

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6359

ANSWERED ON:04.05.2010

SMART CARD BASED LICENSING SYSTEM

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Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to form a national database of registered vehicles and smart card based driving licences for mapping vehicle growth and aiding in traffic counts, preventing vehicle thefts etc.;

(b) if so the details thereof;

(c) whether a meeting of the State Transport Ministers was held in 2007 to discuss better inter-State connectivity and it was decided to connect all Road Transport Offices to a National database, computerise all RTOs in the country and switch over to smart card based registration and licensing systems;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the said objectives have been achieved;

(f) if so, the details thereof ; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA)

(a)&(b) In order to ensure uniformity and inter operability throughout the country the Government has already provided software called "VAHAN" and "SARATHI" to all the States/UTs free of cost for issuance of Smart Card based Registration Certificate (RC) and Driving Licence (DL). However, computerization of RTOs is an essential pre-requisite for this purpose. Under National e-Governance Programme, the Government has also sanctioned the Project at a total cost of Rs 148 crores for computerization of all RTOs in the country, their inter linking and creation of National and State Registers of motor vehicles. This Project is being executed by National Informatics Centre (NIC). Various agencies of the Government would have access to the data for better enforcement of rules and regulations.

(c)to (g) As per the information available in this Ministry, 100% computerization has been achieved in 21 States/UTs and about 88% of the RTOs i.e. about 872 have been computerized. Further 100% connectivity has also been achieved in 23 States/UTs. Network connectivity has been established in 822 RTOs (about 83%). The progress of the project much depends upon the support of the State governments. Being an ambitious project, State Transport Authorities are encouraged at various fora to gear up State machinery and provide full support and cooperation to NIC for early completion of the Project.