GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3698 ANSWERED ON:16.12.2014 TRAFFIC OFFENCES Kateel Shri Nalin Kumar

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has any proposal to bring changes in the existing laws/regulations including those relating to the police in order to clear the number of pending cases related to traffic offences; and
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIBHAI PARATHIBHAI CHAUDHARY)

(a) to (b): 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 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 towards improving the administration of criminal justice system and taking such measures as are necessary for prevention and control of crime and therefore, has been issuing advisories to the State Government/ UT Administrations from time to time to give more focused attention to the administration of criminal justice system with emphasis on prevention and control of crime. However, the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, which is the nodal Ministry on roads are embarking towards a traffic free environment. Further, the Ministry of Road Transport has introduced Smart Card based licenses. The chip on this Smart Card has provision for writing challans and traffic violations. In addition, SMS based access to database is available to field staff for enforcement purpose. The State/UT agencies have been requested to use these facilities. The state governments are provided requisite support for application of new technology to check traffic violations. The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 allows application for compensation to Motor Accident Claim Tribunal (MACT) or Civil Court, as the case may be, on the principle of fault/negligence of the driver of the vehicle causing the accident. In such cases, MACT or the Courts award compensation on the merits of each case. Setting up of these courts comes within the purview of the respective State Governments.