

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2974
ANSWERED ON:10.02.2014
LIQUOR SHOPS ALONG NATIONAL HIGHWAYS
Tagore Shri Manicka

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

- (a) whether the number of road accidents has decreased after closure of liquor shops along the National Highways;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and the number of liquor shops opened and closed on the National highways in Tamil Nadu;
- (c) whether the Government has any proposal to set up hospitals/first aid centres on National Highways to facilitate quick and timely medical treatment; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI SARVEY SATHYANARAYANA)

(a) & (b) Road accidents occur due to the complex interaction of a number of factors which also include intake of alcohol and drugs. The State-wise data shows that number of road accidents caused due to intake of alcohol/drugs have decreased from 24,655 in 2011 to 23,979 in 2012 (the latest available data). Data on road accidents caused due to the presence of liquor shops along the National Highways (NHs) is not compiled separately.

Licensing of liquor shops is covered under Excise Policy of the States. The Ministry does not maintain data on number of liquor shops opened and closed along National Highways.

(c) to (d) Recognizing the vital importance of quick medical assistance and evacuation of road accident victims` in reducing the trauma and probability of death and disability associated with road accidents, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been implementing a Scheme 'establishment of an integrated network of Trauma Centers' along the Golden Quadrilateral, North-South and East-West Corridors of the National Highways by upgrading the trauma care facilities in identified State Government hospitals. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has provided advanced life support ambulances to the identified hospitals upgraded under this Scheme.