

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:63

ANSWERED ON:02.03.2010

ROAD SAFETY

Panda Shri Baijayant;Pradhan Shri Nityananda

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

- (a) whether a National Road Safety Policy is being formulated;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to create a fund to facilitate cashless treatment in hospitals and provide compensation to the victims of road accidents;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard; and
- (e) the details of the other measures taken for creating safe road network in the country?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): The objectives of the National Road Safety Policy document recommended by the Committee constituted by this Ministry under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sunder, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI) are as under:

# To promote awareness about road safety issues. This would also enable and empower the different stakeholders to play a meaningful role in promoting road safety.

# To establish a road safety information database.

# To ensure safer road infrastructure by way of designing safer roads, encouraging application of intelligent transport system etc.

# To ensure fitment of safety features in the vehicles at the stage of designing, manufacture, usage, operation and maintenance.

# To strengthen the system of driver licensing and training to improve the competence and capability of drivers.

# To take measures to ensure safety of vulnerable road users keeping in view the need of non-motorized transport as well as physically challenged persons.

# To create awareness on road safety education and training.

# To take appropriate measures for enforcement of safety laws.

# To ensure emergency medical attention for road accident victims.

# To encourage human resource development and R&D for road safety.

# To strengthen legal, institutional and financial environment for promoting road safety culture in the country.

The recommendations of the Committee were discussed in the meeting of Transport Ministers of all the States, held on 06-08-2008 wherein the States endorsed the recommendations.

(c) & (d): Road accident victims are eligible to get compensation under various provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. The Government has already initiated necessary deliberation process, involving Insurance Companies to evolve a mechanism for providing immediate medical treatment to the road accident victims.

(e) This Ministry has taken several steps to improve road safety for road users which are as under:

# It is ensured that road safety is the integral part of road design at planning stage.

# 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 of roads, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India.

# Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector being implemented by the Ministry since 1997-98 under plan activities.

# Involvement of NGOs for road safety activities by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and National Highways Authority of India.

# Setting up of Driving Training School in the States by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

# Publicity campaign on road safety awareness both through the audio-visual and print media by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

# Conferment of National Award for voluntary organizations/individual for outstanding work in the field of road safety.

# Tightening of safety standards of vehicles like Seat Belts, Power-steering, rear view Mirror etc.

# Providing cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed stretches of National Highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.

# Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.