

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2016
ANSWERED ON – 05/08/2026

MODIFICATION OF VEHICLE

2016. Dr. V. Sivadasan:

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

- (a) the existing law/policy/guidelines dealing with the modifications of vehicles;
- (b) what categories of vehicle modifications are now permitted without and with prior approval from the registering authority, the details thereof;
- (c) whether State Governments have the power to alter these guidelines or make their own policies regarding modifications;
- (d) if so, details thereof; and
- (e) if so, whether any State Government has made its own policies on vehicle modification till now, if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) Section 52(1) of Motor Vehicles Act (MV Act), 1988 provides that no motor vehicle shall be so altered that the particulars contained in the certificate of registration are at variance with those originally specified by the manufacturer. The modification of engine or any part thereof, of a vehicle for facilitating its operation by different type of fuel or source of energy, by fitment of a conversion kit, shall be as per the conditions prescribed by the Central Government. The alterations / retro fitment permitted as per provisions in Act and Rules are as follows:

1. Modification of engine or any part thereof for running on different fuel type or energy source;
2. Alteration of vehicles for any specific purpose;
3. Safety equipment; and
4. Conversion to adapted vehicle

Rule 112 of Central Motor Vehicles Rules(CMVRs), 1989, provides that any alteration or retrofitment to a motor vehicle under sub-section (1) of section 52 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, shall be in compliance with the conditions, standards and specifications notified by the Central Government and shall be carried out either by Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEMs), dealer of the vehicle manufacturer, workshop authorised by the State Government or service station authorised by the State Government. The compliance of such alteration or retrofitment shall be tested and validated by testing agencies notified under rule 126 of CMVRs, 1989 or self-certified either by Original Equipment Manufacturer (OEMs), dealer of the vehicle manufacturer, workshop authorised by the State Government or service station authorised by the State Government.

Rule 47-A of CMVR, 1989 mandates that the owner shall seek prior approval of registering authority either electronically or physically in Form 22-C for alteration or retrofitment in the motor vehicle in accordance with sub-rules (1) and (3) of rule 112. The owner of motor vehicle shall make an application within fourteen days from the date of issuance of certificate of compliance for endorsement of such alteration or retrofitment in the certificate of registration as per rule 47-B of CMVR, 1989.

(c) to (e) In Section 52 of the Motor Vehicle Act, the authority of States to frame standards and specifications for alterations is not specified. However, as per Section 112(2), the State Government or any authority authorised in this behalf by the State Government may restrict the speed of motor vehicles in the interest of public safety.
