ILLEGAL VEHICLES MODIFICATION: THE NEEDS TO REFORM THE DELEGATIONS OF ENFORCEMENT POWER

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The students/authors confirm that the work submitted is their own and that appropriate credit has been given where reference has been made to the work of others.

Abstract

People usually modified their vehicles with the purpose to make their vehicles to have an outstanding feature. As a result, the vehicle modifications grew to the extent that, it becomes extreme modification. There are certain modifications which are allowed by the authority. However, most of the modification done nowadays is not approve by the authority because they find it is unsuitable and dangerous. This unapproved modification can be regarded as illegal modifications by the authority.

The Road Transport Department has identified high number of cases regarding the illegal modified cars and motorcycles in Peninsular Malaysia, which have been compounded. The purpose of this research is to study the enforcement conducted by the authority relevant to this matter.

This project paper is based on an analysis of the legal statutes on illegal vehicle modifications which have been used as an authority. Our research is concerning a legal study on the need to reform the jurisdiction to enforce the Guidelines of Illegal Vehicles Modifications in Malaysia.

Road Transport Act 1987, together with Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1959 will be analysed as a mechanism in solving illegal vehicle modifications in this country. Our project paper provides the recommendation to reform the jurisdiction to enforce the guidelines of illegal vehicles modifications in Malaysia.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background

Private vehicles, cars and motorcycles which previously in old days regarded as luxurious item, nowadays has become a form of necessity. One cannot live without it. People will find it hard for them to move around if they do not have one. It is affordable by everyone now. Not like the old times, where only certain people could afford to get one of this. Nowadays, even the youngsters could get their hand on the cars or motorcycle. As it is more affordable now, it reflects in the increased of the number of vehicles on the road. It is believed that from years to years, the number of registered vehicles in Malaysia is increasing. In 2009, it was recorded that there are 19.01 million of registered vehicles in Malaysia, compared to years of 1987, where there are only 4.15 million of registered vehicles¹. This number is believed will be increasing.

As everybody has cars nowadays, one must want to have their vehicles be different from others. They start to make a little modification to make theirs look different. Then from there, the modifications grew and for sometimes, it becomes extreme modification. There are certain modifications which are allowed by the authority. However, most of the modification done nowadays is not approve by the authority because they find it unsuitable and dangerous. This unapproved modification can be regarded as illegal modifications by the authority.

According to Section 12 of the Road Transport Act,² any modifications made to the vehicles before or after its registration must get the approval from the

Y.B Dato' Sri Ong Tee Keat, "*Death on the road: Getting serious*", The Sun, 5 Februari 2008.
Road Transport Act 1987.