

Functioning of the National Road Safety Council

288. SHRI SYED AZEEZ PASHA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) when was the last meeting of the National Road Safety Council held;
- (b) what were the basic conclusions of the last meeting of the National Road Safety Council;
- (c) whether Government will nominate members and organizations to the Road Safety Council who have been contributing to the subject; and
- (d) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the functioning of the Road Safety Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEV S. KHANDELA): (a) The last meeting of the National Road Safety Council (NRSC) was held on 28th January, 2009 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

(b) The basic conclusions of the last meeting of the NRSC were as under:

- The Central Government will provide funds for godowns, weigh-in-motion bridges and cranes as a package to the States/UTs to combat the problem of overloading in a comprehensive manner. Ministry will work out a Scheme in this regard.
- Intensive campaign against overloading will be carried out throughout the country during the period from 1st March 2009 to 31st March 2009.
- The State Governments shall continue to have the powers to notify the class of transport vehicles to be fitted with the speed governors.
- The Central Government will provide grants for setting up of at least one Model Driver Training School in each State in a phased manner.
- Funds will also be provided by the Central Government for setting up of Inspection and Maintenance Centres in each State in a phased manner.
- The suggestions expressed by various State Government/UTs/Organizations regarding the driving license system under Motor Vehicles Act, problem of drunken driving etc. will be examined by the Ministry in a time bound manner and if need be necessary amendments in Motor Vehicles Act/Rules, will be carried out.

- The High-powered Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Secretary (RT&H) regarding streamlining of National Permit system will watch the interest of the State Governments to protect any loss of revenue.
- The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways will take up the issue of inclusion of a chapter on 'Road Safety' in the school curriculum for classes from VI to VIII in all categories of schools, with the Ministry of Human Resources Development.
- A Committee under the Chairmanship of Secretary (RT&H) consisting of Principal Secretary (Transport), Government of Gujarat, Secretary (Transport), Government of Goa, representative from National Informatics Centre, as members and Joint Secretary (Transport) Department of Road Transport and Highways as Member Secretary will be set up to look into the issues regarding the charges levied by the service providers for smart card based driving licenses/registration certificates. The Committee would suggest a uniform fee structure for the same.
- The Council recommended setting up of a regulatory mechanism to look into the issues relating to the services being provided along the National Highways.

The Council also endorsed the view points of the Department on various questions of law raised in the consultation Paper of Law Commission of India on legal reforms to combat road accidents.

(c) and (d) The Government has been co-opting non-official members based on their overall contribution to the cause of road safety in the country and relevant issues. In order to make the NRSC more result oriented, eminent personalities ranging from academicians, road safety award winners, experts on various fields in road safety, eminent institutions working for road safety cause, have already been included in the recently constituted NRSC.

Regulatory Authority for monitoring of toll tax on NHs.

†289. SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

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

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.