

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-2351
ANSWERED ON-09/08/2023

NO-FIXED WORKING HOURS FOR DRIVERS

2351. DR. AMEE YAJNIK:

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that one of the biggest reasons for road accidents is no-fixed working hours for drivers, if so, the details of the action taken by Government so far and the monitoring mechanism;
- (b) whether the Minister had announced that a law would be brought to fix working hours for truck drivers, if so, the reasons for not introducing the law so far and timeframe for enacting the law; and
- (c) the details of the mandatory facilities to be provided to the drivers and the monitoring mechanism for implementing these facilities?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (c) As per analysis of road accident data received from the Police Department of the States/UTs, road accidents occur due to multiple causes such as over speeding, use of mobile phone, drunken driving/consumption of alcohol and drug, driving on wrong side/ lane indiscipline, jumping red light, non-use of safety devices such as helmets and seat belts, vehicular condition, weather condition, road condition, fault of driver / cyclist/ pedestrian etc.

Section 25 of the Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020 (37 of 2020) passed by the Parliament provides hours of work including that of motor transport workers.

Ministry has issued policy guidelines on 11th February, 2021 for development of way side amenities along National Highways and Expressways. As per the guidelines, the facilities for Trucks/Goods vehicles at the Wayside Amenities (WSAs) include truck parking, dhabas for truckers, toilet facilities (separate for ladies, gents & Divyangjan), dust bin, baby care room, drinking water, first aid box, dedicated area for local artisans in form of kiosk, landscaping, and safety awareness corner. Till now 182 WSAs have been awarded by Highways Authorities out of which 43 Numbers are operational.
