## GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:742 ANSWERED ON:14.08.2012 ROAD RAGE Reddy Shri Magunta Srinivasulu

## Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of cases of road rage reported along with the persons killed/injured in such incidents and culprits arrested and the action taken against them during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;
- (b) whether any provision exists for the prosecution of cases of road rage under the criminal laws;
- (c) if so, the details thereof along with the manner in which the culprits of such crimes are prosecuted;
- (d) whether the Government has any proposal to bring any amendment in the existing laws to contain aggressive driving and to classify road rage as a separate crime; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken/proposed to be taken to contain the same?

## **Answer**

## MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI JITENDRA SINGH)

- (a): No specific information is maintained in respect of incidents of 'Road Rage'. However, the details of number of cases of road accidents and number of persons of injured/ killed in these accident are attached at Annexure.
- (b) to (e): There is no specific provision in the Indian Penal Code(IPC), 1860 to deal with road rage. However, Sections 322 to 326 of IPC deal with hurt and Sections 351 and 352 deal with Assault.

The Law Commission of India in its 234th Report recommended for amendment in Sections 279, 336, 337 and 338 of IPC for making them more stringent. As the Criminal Law & Criminal Procedure are in the Concurrent List to the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India, further action in the matter is linked to the comments of the State Governments on the recommendations of the Law Commissions.

Section 184 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides penalty for driving dangerously. As per the said Section, "whoever drives a motor vehicle at a speed or in a manner which is dangerous to the public, having regard to all the circumstances of the case including the nature, condition and use of the place where the vehicle is driven and the amount of traffic which actually is at the time or which might reasonably be expected to be in the place, shall be punishable for the first offence with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months or with fine which may extend to one thousand rupees, and for any second or subsequent offence, if committed within three years of the commission of a previous similar offence with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine which may extend to two thousand rupees, or with both. Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill 2012, which inter-alia provides for enhancement in the penalty for the above Section was passed by Rajya Sabha on 8-5-2012. The Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha proposes to enhance the minimum penalty to a fine of two thousands rupees to five thousand rupees.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are State subjects under the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and therefore, the State Governments are primarily responsible for prevention, detection, registration and investigation of crime and for prosecuting the criminals through the machinery of their law enforcement agencies as also for protecting the life and property of the citizens. The Union Government, however, attaches highest Importance to the matter of prevention of crime and therefore, has continued to urge to the State Governments/UT Administrations to give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for prevention and control of crime.