MORTH

Draft rules set vehicle cyber security and software update dates

Draft G.S.R. 503(E) proposes AIS-189 cyber security and AIS-190 software update requirements for motor vehicles, phased in from October 1, 2026 to October 1, 2029.

THE MINISTRY OF ROAD Transport and Highways (MoRTH) issued notification G.S.R. 503(E), dated June 17, 2026, publishing draft rules further to amend the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989. It appears in the Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 452, dated June 22, 2026; the Gazette ID, CG-DL-E-25062026-273842, dates the e-Gazette copy June 25, 2026.

The Central Government proposes the rules under section 110 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, and publishes them as required by section 212(1). Save as otherwise provided, they would come into force on the date of their final publication in the Official Gazette. The draft inserts two rules, 125-T and 125-U, after rule 125-S. It is signed by Mahmood Ahmed, Additional Secretary, under F. No. RT-11036/91/2024-MVL.

KEY FACTS

AUTHORITY

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G.S.R. 503(E), draft rules amending the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989

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Rule 125-T deals with cyber security and Cyber Security Management Systems (CSMS). From the dates in its table, "motor vehicles of category M, N, T if fitted with at least one ECU and L7 with level 3 automation, as referred in the standard" must meet the requirements of AIS-189, as amended from time to time, until the corresponding BIS specifications are notified. Vehicles with automation level L3 and above would comply from October 1, 2026 for new models and April 1, 2027 for existing models. OTA (over the air) enabled vehicles, those with OTA capable ECUs (electronic control units) other than infotainment systems and tracking devices, follow from April 1, 2028 for new models and October 1, 2028 for existing models. The other three rows share one date for new and existing models, October 1, 2029: all OTA enabled vehicles, vehicles with software update but no OTA, and vehicles with no software update and no OTA.

Rule 125-U deals with software updates and Software Update Management Systems (SUMS). From the dates in its own table, motor vehicles of category M, N, T, A and C must meet the requirements of AIS-190, as amended from time to time, until the corresponding BIS specifications are notified. Its dates match rule 125-T's: October 1, 2026 for new models and April 1, 2027 for existing models with automation level L3 and above; April 1, 2028 and October 1, 2028 for OTA enabled vehicles; and October 1, 2029 for all OTA enabled vehicles and vehicles with software update but no OTA. Its table has no row for vehicles with no software update and no OTA. Both tables take automation levels "as mentioned in AIS 189".

The draft will be taken into consideration after the expiry of thirty days from the date copies of the Gazette are made available to the public, and objections or suggestions received before then will be considered by the Central Government. They may be sent to the Additional Secretary (MVL, Transport & Road Safety), Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Transport Bhawan, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110 001, or to comments-morth@gov.in. The draft names no closing date, and the amendment number in the short title is blank. It does not say what a manufacturer must hold, show or submit to prove compliance, does not define "new model" or "existing model", and does not reproduce AIS-189 or AIS-190.

No final rule inserting rules 125-T and 125-U had appeared in the e-Gazette by October 27, 2026. The draft's first date, October 1, 2026, for new models with automation level L3 and above, has passed without a final rule.

Issued by	Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
Document	G.S.R. 503(E), draft rules amending the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989
Dated	June 17, 2026
Published	Gazette of India, Extraordinary, Part II, Section 3, Sub-section (i), No. 452, June 22, 2026 (Gazette ID CG-DL-E-25062026-273842)
Inserts	Rules 125-T and 125-U, after rule 125-S of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989
Applies to	Rule 125-T: "motor vehicles of category M, N, T if fitted with at least one ECU and L7 with level 3 automation, as referred in the standard"; rule 125-U: motor vehicles of category M, N, T, A and C
Standards	AIS-189 (cyber security and CSMS) and AIS-190 (software updates and SUMS), as amended from time to time, until the corresponding BIS specifications are notified
First dates	Vehicles with automation level L3 and above: October 1, 2026 for new models, April 1, 2027 for existing models
Last date	October 1, 2029, for new and existing models: all OTA enabled vehicles and vehicles with software update but no OTA (both rules), and vehicles with no software update and no OTA (rule 125-T)
Takes effect	As drafted: on the date of final publication in the Official Gazette, save as otherwise provided in the rules
Comment period	Thirty days from the date copies of the Gazette are made available to the public
Send comments to	Additional Secretary (MVL, Transport & Road Safety), Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, or comments-morth@gov.in
Status	No final rule in the e-Gazette by October 27, 2026
Signed by	Mahmood Ahmed, Addl. Secy.
File number	F. No. RT-11036/91/2024-MVL

Proposed dates of implementation by vehicle type

Sl. No.	Vehicle type	New model	Existing model	Rules
1	Vehicle with automation level L3 and above	October 1, 2026	April 1, 2027	125-T (AIS-189) and 125-U (AIS-190)
2	OTA enabled vehicles (OTA capable ECUs other than infotainment systems and tracking devices)	April 1, 2028	October 1, 2028	125-T (AIS-189) and 125-U (AIS-190)
3	All OTA enabled vehicles	October 1, 2029	October 1, 2029	125-T (AIS-189) and 125-U (AIS-190)
4	With software update but no OTA	October 1, 2029	October 1, 2029	125-T (AIS-189) and 125-U (AIS-190)
5	No software update, no OTA	October 1, 2029	October 1, 2029	125-T (AIS-189) only

The notification (draft rules) (PDF, 1.3 MB)

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