

(e) Yes, Sir. The Government is in the process of making amendments to the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 which, *inter alia*, include provision for upward revision of penalties for various traffic offences.

National Citizen/Smart Card

3722. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering seriously the introduction of multipurpose unique identification National Citizen/Smart Card, which would help the citizens, receive a number of benefits and services like making payments, electronic voting, obtaining ration card, passport, driving licence etc. in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the new cost effective technology in use in other parts of the country in respect of comprehensive National Citizen/Smart Card; and

(d) the Government's observations for adopting such new innovative and cost effective technology in the country, with the active support of IITs, private sector, for introducing the multi-purpose National Citizen/Smart Card in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) and (b) The Government propose to issue Multipurpose National Identity Cards (MNICs) to the citizens of the country. The main purpose of MNICs is to provide a credible individual identification system for improving the security conditions and to help the e-governance by improving the citizen-Government interface.

(c) and (d) The proposed identity card is a smart card having a microprocessor chip. This is a secure card for which recommendation was made by the Technical Committee constituted by Government of India having representatives from National Informatics Centre (NIC), NT Kanpur, Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Indian Telephone Industries Limited (ITI) and Electronics Corporation India Limited (ECIL), Intelligence Bureau (IB) etc.