GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2900

ANSWERED ON 5TH DECEMBER, 2019

PENALTIES UNDER MOTOR VEHICLES (AMENDMENT) ACT

2900. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the penalties have been increased manifolds under the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act implemented with effect from September 1, 2019 and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether the said Act has been implemented uniformly across all the States and UTs or several States have reduced the penalties;
- (c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor and the action taken in this regard;
- (d) whether electronic version of driving documents saved in citizens' Digilocker or m-Parivahan apps are valid and acceptable as a proof;
- (e) if so, whether the Government has received any grievances/complaints from citizens against the traffic police in this regard; and
- (f) if so, the measures taken for stricter compliance of the rules by the concerned authorities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 inter alia provides for enhancement of penalties for offences for ensuring greater compliance and enhancing deterrence for violation of traffic rules which is intended to provide for better Road Safety resulting in reduction of accidents and fatalities on roads.
- (b) and (c) As per section 200 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 the State Government may, by notification in the official gazette, specify such amount for compounding of certain offences.
- (d) The Government has issued G.S.R 1081(E) dated 02.11.2019 to amend rule 139 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 vide which production of certificate of registration, insurance, fitness and permit, the driving licence and any other relevant documents in electronic form has been made valid.

Ministry vide letter dated 08.08.2018 and 19.11.2018 has issued advisory to all the States/UTs to accept the documents presented in electronic form in the Digilocker platform or the mParivahan App as valid under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and be treated at par with the certificates issued by transport authorities. Further, the Ministry vide letter dated 17.12.2018 has circulated an

advisory containing the Standard Operating Procedures to be adopted by traffic/ transport related enforcement agencies to validate or impound documents in case the citizens produce documents in an electronic form as per the provisions of rule 139 of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989.

(e) and (f) The Ministry had received certain grievances after the implementation of fines related to traffic violations under new Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act, 2019 where citizens have raised the concerns that the documents available in Digi locker or m-Parivahan app of this Ministry are not considered valid by enforcement agencies. An advisory dated 23.11.2019 has been issued by this Ministry to State/UTs, advising them to issue necessary directions to all the enforcement agencies to accept documents in electronic form which is also available on Ministry's website www.morth.nic.in.
