

ported variety and further import of this type of equipment has been dropped. Indigenous Digital Electronic Exchange system has now been developed and the existing exchange will be replaced by indigenous equipment depending upon availability.

Amendment to New Motor Vehicles Act

253. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received requests from various organisations for amending the new Motor Vehicles Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are contemplating to amend the Act in the light of those requests; and

(d) if so, the specific provisions proposed to be modified?

THE MINISTER FOR SURFACE TRANSPORT AND MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISSH-NAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Numerous requests and representations have been received.

(b) Suggestions received are given in the statement below.

(c) and (d). Government will closely examine all relevant aspects and suggestions received by the Govt. in this regard.

STATEMENT

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Section No.</i>	<i>Brief Subject</i>	<i>Suggestion</i>
1	2	3	4
1.	2 (14)	Definition of "Goods Carriage"	Suggestion is that the cranes should be exempted from the purview of this section.
2.	2 (18)	Definition of "Transport Vehicle"	Suggestion is that the road rollers should be exempted from the purview of Motor Vehicles Act.
3.	7 (1) (a)	Issue of Learner's licence for heavy goods vehicle on possession of experience in driving light or medium motor vehicles for specified periods.	Modification has been sought for issue of heavy goods vehicle licence without insisting on experience in driving of light or medium motor vehicles.
4.	9 (5)	Where an applicant does not pass the test of competence, he shall not be qualified to reappear for such test in the case of first three occasions before the period of one month from the date of last such test and after first three tests before the period of one year from the date of last such test.	Suggestion is that such a candidate be allowed unrestricted opportunity until he passes the test.
5.	41 (6)	Assignment of registration marks consisting one of the groups of letters followed by code number of registering authority and figures.	Suggestion is that old system of registration be continued on the ground that too many numbers would be difficult to remember in the event of accident.

Sl.No.	Section No.	Brief Subject	Suggestion
1	2	3	4
6.	41 (14)	Duplicate certificate of registration is to be issued by original registering authority.	Suggestion is that the provision be provided for issue of duplicate registration certificate by any authority after obtaining necessary verification of information from the original authority.
7.	47	Assignment of new registration mark on transfer of vehicle to other State.	Suggestion is that persons subjected to frequent transfers be exempted from the provisions of this section.
8.	52	Permitting the issuance of certificate of fitness of transport vehicles by authorised service stations.	Suggestion is that such authorised stations should be prohibited to carry out repairs job and should confine its activities only to the testing of vehicles.
9.	55	Cancellation of Registration-When vehicle has been destroyed or rendered permanently incapable of use, owner has to report the fact to the registering authority who in turn would cancel the registration certificate.	Suggestion is that when vehicle is found to be plying under bogus registration number, provision should be made in the Act for confiscation of such vehicles.
10.	59	Empowering the Central Govt. to fix the age-limit for different types of motor vehicles	Suggestion is that this provision should be deleted.
11.	71	Procedure for grant of a stage carriage permit by the Regional Transport Authority.	Suggestion is that the permits should not be granted as a matter of course and liberally and that as previously and regard should be paid to the road capacity and other relevant factors.

Sl.No.	Section No.	Brief Subject	Suggestion
1	2	3	4
12.	88 (8)	Validation of permits for operation outside region in which the permit is granted.	Suggestion is that Section 88(8) should be modified to provide for grant of special permits even to idle vehicles.
13.	88 (10)	The ceiling on holding of permits by individual and companies shall not exceed 10 and 20 respectively.	Suggestion is that the ceiling on personal holding of permits by individual and companies should be enhanced/restrictions removed.
14	91	Restriction of hours of work of drivers to 8 hours in a day	Suggestion is that there should be no restriction on the number of hours for driver's duty.
15.	93	Agent or canvasser is required to obtain licence, from State Authorities for his business.	Suggestion is that this provision should be deleted.
16.	113	Limits of weight and limitations on use.	Suggestion is that fixed payload of 10 tonnes above the unladen weight be permitted.
17.	114	Power to have vehicle weighed, and off-loading of cargo which is in excess of permissible weight.	Suggestion is that such power should not be allowed especially in respect of hazardous goods which cannot be off-loaded, if such vehicle found to have been carrying excess load.

Sl.No.	Section No.	Brief Subject	Suggestion
1	2	3	4
18.	129	Wearing of protective headgear compulsory for drivers/pillion riders of two-wheelers.	Suggestion is that it should be optional and not compulsory.
19.	130	Duty of driver to produce licence and certificate of fitness-on demand from Police Officer.	Suggestion is that the officer other than Motor Vehicle Inspector should not be authorised for the purpose.
20.	136	Inspection of vehicle, when involved in accident, by a person authorised by the State Govt.	Suggestion is that private licenced garages should also be authorised to inspect accidental vehicles.
21.	190 (2)	Fine of Rs. 1000 on the first occasion and Rs. 2000 on the second occasion if vehicle violates the standards of road safety and pollution etc.	Suggestion is that the quantum of fine should be reduced substantially.
22.	194	Driving vehicle exceeding permissible weight limits-Fine upto Rs. 2000 for first occasion and Rs. 5, 70 for second and subsequent offences.	Suggestion is that the amounts of fines should be reduced.

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Section No.</i>	<i>Brief Subject</i>	<i>Suggestion</i>
1	2	3	4
23.	201	Penalty for causing obstructions to free flow of traffic-penalty upto Rs. 50 per hour for disabled vehicle remaining on road.	Suggestion is that this fine is unjustified since it is beyond control of operator to remove the vehicle immediately and that the provisions should be modified.
24.	202	Power to arrest without warrant for committing an offence under Sections 184, 185 and 197.	Suggestion is that provisions should be withdrawn as it is against principles of personal liberty.
25.	206	Power to police officer to impound documents.	Suggestion is that this Section should be scrapped and police officers should not be given the powers

[*English*]**India-Nepal Bilateral Talks**

254. SHRI HARISH RAWAT:
SHRIMATI M. CHAN-
DRASEKHAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Nepal has recently proposed for fresh talks to solve the bilateral issues;

(b) if so, the level at which the talks are proposed to be held;

(c) whether in this context, any fresh proposals have been received from Nepal on various issues; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At the level of Foreign Ministers.

(c) and (d). No, Sir, Does not arise.

[*Translation*]**Violence during Elections**

255. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of violent incidents which took place during the recent General Elections;

(b) the State-wise details of such incidents; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in order to check the recurrence of such inci-

dents in the coming Assembly Elections?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) Law and Order being a State subject, the concerned State authorities are to take appropriate action to check the recurrence of violent incidents in the forthcoming Assembly elections.

[*English*]**Assistance to Coconut Growers of Kerala**

256. PROF. P.J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new scheme is being formulated for helping the coconut growers of Kerala and for the development of coconut cultivation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is the impact of the support price scheme on the domestic price of coconut?

THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI DEVI LAL): (a) and (b). Yes Sir. The following schemes have been proposed for Kerala in the Eighth Five Year Plan for coconut development.

1. Production and distribution of 1 lakh T x D hybrid coconut seedlings per annum.
2. Establishment of Demonstration-cum-seed production farm in an area of 40 hectares.