

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 1222
ANSWERED ON - 30/07/2025

CHILD SAFETY IN VEHICLES

1222. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the usage of Child Restraint Systems is currently optional to use as per Section 194B of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 keeping in view that tragically, 9,489 children were killed due to road crashes in 2023;

(b) whether Government is considering to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to include mandates for age, height, seating position and facing position for child restraint systems in the law, given the significant number of child deaths due to road crashes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) Section 194B of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, has the provision of punishment for whoever drives a motor vehicle or causes or allows a motor vehicle to be driven with a child who, not having attained the age of fourteen years, is not secured by a safety belt or a child restraint system. Both the safety belt and child restraint system are intended to restrain the movement of the passenger.

As per Rule 125 (8) of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, Motor vehicles of category M1, excluding transport vehicles and special purpose vehicles, manufactured on and after 1st April, 2015, shall have a provision for installation of at least one category of child restraint system for all weight groups on at least one of the seating positions, as specified in AIS:072-2009. Further, as per Rule 138 (6) of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, on and after 1st April, 2016, the driver of motor vehicle of M1 category, manufactured on and after 1st October 2014, excluding transport vehicles and special purpose vehicles shall ensure that a child up to age of twelve years carried in the vehicle is seated in an appropriate child restraint system conforming to AIS:072-2009.

(b) & (c) No such proposal is under consideration.
