

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:67

ANSWERED ON:22.10.2008

ROAD ACCIDENTS

Jagannath Dr. M.;Lagadapati Shri Rajagopal

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

- (a) whether the number of road accidents and the casualties as a result thereof have gone up in the country during the last three years and the current year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;
- (c) the effective measures taken by the Government to check the increasing number of road accidents;
- (d) whether the Government plans to introduce Highway Traffic Management System in all the States including Andhra Pradesh; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.67 FOR ANSWER ON 22.10.2008 ASKED BY SHRIL. RAJAGOPAL AND DR. M. JAGANNATH REGARDING ROAD ACCIDENTS.

(a) & (b) Yes Sir. As per the latest available data, the number of road accidents in the country and casualties during the years 2004, 2005 and 2006, is given below:-

Year Road Accidents on all roads Persons killed on all roads

2004 429910

92618

2005 439255

94968

2006 460920 (P) 105749 (P)

P- Provisional

Road accidents and fatalities are caused mainly due to a number of factors such as driver's fault, mechanical defects in the vehicles, fault of pedestrians, bad roads, bad weather, heterogeneous traffic etc.

(c) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Government. This Department however has taken several steps to improve road safety, which are given below:

i) Road safety is the integral part of road design at the planning stage for National Highways/Expressways.

ii) Various steps to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by the National Highways Authority of India (NHA).

iii) Refresher training is being imparted to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector through Department of Road Transport & Highways.

iv) Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) have been involved in road safety activities by the Department of Road Transport and Highways and NHA.

- v) Model Driving Training Schools have been set up in 13 states in the country by the Department of Road Transport and Highways.
- vi) Publicity as well as Awareness campaigns on road safety have been conducted through audio-visual-print media by the Department of Road Transport and Highways.
- vii) National Award is conferred every year to voluntary organizations/individuals for outstanding work in the field of road safety by Department of Road Transport and Highways.
- viii) Safety standards of vehicles are tightened from time to time.
- ix) Cranes and Ambulances are provided to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme by Department of Road Transport & Highways. National Highways Authority of India (NHA) also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.
- x) Widening and improvements of National Highways are being made from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.
- (d) & (e) Under the public funded projects, Highway Traffic Management System (HTMS) is not planned in all States. However, NHA is planning to implement HTMS on the following sections:-
- (i) Ahmedabad -Vadodara Expressway (Gujarat)
- (ii) A section of approximately 150 km on East-West corridor (Asian Development Bank funded projects) in the States of Rajasthan/Madhya Pradesh/Uttar Pradesh In Build, Operate and Transfer (BOT) projects under the National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase III and Phase V, provision is being made for HTMS. It is already operational on Jaipur-Kishangarh section (BOT Project) on NH 8 in the State of Rajasthan.