

(a) whether Government propose to provide Najul land (Government land) on priority basis as a gift to the heirs of the jawans and officers who have made supreme sacrifice in recent months in combatting tension in Jammu and Kashmir State;

(b) whether Government propose to establish a security belt of these nationalists on the entire border by providing them special facilities to establish small scale industries there;

(c) if so, by what time; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMUFTI MOHAMMED SAYEED): (a) It is for the State Government to consider this under the Jammu and Kashmir State laws and rules.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) On consideration of relevant factors, this would not not be practicable.

[English]

Road Accidents

*981. DR. A. K. PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the position of India amongst the countries of the World in respect of road accidents per thousand power driven vehicles;

(b) the rate of accidents of first ten countries leading in road accidents;

(c) the steps taken to bring down the rate of accidents in the country and the outcome thereof; and

(d) the action-plan drawn up in this regard and the target fixed for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b). On the basis of figures in the World Road Statistics, 1987, brought out by International Road Federation, Washington, the rate of road accidents for the 10 countries having the highest number of road accidents per 1000 vehicles, during 1986 which is the latest year for which figures are available is as follows:

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Countries</i>	<i>Accident per 1000 vehicles</i>
1	2	3
1.	Mauritius	73.75
2.	Hongkong	48.15
3.	Kuwait	36.19
4.	India	19.70
5.	Tunisia	17.33
6.	South Africa	14.88

<i>S. No.</i>	<i>Countries</i>	<i>Accident per 1000 vehicles</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>
7.	Cyprus	13.09
8.	Austria	11.97
9.	Yemen Arab Republic	11.94
10.	Federal Republic of Germany	09.96

The above figure place India in the 4th position.

(c) The rate of accidents per 1000 motor vehicles has come down from 33.94 in 1980 to 19.70 in 1986 and has further decreased to 14.75 in 1988. The enforcement of various rules and regulations governing road safety rests with the Governments of the States and the Union Territories. The main steps taken by the Central Government in promoting road safety are the following:—

- (1) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the rules framed thereunder provide for stricter requirements in respect of issuance of driving licences.
- (2) Formal training in driving in a driving school is made a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles.
- (3) Maximum safe laden weights have been prescribed for trucks including light commercial vehicles.
- (4) Maximum speed limits have been prescribed for all vehicles.
- (5) Uniform intervals for checking the fitness of vehicles have been prescribed through the country.

(6) It is prescribed that the road safety devices should be fitted in the vehicles viz. direction indicators with blinker system in two-wheelers, dual brake system for vehicles, special labels on carriages carrying dangerous or hazardous goods.

(7) The National Road Safety Council has been set up for formulation of road safety measures. State Governments were requested to set up State level road safety councils.

(8) In order to promote road safety consciousness, road safety weeks are organised all over the country.

(9) Efforts are made to improve the condition of the roads so as to facilitate flow of traffic.

(c) The action plan is to continue through the Governments of States and Union Territories, the strict enforcement of various rules and regulations regarding road safety, to prescribe using the existing provisions of the M.V. Act, 1988, safety provisions such as safety belts, auto dippers and to promote heightened consciousness of road safety among all road users including pedestrians. Given the nature of the problem, it is not considered feasible to fix a target for reductions in road accidents.