GOVERNMENT OF INDIA HOME AFFAIRS LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2536 ANSWERED ON:09.12.2014 ROAD ACCIDENT VICTIMS Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that bystanders are not helping road accident victims due to fear of harassment at the hands of police and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the Supreme Court (SC) has issued any instruction/ advisory in this regard; and
- (c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

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

(a) to (c): In Writ Petition No. 295, the Hon'ble Supreme Court, vide its order dated 22.04.2014, has constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Mr. Justice K S Radhakrishnan, Former Judge of Supreme Court of India, to monitor the status of impleme- ntation and enforcement of all laws pertaining to Road Safety by the State and Central Governments. The State Governments are pri- marily responsible for the safety of road users. The Government has taken necessary steps to finalize policy directives for impro- ving road safety. State Governments are expected to take approp- riate steps for enforcement of road safety provisions. However, the Central Government already has a National Road Safety Council (NRSC) which advises on all matters pertaining to planning and coordination of policies and standards of safety in Road Transport Sector. NRSC was established under Section 215 of Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 and is chaired by Minister (RT&H) with Minister-in-charge of Road Transport of states/UTs, Director General of Police of all States and also representatives from various Ministries/Departments. Under Section 215 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, a State Government by notification in Official Gazette can constitute a State Road Safety Council comprising and chairman and such other members as the Government considers necessary and on such terms and conditions that Government may determine. Similarly, there is also a provision for District Road Safety Committee for each district.