

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:18
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2011
TRANSPORTATION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN
Tharoor Shri Shashi

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

- (a) whether the Government has taken note of the pitiable/adverse conditions, in which school children, are subjected to while transporting in school buses/ vans/vehicles etc. in various parts of the country including Delhi;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to implement the guidelines issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India with regard to safety of school children;
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the manner in which the Government proposes to implement such guidelines; and
- (e) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to enforce these guidelines uniformly all over the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (DR. C. P. JOSHI)

(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 STARRED QUESTION NO. 18 REGARDING TRANSPORTATION FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN FOR ANSWER ON 1ST AUGUST, 2011, ASKED BY DR. SHASHI THAROOR.

(a) to (d): Yes, Sir. The Government has conveyed its concern about safe transportation of school children to all the States/UTs who are entrusted with the responsibility to ensure maintenance of traffic discipline by all road users. The detailed guidelines issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court regarding safety of school children have also been reiterated by the Government to all the States.

(e): As per Section 2 (47) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, an educational institution bus is a transport vehicle which requires a permit to ply on road. Permits are granted by the State Governments with various terms and conditions. Such vehicles also need to undergo mandatory fitness test every year without which the permit can not be renewed. As such, all the States have been advised to incorporate the guidelines in the permit conditions by the State Transport Departments.