

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO-33
ANSWERED ON-01/12/2021

DEATHS OF PEDESTRIANS IN ROAD ACCIDENTS

*33. SHRI BRIJLAL:

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

- (a) the percentage of death of pedestrians out of all the deaths which occurred due to road accidents during the last three years;
- (b) whether any study has been conducted to find out the reasons of death of pedestrians despite the existence of footpaths;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the concrete steps being taken to save the pedestrians from accidents?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (d) OF THE RAJYA SABHA
STARRED QUESTION NO. 33 ANSWERED ON 01.12.2021 ASKED BY SHRI BRIJLAL
REGARDING **DEATHS OF PEDESTRIANS IN ROAD ACCIDENTS**

(a) The Ministry obtains information and data on accidents and death from State Police. The death of pedestrians as a percentage of the total number of deaths in road accidents in India during the last three calendar years from 2018 to 2020 are shown in the table given below:

Year	Total Number of Persons killed in road accidents	Total Number of Pedestrian Killed in road accidents	% share of Pedestrian killed in total Road Accident
2018	151417	22656	14.96
2019	151113	25858	17.11
2020	131714	23483	17.83

(b) to (d) To prevent the road accidents and save lives, the Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act, 2019 passed by Parliament, focuses on road safety and includes, inter-alia, hike in penalties for traffic violations, electronic monitoring of the same, enhanced penalties for juvenile driving, computerization/automation of vehicle fitness and driving, tests, recall of defective vehicles, streamlining the third-party insurance and payment of increased compensation for hit and run cases etc. The Amendment has strengthened the Law to improve the road Safety scenario and reduce loss of lives. However, no study on why pedestrian deaths happen is available or has been conducted. Generally, such deaths occur due to pedestrians not following norms laid down for walking along roads or trying to cross roads during traffic. Accidents also occur due to over-speeding vehicles.

Ministry has issued various guidelines for pedestrian safety on National highways:-

- The provisions of pedestrian facilities have been specified in the IRC: 103 "Guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities". Ministry has also issued a Circular dated 17th June, 2015 wherein guidelines for Pedestrian Facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have been stipulated.
- There is provision of Median railing of adequate height to discourage the pedestrian to cross the road at the vulnerable locations in the urban areas.
- FOB are provided at the various specified location with Ramps or lifts to crossing the pedestrians on National Highways. IRC 56-2011 described about detailed guidelines for providing steel pedestrian bridges.
- Ministry has issued detailed guidelines (IRC 99-2018) for traffic calming measures, in which various traffic measures such as rumble strip, Speed Bumps, Speed Table/Raised Pedestrian Crossing, Road Narrowing, Central Islands etc are provided either on National Highways or adjoining road meeting with a National Highways.

The Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care. Accordingly, various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry as detailed below :-

i. Education:

- a. The Ministry implements a scheme for undertaking publicity measures and awareness campaigns on road safety to create awareness among road users through the electronic media, print media, NGOs etc.

- b. Observance of National Road Safety Month/Week every year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.
 - c. A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE).
 - d. Education of general public on traffic rules and their applicability.
- ii. Engineering (both of Roads and vehicles)
- Road engineering:
 - a. High priority to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
 - b. Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
 - c. Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MORTH for technical approval to the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots.
 - d. Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States / UTs.
 - Vehicle engineering:
 - a. Safety standards for automobiles have been improved in respect of Airbags, Anti-Breaking System (ABS), Tyres, Crash test, Whole Vehicle Safety Conformity of Production (WVSCoP) etc.
 - b. Ministry has notified fitment of Speed Limiting devices on all transport vehicles.
 - c. Scheme for setting up one model Inspection & Certification Centre in each State/UT with Central assistance for testing the fitness of vehicles through an automated system.
- iii. Enforcement
- a. The recently passed motor vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 provides for strict enforcement through use of technology and further provides for strict penalties for ensuring strict compliance and enhancing deterrence for violation of traffic rules.
 - b. Issue of Guidelines for protection of Good Samaritans and draft rules as per MV (Amendment) Act, 2019 has been published.
- iv. Emergency care:
- a. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 provides for a scheme for the cashless treatment of victims of the accident during the golden hour.
 - b. The National Highways Authority of India has made provisions for ambulances at all toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.
 - c. Further, out of this, 297 ambulances have been upgraded to Basic Life Support as per AIS-125 and upgradation for the remaining is under process.
