

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1596
ANSWERED ON 15TH DECEMBER, 2022**

ROAD SAFETY IN TAMIL NADU

1596. DR. DNV SENTHILKUMAR S.:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of pedestrians killed in road accidents has increased in the State of Tamil Nadu during each of last three years and the current year, if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken in this regard;**
- (b) whether it is also a fact that the number of accidents on the National Highways (NHs) and Expressways have increased in the State in the last two years and if so, the details thereof;**
- (c) whether the Government has looked into the factors responsible for increase in road accidents in the State and also taken preventive steps in this regard and if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) whether any of the suggestions made by Road Safety Forum which are being implemented in other States would also be implemented in the State of Tamil Nadu and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the other steps proposed to be taken to enhance road safety in the State?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (e) As per the data available with Ministry, the total number of accidents that occurred on National Highways (including expressways) and total number of pedestrians killed in accidents on all roads in Tamil Nadu State during the last four calendar years is given in the table below:

Year	Total Number of accidents on National Highways	Total Number of pedestrians killed on all roads
2018	19583	768

2019	17633	1044
2020	15269	1540
2021	16869	3647

As per yearly analysis of road accident data, based on the FIR data received from various States/UTs, road accident deaths occur due to multiple causes such as over speeding, use of mobile phone, drunken driving/consumption of alcohol and drug, driving on wrong side/ lane indiscipline, jumping red light, non-use of safety devices such as helmets and seat belts, vehicular condition, weather condition, road condition, fault of driver / cyclist/ pedestrian etc.

Further, to enhance road safety, Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care. Accordingly, various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry as detailed below:-

(1) Education:

i. To create effective public awareness about road safety, Ministry undertakes various publicity measures and awareness campaigns through social media, electronic media and print media. Further, Ministry implements a scheme to provide financial assistance to various agencies for administering Road Safety Advocacy.

ii. Observance of National Road Safety Month/Week every year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.

iii. A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) and officers of the Ministry/ National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) are also being trained.

iv. To impart driving training, Ministry has been implementing a scheme for setting up of Institute of Driving Training & Research (IDTRs), Regional Driving Training Centres (RDTCs) and Driving Training Centres (DTCs) at state/district level across the Country.

(2) Engineering (both of Roads and vehicles)

2.1. Road engineering:

i. Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage. Road Safety Audit of all highway projects has been made mandatory at all stages i.e. design, construction, operation and maintenance.

ii. High priority to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on National Highways.

iii. Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States / UTs.

iv. The electronic Detailed Accident Report (e-DAR) Project has been initiated to establish to a central repository for reporting, management and analysis of road accidents data across the Country.

v. This Ministry and IRC has issued various codes and guidelines, time to time, to implement various road safety measures so as to minimize accidents on National Highways.

2.2 Vehicle engineering:

i. The Ministry has notified regarding mandatory provision of an airbag for the passenger seated on the front seat of a vehicle, next to the driver.

ii. This Ministry, vide notification dated 15th February, 2022 has prescribed norms related to safety measures for children below four years of age, riding or being carried on a motor cycle. Further, it specifies use of a safety harness, crash helmet and restricts speed to 40kmph.

iii. Ministry has notified the mandatory fitment of following listed safety technologies from 01st July 2019.

For M1 category vehicles:

a. Seat Belt Reminder (SBR) for driver and co-driver.

b. Manual Override for central locking system

c. Over speed warning system.

For all M and N category vehicles:

a. Reverse Parking Alert System

iv. Anti-Lock Braking System (ABS) for certain classes of L [Motor vehicle with less than four wheels and includes a Quadricycle], M [Motor vehicles with at least four wheels used for carrying passengers] and N [Motor vehicles with at least four wheels used for carrying goods which may also carry persons in addition to goods, subject to conditions stipulated in BIS standards] categories.

v. This Ministry has mandated approval of vehicles for protection of occupants in the event of an Offset Frontal Collision, for requirements for behavior of steering mechanism of the vehicle in a Head-on collision, Protection of Occupants in the event of Lateral Collision and for approval of vehicles with regard to protection of pedestrians and other vulnerable road users in the event of a collision with a motor vehicle.

vi. The Ministry has mandated speed limiting function/speed limiting device in all transport vehicles, except for two wheelers, three wheelers, quadricycles, fire tenders, ambulances and police vehicles.

vii. This Ministry has mandated compliance of the fully built buses (with a seating capacity of 22 passengers or above, excluding driver), manufactured on and after 1st April 2019, with the requirements of Fire Detection, Alarm and Suppression system. Further, compliance of type III buses of category M3 and school buses with fire alarm and protection system in occupant compartment has also been mandated, on and after 26th January 2023.

viii. The Ministry has prescribed the format in which vehicle manufacturers issue the Road Worthiness Certification for registering motor vehicles.

ix. Scheme for setting up one model Inspection & Certification Centre in each State/UT with Central assistance for testing the fitness of vehicles through an automated system.

x. Ministry vide Notifications dated 23rd September, 2021 and 31st October, 2022 published the rules for recognition, regulation and control of Automated Testing Stations.

xi. Notification vide GSR 272(E) dated 05th April, 2022, provides for mandatory fitness of vehicles only through an Automated Testing Stations. It mandates the fitness check of Heavy Goods Vehicles/Heavy Passenger Motor Vehicles only through automated testing stations with effect from 01st April 2023 onwards, and for Medium Goods Vehicles/Medium Passenger Motor Vehicles and Light Motor vehicles (Transport) with effect from 01st June 2024 onwards.

xii. Ministry has formulated the Vehicle Scrapping Policy based on incentives/dis-incentives and for creating an ecosystem to phase out older, unfit polluting vehicles

(3) Enforcement:

i. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 as stands implemented provides for strict penalties for ensuring compliance and enhancing deterrence for violation of traffic rules and strict enforcement through use of technology.

ii. Ministry vide notification GSR 594(E) dated 29th September, 2020 has published rules regarding protection of Good Samaritans.

iii. Ministry has issued notification G.S.R. 575(E) dated 11th August, 2021 for Electronic Monitoring and Enforcement of Road Safety. The rules specify the detailed provisions for placement of electronic enforcement devices (speed camera, closed-circuit television camera, speed gun, body wearable camera, dashboard camera, Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), weigh in machine (WIM) and any such other technology specified by the State Government).

(4) Emergency care:

i. Ministry has implemented a Scheme for grant of Award to the Good Samaritan who has saved life of a victim of a fatal accident involving a motor vehicle by administering immediate assistance and rushing to Hospital/Trauma Care Centre within the Golden Hour of the accident to provide medical treatment.

ii. Ministry vide notification dated 25th February, 2022 has enhanced compensation of victims of Hit and Run motor accidents (from Rs. 12,500 to Rs. 50,000 for grievous hurt and from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 2,00,000 for death).

iii. The National Highways Authority of India has made provisions for ambulances with paramedical staff/Emergency Medical Technician/Nurse at toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.
