other countries.
- Currently, the format, size, pattern, colour etc. of the IDP being issued was differing across States in India.
- Due to this, many citizens were facing difficulties with their respective IDP in foreign countries.
- Now, through this amendment, the format, size, colour etc. for IDP has been standardized for issuance across India, and in adherence to the Geneva Convention.
- **A comparison of vehicle categories across various Conventions and Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989** has also been added for facilitation of regulatory authorities.

## **Convention on International Road Traffic of 1949(Geneva Convention)-**

- It is **an international treaty promoting the development**

**and safety of international road traffic** by establishing certain uniform rules among the contracting parties.

- The convention **addresses minimum mechanical and safety equipment needed to be on board** and defines an identification mark to identify the origin of the vehicle.
- The Convention was prepared and opened for signature by the United Nations Conference on Road and Motor Transport held at Geneva from 23 August to 19 September 1949. **It came into force on 26 March 1952**. This conference also produced the Protocol on Road Signs and Signals.
- **There is a European Agreement supplementing the 1949 Convention on Road Traffic**, in addition to the 1949 Protocol on Road Signs and Signals, concluded in Geneva on 16 September 1950.

### **Motor Vehicles Act-**

- The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is an Act of the Parliament of India which regulates all aspects of road transport vehicles.
- The Act came into force from 1 July 1989.
- It replaced Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 which earlier replaced the first such enactment Motor Vehicles Act, 1914.
- The Act provides in detail the legislative provisions regarding licensing of drivers/conductors, registration of motor vehicles, control of motor vehicles through permits, special provisions relating to state transport undertakings, traffic regulation, insurance, liability, offences and penalties, etc.
- Implementation of provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (MV Act) and Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 (CMVRs) comes under the purview of State Governments.