

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS  
LOK SABHA

**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2619**  
ANSWERED ON 27<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2018

**ROAD ACCIDENTS**

2619. SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV:  
DR. PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE:  
DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 14,6133 deaths were caused in 2015 due to road accidents, which is more than 14 times the 10,510 deaths resulting from natural disasters in the said period;
- (b) if so, whether faulty road design and complex coordination mechanism of Government agencies are the major hindrances in ensuring road safety;
- (c) if so, the details thereof;
- (d) whether there is any training policy for officials to enable them to conduct proper and comprehensive investigation of reasons for road accidents;
- (e) whether the Government is taking any initiative to strengthen the provisions relating to motor vehicles and make road contractors and consultants accountable for faulty road design and construction;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) the other steps taken for the safety of road users?

**ANSWER**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE  
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS  
(SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

- (a) to (c) As per information received from police department of all States/UTs the total number of persons deaths caused due to road accident in 2015 were 1,46,133. There are various causes responsible for the road accident deaths. These are summarized in Annexure "A".

(d) Yes Madam, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has appointed, in November, 2017, Asian Institute of Transport Development (AITD) as Apex Centre for capacity development programme for the Road Engineering personal to provide training on Road Safety and Road Safety Audit to reduce the road accidents on National Highways in the country. Till date, 1700 Government officers of Road Sector have been trained under the programme. Besides, under capacity building, NHAI field officers and technical staff of concessionaires, contractors and consultants engaged in NHAI projects are being imparted training on road safety at site by the Road Safety Expert of NHAI.

(e) & (f) : Under the Motor Vehicle amendment Bill which has been passed by Lok Sabha, new Section 198(A) has been incorporated which provides for fine on account of failure to following prescribed safety standards by the authorities, contractors, consultants and concessionaires responsible for design, construction and maintenance of roads. The Bill is pending in Rajya Sabha. To check the faulty road design and construction, relevant clauses have been incorporated in the tender documents to be used for contractors and consultants by the Ministry.

(g) Road safety is a multi-sectoral and multi-dimensional issue requiring a multipronged approach at various levels. Accordingly, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has taken a number of steps including long terms strategy to prevent road accidents and road accident fatalities as per details mentioned under:-

- 1) The Government has approved a National Road Safety Policy. This Policy outlines various policy measures such as promoting awareness, establishing road safety information data base, encouraging safer road infrastructure including application of intelligent transport, enforcement of safety laws etc.
- 2) The Government has constituted the National Road Safety Council as the apex body to take policy decisions in matters of road safety.
- 3) The Ministry has constituted Group of Ministers of State Transport Ministers to examine the best practices of Transport and suggest issues to improve road safety.
- 4) Based on the recommendation of Group of Minister, the Ministry introduced Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill 2017 covering entire gamut of road safety.
- 5) The Bill contains the provision of creation of Motor Vehicle Accident Fund, implementation of Cashless Treatment Scheme during Golden Hour, setting up of a dedicated agency for road safety viz. National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board (NRSTMB), enhancement of penalty for traffic rule violations, etc. which have direct impact on road safety.
- 6) The Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on 4 'E's viz. Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care.

- 7) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- 8) Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways has been taken up
- 9) The threshold for four laning of national highway has been reduced from 15,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10,000 PCUs. About 52,000 Km of stretches of State Highways has been identified for conversion to national highways.
- 10) Setting up of model driving training institutes in States and refresher training to drivers of Heavy Motor Vehicle in the unorganized sector.
- 11) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic and print media.
- 12) Tightening of safety standards for vehicles like Seat Belts, anti-lock braking system etc.
- 13) High priority has been accorded to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
- 14) Guidelines for identification and rectification of black spots, carrying out road safety audits and preparation of road safety improvement proposals on NHs and also guidelines on implementation of road safety engineering measures on state roads under Central Road Fund (CRF) have been issued.
- 15) 789 black spots based on fatalities in 2011,2012,2013 and 2014 calendars years have been identified. So far 189 spots have already been rectified. Rectification measures at 256 spots have been sanctioned which are in various stages of implementation. 138 spots are on State Government roads / with other agencies. The balance 206 spots would be taken separately or would be rectified as part of ongoing projects.
- 16) As a measure of supplementing the efforts of States / UTs for minimizing the accident potential at the identified locations / stretches through engineering improvement on state roads, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways had taken a decision to sanction road safety works on state roads with an earmarked allocation of 10% of funds allocated to the state roads under Central Road Fund.
- 17) Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MORTH for technical approval to the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots for expediting the rectification process to ensure safety of road users.
- 18) Ministry had issued guidelines vide O.M. dated 14.1.2016 for taking up of Road Safety Audits on National Highways either as part of EPC/BOT projects or as stand-alone Road Safety Audits.
- 19) Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States / UTs.

- 20) In order to ensure safe and smooth flow of traffic, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has envisaged a plan for replacement of all the Level Crossing on National Highways by ROBs / RUBs and replacement / widening / strengthening of weak and narrow bridges under a scheme SetuBhartam. Under this programme, construction of 208 Level Crossings at an estimated cost of Rs. 20,800 Crore are included.
- 21) Two National Level Workshops and several Regional Training workshops in 11 states have been organized on Road Safety Engineering.
- 22) A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) and 42 Auditors are certified.
- 23) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has constituted a District Road Safety Committee in each district of the country to promote awareness amongst road users under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from the district.

## ANNEXURE-A

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2619 FOR ANSWER ON 27-12-2018 ASKED BY SHRI DHARMENDRA YADAV: DR.PRITAM GOPINATH MUNDE: AND DR. SHRIKANT EKNATH SHINDE REGARDING ROAD ACCIDENTS.

### Causes responsible for the road accident deaths

Sl. No.	Causes of road accident
1	Use of Mobile Phone
2	Drunken driving/ consumption of alcohol/ Drug
3	Mechanical Defect
4	Stray Animals
5	Overloaded Vehicle
6	Poor light condition
7	Over speeding
8	Overtaking
9	Road Condition
10	Road Engineering
11	Jumping red light

\*\*\*\*\*