

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-1991
ANSWERED ON-20/12/2023

INCREASE IN THE FATALITIES IN ROAD ACCIDENTS

1991. SHRI A. D. SINGH:

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

- (a) whether there is a 9.4 per cent increase in the fatalities in road accidents in the country in 2022;
- (b) whether there is an 11.9 per cent increase in accidents during the same period;
- (c) if no, the reasons for increase in fatalities and accidents on roads even when the laws are stringent now;
- (d) whether the safety and fitness of vehicles is one of the major causes for fatalities and accidents as it is not checked periodically; and
- (e) if not, how Government intends to address the issue?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) Ministry publishes “Road Accidents in India” annually based on data received from Police Departments of States/ UTs. As per the report, the total number of road accidents and fatalities in the country during the Year 2022 were reported as 4,61,312 and 1,68,491 respectively. The years 2020 and 2021 were affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Road Accidents in India Report, 2022 gives the following data on road accidents and fatalities:

Year	No. of Road Accidents	No. of Fatalities
2004	4,29,910	92,618
2005	4,39,255	94,968
2006	4,60,920	1,05,749
2007	4,79,216	1,14,444
2008	4,84,704	1,19,860
2009	4,86,384	1,25,660
2010	4,99,628	1,34,513
2011	4,97,686	1,42,485
2012	4,90,383	1,38,258
2013	4,86,476	1,37,572
2014	4,89,400	1,39,671

2015	5,05,770	1,46,555
2016	4,84,756	1,51,192
2017	4,69,242	1,50,003
2018	4,70,403	1,57,593
2019	4,56,959	1,58,984
2020*	3,72,181	1,38,383
2021*	4,12,432	1,53,972
2022	4,61,312	1,68,491

**Covid affected years*

(c) to (e) While Central Government formulates rules under the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988, the enforcement of these rules comes under the purview of State Governments / UT Administrations.

As per the Report, 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.

Rule 62 of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 provides for periodic fitness testing of vehicles as per the below frequency:

- Transport vehicles are required to undergo fitness testing every 2 years for the first 8 years and annually thereafter.
- For non-transport vehicles, the first registration is valid for 15 years and a valid fitness certificate is required for renewal of the registration certificate. Such renewal is valid for a period of 5 years.

As per the provisions under Section 56 of the Motor Vehicles Act 1988, the Registration Certificate of a transport vehicle is deemed invalid unless it carries a Certificate of fitness. Further, as per provisions under Section 192 (1) of the MV Act 1988, the fine for operating a vehicle without a valid Registration Certificate for the first offence ranges from Rs 2,000 to Rs 5,000. For second or subsequent offence, the fine ranges from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 and/ or imprisonment for up to one year.

In exercise of powers conferred by Section 56 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, Ministry has formulated rules for Recognition, Regulation and Control of Automated Testing Stations vide GSR 652(E) dated 23rd September, 2021 and amended vide GSR 797(E) dated 31st October, 2022.
