

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:43
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2012
ROAD ACCIDENTS
Bali Ram Dr. ;Virendra Kumar Shri

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

- (a) whether as per a recent report, there is a steep rise in deaths due to road accidents in the country;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details of road accidents occurred in the country particularly on National Highways (NHs) in the year 2011-12 along with the reasons therefor and the position in other countries in this regard;
- (c) the States which have registered an increase in the number of road fatalities and the States wherein the number of accidents has reduced;
- (d) whether a meeting of State Road Transport Ministers was recently held by the Ministry;
- (e) if so, the details thereof along with the issues discussed in the meeting and the steps suggested and resolution adopted for future strategy to reduce road accidents; and
- (f) whether the Government has also reviewed the monitoring of safety on NHs and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

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

(a) to (f) A statement containing the detailed point-wise reply is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (f) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 43 FOR ANSWER ON 13.08.2012 ASKED BY DR. BALIRAM AND SHRI VIRENDRA KUMAR REGARDING ROAD ACCIDENTS.

(a) No Sir. As per the latest issue of "Road Accidents in India 2011" published by the Transport Research Wing of the Ministry, the annual growth rate in the number of deaths due to road accidents has decreased to 5.9 per cent during 2011 as compared to 7 per cent in the year 2010.

(b) Details of State-wise/Union Territory wise number of total road accidents including those on National Highways reported during the year 2011 (the latest available data) are at Annexure 1. The analysis of road accident data received from States/UTs reveals that drivers' fault is the single most important factor responsible for accidents (77.5%). Some of the other factors responsible for road accidents are as under:

Fault of pedestrian	2.4%
Fault of cyclist	1.3%
Defect in road conditions	1.5%
Defect in condition of motor vehicle	1.6%
Weather condition	1.0%
All other causes	14.8%#

Includes Fault of Driver of other vehicles, Fault of Passengers, Poor light condition, Falling of boulders, Neglect of civic bodies, Stray animals, other causes and causes not known.

As per the latest issue of the "World Road Statistics" (WRS) 2011, brought out by the International Road Federation, (IRF) Geneva, United States of America has reported the maximum number of injury accidents at 15,47,797 in the world followed by Japan at 7,36,688 and India at 4,86,384 for the year 2009. The incidence of road accident related deaths and injury accidents per lakh persons shows lower incidence of both the parameters for India in comparison to many developed and developing countries. The number of road accident deaths per lakh of population at 10.83 in India is much lower compared with 11.98 in the Republic of Korea, 11.01 in USA and 18.39 in the Russian Federation during the year 2009.

(c) The details of states which have registered an increase in the number of road fatalities and the States wherein the number of accidents has reduced during 2011 are given at Annexure II.

(d) & (e) Yes Sir. A meeting was held on 31st July 2012 in New Delhi which was attended by the Transport Ministers from the States, Pr.Secretaries/Secretaries/Commissioners of Transport and DG/IG of Police of States/UTs. The issues of increase in road accident

deaths, institutional mechanism at state/district level to address road safety issues, setting up of state level council/ district level committee, creation of state road safety fund, states' annual action plan on road safety, funding of road safety plan on road safety etc. were discussed in the meeting.

The steps suggested and the resolution adopted as a future strategy to reduce road accidents included setting up of state road safety councils and district road safety committees, setting up of road safety funds by pooling of 50% of the penalties realised by way of compounding of traffic offences, identifying and rectification of black spots on state highways and rural roads, setting up of more driving schools with private participation, inclusion of road safety curriculum in school syllabus, enforcement of use of seat belt by four wheelers and use of helmets by two wheelers, action against over-loading, action against drunken driving etc.

(f) Yes Sir. The Government has reviewed the monitoring of safety on National Highways. The 192 National Highway Administrators notified under National Highways (Land & Traffic) Act 2002 have been designated as nodal officers for road safety for monitoring road safety measures on the NHs under their jurisdiction which would inter alia include monitoring of deployed resources such as ambulances, cranes, maintaining data base on road accidents within their jurisdiction, treatment of black spots and training of first responders on trauma care on NHs etc. Meetings were held with the National Highways Administrators on 5th June-8th June 2012 to sensitize them about their powers and responsibilities.