

Dear Sir,

Reforming vehicle management system as a means of crime control

1. This study is the result of a voluntary effort by citizens to gather data and analyse the existing vehicle management system in Sindh. The sole purpose of the study is to suggest possibilities of reform and improvement.
2. The study was prompted by numerous high profile cases of crime and militancy that involved use of fake government vehicles. The gun attack on a police 'look-alike' mobile in Nagan Chowrangi in April 2016 and the kidnapping of Sindh Chief Justice's son in June 2016 are just two of the numerous such incidents where fake government vehicles were used for criminal activities.
3. The study was based on actual data of the government vehicles received from E&T Department over the last 3 years. The data was obtained under the 'Right to Information' Law and Article 19A of the Constitution. Each time the data was received (normally on a CD), it was followed up by extensive surveys of taking random samples of government vehicles that move about in different locations of the city. The samples were then analysed and a feedback given for further improvement.
4. This report is based on the latest data of government vehicles given by the E&T department in April 2017. An additional tool used was the data of government vehicles placed on the E&T Department's website. Placing of data on website is deeply appreciated as a positive and progressive step of the E&T Department.

5. **Regretfully the latest and most recent information (sent fourth time on a CD) in April 2017, coupled with the data on E&T website highlights a deeply worrying state of the vehicle management system in the province.** There are huge gaps both in accuracy and adequacy. The crisis is greatly heightened by the absence of effective checks and controls for illegal and fake vehicles - thus making Sindh province a haven for vehicular offences. It is now possible for any individual to never register a vehicle, fraudulently pretend to be driving a government vehicle, never pay any tax, use a personalized or fake number plate, use an AFR number plate or simply drive around in a foreign registered vehicle with complete impunity. This is a great invitation to criminals and wrong-doers. There seems to be no department or organization responsible to check such criminal vehicular lawlessness.
6. The analysis of shortcomings in the Sindh vehicle management system (please allow us to use this term) were divided into six categories.
7. **FIRST CATEGORY OF VEHICULAR LAWLESSNESS.** These are Government Vehicles that were observed operating on the roads but were listed **NEITHER** in the E&T provided computerized latest list of government vehicles (sent to us on CD) **NOR** in the list of government vehicles placed on the E&T website. From a random sample of 150 vehicles, there were 26 vehicles that fall in this dangerous category. Based on our sample, we can conclude that **17 % of all government vehicles plying on the roads are non-registered vehicles** – as confirmed by E&T records as well as the website of E&T Department. The erring vehicles detected in the sample were GS-4023, GSA-355, GSD-765, GP-1167, GH-0044, GH-0059, Protocol-07, Protocol-04, GS-2332, GSE-011, GPA-597, GSC-9997, GSD-392, GP-5435, GS-9802, GS-0213, GS-5308, GS-2014, GSD-363, GP-794-A, HC-0246, GA-008, GP-114, SP-4791 and GPA-420. Photographs of some of these non-registered government vehicles are placed at **Appendix 'A'**.
8. **SECOND CATEGORY OF LAWLESSNESS:** These are Government Vehicles that have errors / differences in actual vehicle specifications, specifications listed on the E&T website and / or the specifications shown in latest E&T records sent to

us on CD. Twenty such vehicles were discovered in our sample of 150, to be having such errors. This suggests that 13% registered vehicles suffer from inaccuracies of data such as a Honda registered as a Corolla or a Suzuki registered as a Hilux. It may be appropriate to place below the actual list of such delinquent vehicles and to attach a few of their pictures as **Appendix 'B'**.

1.	GP-2245	Listed in E&T records (sent to us on CD) as Toyota Corolla 1900 CC but actually a Toyota Vitz. Picture attached
2.	GSC-859	Included in E&T website but missing from E&T records (sent to us on CD)
3.	GP-3857	The car in reality is a Honda city car but is registered in E&T records (sent to us on CD) as Toyota cruiser jeep
4.	GP-8775	The car in reality is a Toyota corolla but is registered in E&T records (sent to us on CD) as Suzuki Alto
5.	GS-9075	This is a Toyota Corolla 1300 cc. It is listed on E&T website as Toyota Corolla 1300cc but in the latest E&T list sent , it is listed as SSANGYONG 2700 cc
6.	GS-6262	It is a Toyota Corolla, 4 seat, 1300 cc car but it is listed on E&T latest list (sent to us on CD) as Coaster 12 seat, 2400 cc vehicle
7.	GP-0199	It is a Toyota Corolla 1300 cc car. It is also listed as Corolla 1300cc on E&T website, but in the latest E&T list (sent to us on CD) it is listed as Nissan Sunny 1000 cc.
8.	GSC-665	It is actually a Corolla 1300 cc car but it is listed in the latest E&T list (sent to us on CD) as Suzuki Cultus 1000 cc
9.	GS-7270	Actually a Corolla car but listed in E&T records (sent to us on CD) as Suzuki
10.	GP-8775	Actually a Corolla car but listed in E&T records (sent to us on CD) as Suzuki. Also listed as Suzuki on E&T website. Picture attached
11.	GSC-966	A Suzuki Swift listed on E&T web but not in latest E&T record.
12.	GSC-745	Listed on E&T website but not included in E&T records
13.	GS-294-C	Listed on E&T website but not included in E&T records sent to us on CD
14.	GS-449-B	Listed on E&T website but not included in E&T records
15.	GPA-568	The vehicle is included in E&T list but missing from E&T records sent to us on CD
16.	GSC-003	A Corolla car in real life, but listed as 12 seat pick up on E&T website and listed as Hilux on E&T records (sent to us on CD)
17.	GP-3597	A Honda car registered as Toyota jeep on E&T website. Also missing from latest E&T records sent to us on CD. Picture attached
18.	GSC-843	Included in E&T website but missing from E&T records (sent to us on CD)
19.	GP-0183	Registered as Suzuki 1000 but number plate carried by a Mitsubishi Cruiser. Picture attached
20.	GS-0984	It is a CULTUS registered on website as Nissan and not listed in E& T records. Picture attached

9. **THIRD CATEGORY OF VEHICULAR LAWLESSNESS:** These are private vehicles which are fraudulently posing as Police vehicle. This is a highly dangerous category as these vehicles could be seriously involved in crime and militancy and also getting away because of very real 'Look-alike' Police markings. The seven 'pseudo police' cars and one motorbike discovered in our samples (shown in **Appendix 'C'**) were AMH-422, LEA-775, AMG-273, AFR-2014, Excise Police AFR-2016, AEK-080, EDX-0051 Ex Police and KECH Police 30. It is estimated that many hundred vehicles use fake police appearances / look-alikes / number plates and remain unchecked. Please see **Appendix 'C'**.

10. **FOURTH CATEGORY OF VEHICULAR LAWLESSNESS:** These are privately registered cars who adopt various fraudulent methods such as using green number plates and writing Govt. of Sindh or Govt. of Pakistan on the number plate - to impersonate / disguise themselves as official government vehicle. Thus they can access prohibited places, break traffic rules, indulge in crime and not be stopped by a policeman. It is estimated that there are over 100,000 - 200,000 such fraud cars in the city. Photographs of about 30 such fraudulent vehicles are placed at **Appendix 'D'**.

11. **FIFTH CATEGORY OF VEHICULAR LAWLESSNESS:** Hundreds of vehicle can be seen on the roads that carry **private and personalized** number plates. These unlawful number plates are intended to suggest that the vehicles belong to influential people and thus they are above the law. Such vehicles often break laws and indulge in crimes while the police is too scared to check them. **Appendix 'E'** shows 21 such vehicles seen in the last few months.

12. **SIXTH CATEGORY OF VEHICULAR LAWLESSNESS:** Hundreds of vehicles, both private and government, have not registered with the E&T Department and for

years continue to carry an AFR number. This number is visible from miles but the police has never bothered to 'challan' or confiscate such vehicles. It is estimated that over 100,000 – 200,000 vehicles indulge in this crime. A small sample of such vehicles is shown in pictures at **Appendix 'F'**.

Recommendations

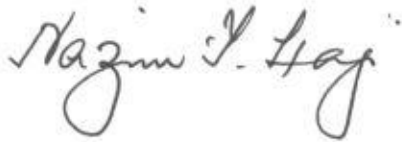
13. A government **not having, not knowing or not being able to** produce an accurate list of its own vehicles, despite repeated attempts, may be creating a serious vulnerability for crime and militancy. Thus the first task ought to be to **accurately register all government vehicles, review all records for existing errors and update the E&T website with purified data. This must include Police vehicles as well.**
14. The E&T Department must have its own system of identifying its data errors and shortcomings. A system cannot wait or be dependent on citizens to undertake such projects.
15. All vehicles, government or private must have a common numbering scheme and the **concept of green plates and GS, GL, GP, GA series must be discarded.** This will enable police to not be intimidated by green plates nor will it be an incentive to citizens to pretend or impersonate such vehicles.
16. To find thousands of fake number plate vehicles on the road suggests a completely missing system of checks and controls. **This is the weakest link of the chain.** Even an eighth class boy, with only a few hours of training can identify a fraudulent vehicle. Thus there is an urgent need for the Sindh police to create **an exclusive department to check fake / fraudulent vehicles.** This group ought to have hand-held tablets that can instantaneously identify the credentials of any vehicle, private or government. The police must receive special training on vehicle identification and the Annexures of this report may be used as a training aid.
17. Vehicles using fraudulent number plates must be simply confiscated for a few weeks and the owners investigated for their activities. This may be an easy way of discovering many criminals.
18. While Excise and Taxation is a provincial subject, (and must remain so), the numbering system must be centralized at the national level and a common data

base maintained. Likewise the number plate, size, colour and font must be standardized and made the same for all provinces. This has many advantages from a crime prevention point of view.

19. The Police must clarify that no vehicle shall be on the road, even for a single day, with an AFR number plate or minus any number plate. No vehicle must be allowed to leave the show room / port, unless an officially supplied number plate has been procured.
20. The E&T Department must reform its procedure to ensure that enough stocks are available to meet the growing needs of number plates. The Director Motor Vehicle Registration must be personally held responsible if there is even a single day's delay in delivering a number plate to any citizen.
21. The motor vehicle tax payment system must be radically changed. No citizen should need to visit any bank or tax collection office for the payment of motor vehicle tax. These places are sources of many types of human and technical errors. All payments should be made by internet or by mobile money transfer systems.
22. The traffic 'challan' procedure should be simplified. The police officer should simply write the car number, the violation and the amount on an official receipt. One copy is given to the driver and the other is sent to the E&T Department for collection along with the annual motor vehicle tax. There should be no need for the police to retain driver's documents such as driving license or CNIC.
23. Police should also be able to access the driving license validity data for any driver from the hand-held tablet.
24. The minimum 'challan' fee should be Rs.2000 for cars and Rs.500 for motorbikes.
25. The lawless situations created by erroneous records, unregistered vehicles and complete absence of checks and controls has greatly endangered the life and safety of ordinary citizens. The Government for too long has looked the other way. This ugly situation could be reversed in a matter of weeks by a progressive and sincere leadership. We hope the Sindh Government and its officials will respond to this challenge.

With warm regards,

Yours Sincerely,



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** This report was prepared by us on voluntary basis as a matter of our social responsibility to the process of reform and improvement in Pakistan.

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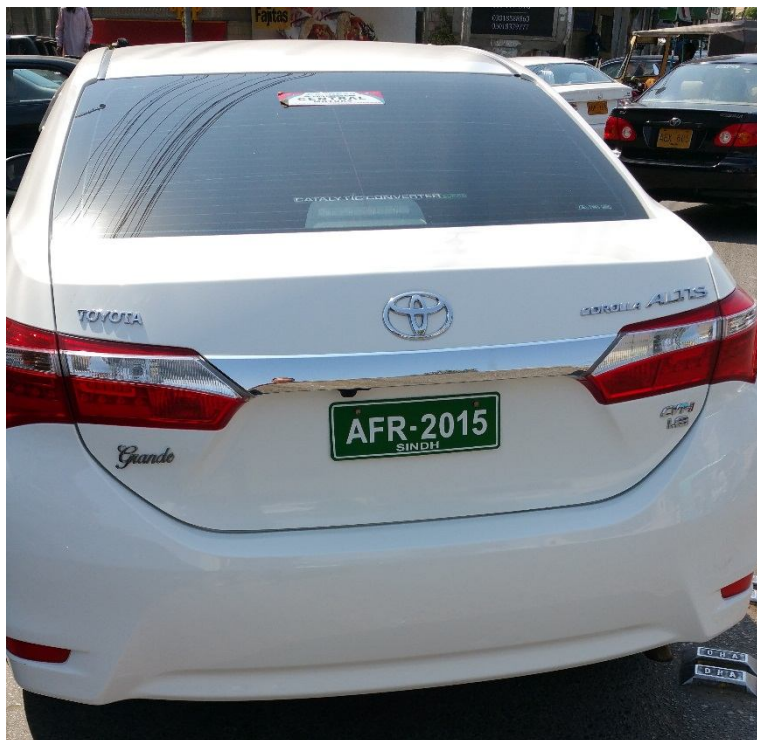
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Appendix – “F”

These vehicles fool the system by not registering in the Motor Vehicle Department and not paying their annual tax for years.



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