

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2023
ANSWERED ON - 06/08/2025

SPEED MANAGEMENT

2023. SHRI K.R. SURESH REDDY:

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

- (a) whether speeding remains one of the leading causes of road crash fatalities in the country, contributing to over 70 per cent of all fatalities;
- (b) whether Government has undertaken any step to introduce and implement scientific speed management guidelines across the country for speed-limit determination based on road characteristics, built-up area, road design and road use;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) if not, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) to (d) The Government publishes report on “Road Accidents in India” based on data received from States/ UTs. As per data received from the States/UTs, road accidents are multi-causal phenomenon and are the result of interplay of various factors. These can broadly be categorized into (i) human error, (ii) road condition/environment and (iii) vehicular condition. As per the report for the Year 2022, over-speeding was recorded as the leading cause for 1,19,904 fatalities out of a total of 1,68,491 fatalities recorded in the year due to road accidents.

The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is the principal instrument through which road transport is regulated in the country. In exercise of powers conferred under sub-section (1) of section 112 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, Central Government fixes the maximum speed for various classes of motor vehicles on different categories of roads. Further, Sub-Section (2) of the Section 112 authorises the State Government or any authority authorised in this behalf by the State Government to further restrict the speed limits for specific vehicles, areas, or roads, either generally or under certain conditions in the interest of public safety or convenience or because of the nature of any road or bridge.

Sub-section (1) of Section 183 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, states that 'whoever drives or causes any person who is employed by him or subjects someone under his control to drive a motor vehicle in contravention of the speed limits referred to in section 112 shall be punishable in the following manner, namely : —

- (i) where such motor vehicle is a light motor vehicle with fine which shall not be less than one thousand rupees but may extend to two thousand rupees;
- (ii) where such motor vehicle is a medium goods vehicle or a medium passenger vehicle or a heavy goods vehicle or a heavy passenger vehicle with fine which shall not be less than two thousand rupees, but may extend to four thousand rupees; and

(iii) for the second or any subsequent offence under this sub-section the driving licence of such driver shall be impounded as per the provisions of the sub section (4) of section 206.'

Rule 167(A) of the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989, notified by the Central Government under Section 136(A) of the Motor Act, 1988, provides for electronic monitoring and enforcement of Road Safety including enforcement of the speed limits.

The traffic management and enforcement is essentially in the domain of State Governments/UT Administrations. 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.
