



MOVEMENT AGAINST HIGH-TONE HORNS

**REQUEST TO IMPOSE BAN ON HIGH-DECIBEL ADDITIONAL HORNS WHICH
ARE FITTED ILLEGALLY ON VEHICLES IN RAJKOT
– A MAJOR HARASSMENT TO PUBLIC**

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Facts you may not have on your desk till now

- Sir, if you roll down the glass of your car window, chances are that, you will experience this blasting sound of illegally fitted, additional pair of high-tone horns, from every 10th vehicle passing by
- These type of illegal horns are mostly seen fitted in school vans, bullets/rajdoots, milkmen's vehicles. Also uneducated hoodlums are freely roaming honking such noisy horns, in their two wheelers/four wheelers, endangering lives of law-abiding civilians; they have no fear of police as they know that police is not booking a single case or detaining such vehicles
- Vendors are selling these high-decibel horns freely; when asked about law, they openly say, that no policeman knows about law, whether these are legal or not; they also advise 'not to honk' when you see a policeman!!!
- Permissible level of noise as per Noise Pollution (Regulation and Control) Rules, 2000 from vehicular horns is 75 db, 65 db & 55 db in industrial area, commercial area and residential area respectively. These two/four wheelers fitted with extra pair of horns emit minimum 220 to 250 db of dangerously loud noise which is totally illegal and injurious to public health
- These types of horns are NOT RTO-APPROVED and are ADDITIONALLY FITTED, so it is very logical that THEY ARE ILLEGALLY FITTED
- Every 50th vehicle is seen to be fitted with these additional horns. The numbers are increasing everyday. This practice should be stopped before the exception becomes rule
- Lack of action by the field staff is prime cause of this increasing nuisance
- The people's attitude toward law/police is totally fearless, as they know that nothing will be done by the police

What damages these high decibel horns do

- Makes you panicky which instantly leads to accident
- Heavily damages hearing ability
- It makes people insensitive
- It triggers negative feelings like anger and aggression inside us
- Increases frustration
- It rises blood pressure
- Leads us to road-fight
- Tobacco harms only individual or at the most second-smoker; these noisy horns are affecting health of public in mass
- Noise pollution is not just annoying; it can cause deafness, fatigue and even psychological problems
- **WARNING : IF THIS NOISE POLLUTION IS NOT STOPPED IMMEDIATELY, 50% POPULATION OF RAJKOT WILL SUFFER FROM MAJOR HEARING LOSS BY 2020.**

WHAT IS NOT BEING DONE BY FIELD STAFF

- No drive is initiated for removal/detention of illegally fitted additional high-tone horns till date
- The field staff very much overlook the simple fact that the horns WHICH ARE NOT COMPANY-FITTED or RTO APPROVED, and INSTALLED ADDITIONALLY are to be treated as ILLEGAL
- No such vehicle is stopped by any field staff till date for penal action, resulting into revenue loss to the exchequer.
- Field Staff seem to be totally lacking interest in booking case **under Section 190(2) of Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989** for violation of the standards prescribed in relation to road safety, i.e. **control of noise and air pollution, which is fine upto Rs.1000/- for the first offence and Rs. 2000/- for the subsequent offence,**
- Traffic wardens are very much seen to be inactive/inefficient at any given point of time
- Not a single traffic signal is functional at major chowks like KKV Hall, Indira Circle or Raiya Circle, resulting into heavy chaos most of the time
- Traffic constables/wardens do not know the signaling/stopping system , opening up two sides of traffic at a time, resulting into more chaos
- No loading chhakdas with silencers pointed towards earth are detained; which is a major cause of air and noise pollution

How noise pollution is increasing day-by-day

- ❖ This is a vicious cycle.
- ❖ Due to continuous honking habit of Rajkotians, the noise level is already higher than other cities.
- ❖ Now, to surmount that noise level, some frustrated idiots fix **additional** pairs of high-decibel high-tone horns in their vehicles and come out on roads, honking these pair of horns more loudly.
- ❖ It again increases noise level to a higher level. And now, actually nobody cares about any type of honking of regular horns. Only big honking is given a way. Thus it becomes a vicious cycle.

SUGGESTIONS

- ✓ The field staff should immediately initiate drive against illegally-fitted, additional high-tone horns, for removal/detention of such horns
- ✓ The field staff should download the app - 'sound meter' in their android phones, to check noise in decibels on the spot
- ✓ The vendors of such horns should be instructed to advise their customers not to install such horns additionally
- ✓ Govt. offices/Schools/Colleges should be immediately written to dismantle such illegal horns from govt. vehicles/school buses/vans within stipulated time
- ✓ Public awareness campaign may be initiated in this regard
- ✓ Rajkot Police will be the first to implement ban in whole Gujarat and that will be an achievement to have laurels from public as well as Government