

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:645
ANSWERED ON:25.02.2009
SUGGESTIONS FOR ROAD SAFETY
Angadi Shri Suresh Chanabasappa

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

- (a) whether a large number of suggestions have been received from Road Safety Forums/Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) for reducing accidents on National Highways ;
- (b) if so, the details thereof ;
- (c) whether the Government has also received representations from various quarters regarding closure of liquor shops along the National Highways ;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the action taken by the Government in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS(SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) & (b) This Department received suggestions from Dr. P. Pullarao, President, Road Safety Forum, Andhra Pradesh and other NGOs from time to time for reducing the number of accidents on National Highways. Dr. P. Pullarao has given suggestions for removal of tollbooths/liquor shops on national highways, efficient system of issuing drivers' licenses and construction of over-bridges at Gundugolanu etc. In the recently concluded 11th National Road Safety Council meeting, held in New Delhi on 28th January 2009, a number of NGOs namely Dr. Maya Tandon, Chairperson, Dr. M.N. Tandon Memorial Charitable Trust, Jaipur, and Dr. Subroto Das, CEO, Lifeline Foundation suggested measures to reduce road accidents. The suggestions were largely on training of general public for helping road accident victims and training of operators of ambulances.

(c) to (e) In the year 2003, this Department had received a representation from Dr. P. Pullarao, President, Road Safety Forum, Andhra Pradesh, in which he had suggested that the Government of India and NHAI can insist that it would not construct roads if the respective Excise Policy is not changed and make it a condition that highways will be constructed only if liquor shops are removed along highways. The matter of removal of liquor shops along Highways was discussed in the 7th meeting of the National Road Safety Council (NRSC) held on 15.1.2004 in New Delhi and it was unanimously agreed that the licenses for liquor vends should not be given along National Highways. The Chief Secretary/Principal Secretary/Secretary (Transport) of all States/UTs were requested on 26th October, 2007 to ensure that no license is issued to the liquor vendor along National Highways. The State Governments were also requested to review such cases where license had already been given for liquor vendors along National Highways for taking corrective action.