

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-269
ANSWERED ON- 27/11/2024

REVIEWING EXPRESSWAY SPEED LIMITS

269. SHRI DHAIRYASHIL MOHAN PATIL:

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

- (a) whether Government will reexamine expressway speed restrictions after establishing stronger road laws to handle issues such as driver weariness, overloading, and driving discipline;
- (b) if so, the actions being done to increase enforcement and civic road discipline for safe high-speed highway driving; and
- (c) whether any study has examined how expressway speed limits affect road safety and accident rates.

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b): No such proposal is under consideration in the Government. However, the Government of India enacted the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 with a special focus on road safety, incorporating aspects such as stringent penalties for traffic violations, electronic enforcement, etc. Accordingly, vide G.S.R 575(E) dated 11th August 2021, rule 167A was inserted in the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989 for Electronic Monitoring and Enforcement of Road Safety which mandates that State Governments shall ensure the installation of electronic enforcement devices at high-risk and high-density corridors on National Highways and State Highways, and at critical junctions at least in major cities prescribed therein.

(c): No such specific study examining how expressway speed limits affect road safety and accident rates has been carried out by Government. However, the Government has implemented the Electronic Detailed Accident Report (eDAR), a central repository for recording, management and analysis of Road Accidents in the Country. A comparison of road accidents data entered by the State authorities on eDAR portal in respect of 4 National Expressways i.e. NE1 (Ahmadabad Vadodara Expressway), NE2 Eastern Peripheral Expressway), NE3 Delhi-Meerut Expressway and NE4 (Delhi –Mumbai Expressway) for 2022, 2023 and 2024 (as on 22/11/2024) are as under:

Year	2022	2023	2024 (as on 22/11/2024)
No. of accidents	248	241	187

As per the reasons recorded on the eDAR portal for road accidents by the State Authorities, the reasons for accidents are multi causal and Traffic rules violation is the major cause of accidents.
