

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2921
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2009
ROAD ACCIDENTS INVOLVING CHILDREN
Ahir Shri Hansraj Gangaram

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

- (a) whether the Union Government proposes to create awareness amongst the motorists for safe driving;
- (b) if so, the details thereof including funds sanctioned, allocated and utilised for the purpose, during the last two years and the current year;
- (c) whether the Government has issued any guidelines to the States in view of the increasing road accidents involving children; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof along with the other steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEV SINGH KHANDELA)

(a) & (b) The safety of road users is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. However, this Ministry has taken several steps to inculcate safe driving habits and acquaint the drivers with the rules on roads. The funds allocated to this Ministry for Road Safety are utilized for implementing the schemes – Awareness Campaign for Road Safety, Refresher Training to Heavy Motor Vehicle Drivers, Setting up of Model Driver Training Schools and National Highways Accident Relief Service Scheme under which the cranes and ambulances are procured and provided to the State/UT Governments and NGOs for post accident care. The details of funds allocated and utilised on the various road safety schemes during the last two years and the current year are as under:-

(Rupees in crore)
Year Budget Estimates Funds spent

2007-08	52.00	42.87
2008-09	73.00	54.89
2009-10	79.00	7.62

(As on 18.11.2009)

(c) to (d) Need to educate children about road safety to make them responsible, safe and defensive road users has been emphasized from time to time in National Road Safety Council (NRSC) meetings as well as in meetings with State representatives. Educational and awareness campaigns are being carried out throughout the country on a continuous basis through print and electronic media, viz, newspaper advertisements, cinema slides, radio jingles and T.V. spots. Besides, calendars, posters, hand bills/stickers, multi-media CD, activity books and fun games for school children conveying simple and direct road safety messages are produced and distributed by the Central Government annually to State Governments and NGOs. The first week of January of every year is celebrated as the Road Safety Week during which a number of activities are undertaken by the States, NGOs and Public Transport organizations to spread the message of Road Safety among students and road users. Every year All India Essay Competition on road safety for school children with a view to create awareness is also being organised by this Ministry.

In addition, on the suggestion of this Ministry, National Council for Educational Research and Training (NCERT), the apex body for curriculum of the schools administered by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), has included road safety education in school curriculum for Class VII.