

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO - 2993
ANSWERED ON - 18/03/2026

FOG-RELATED ACCIDENTS AND MITIGATION ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

2993. MS. SWATI MALIWAL:

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

- (a) number of accidents and fatalities attributed to dense fog on National Highways during each of last five years, State-wise/UT-wise and highway stretches identified as high-risk fog-prone corridors;
- (b) fog-mitigation infrastructure currently deployed on National Highways, stretch-wise and State-wise/UT-wise;
- (c) whether SOP or Fog Action Plan exists for traffic management in fog-prone regions and measures implemented during last two winter seasons along with expenditure incurred;
- (d) number of violations detected and penalised during fog conditions for non-compliance with safety norms applicable to heavy vehicles; and
- (e) whether Government proposes additional measures such as mandatory speed restrictions or real-time fog alert systems on identified high-risk corridors?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The Central Government publishes annual report “Road Accidents in India”, based on data received from States/UTs. As per the report, details of number of road accidents and fatalities on all categories of roads, including on National Highways, in the country attributed to the weather condition “Foggy & Misty” during the years 2020 to 2024 are at Annexure – I and II respectively.

(b) and (c) There is no specific Indian Road Congress (IRC) guidelines for fog-mitigation infrastructure. However, para 5.6.2 of IRC:35-2015 prescribes use of solar road studs for enhancing visibility during foggy conditions.

Further, to counter reduced visibility due to foggy conditions on the National Highways during the winter season, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has taken mitigation measures to enhance visibility for the safety of National Highway users. To enhance road safety during foggy conditions, mitigation measures have been classified under two heads of ‘Engineering’ and ‘Safety Awareness’ measures.

The ‘Engineering measures’ include reinstalling missing/damaged road signs and road studs, rectifying faded or inadequate pavement markings, installation of reflective markers and retro-reflective yellow stickers on road safety devices like metal beam crash barriers, implementation of safety measures on construction stretches that include barricading, diversion signs, and providing solar blinkers on the median openings to maximize visibility on National Highway stretches.

The 'Safety Awareness' measures highlight steps to alert National Highway users of the reduced visibility conditions. These measures include use of Variable Message Signs (VMS) or electronic signages to display 'Foggy Weather Alerts' and speed limits, use of Public Address System warning commuters in foggy areas, use of electronic billboards, radio, and social media for public service announcements as well as installation of reflective tapes on vehicles to enhance visibility.

In addition, NHAI field offices have been directed to undertake night-time highway inspection on weekly basis to assess visibility on National Highways and identify locations for installing additional provisions as required. Also, Highway Patrol vehicles are stationed near dense foggy stretches, carrying blinking batons for guiding traffic. Also, use of reflective jackets by officials and workers during highway activities has been mandated. NHAI collaborates with local law enforcement, ambulance services, and municipal authorities for seamless emergency response. In addition, NHAI teams conduct joint drills with traffic police to ensure efficient coordination during fog-related emergencies.

NHAI has also delegated financial powers for rectification of accident spots to its field officers; these can be utilized for taking measures to enhance visibility during foggy weather and overall safety.

In order to ensure safety, NHAI urges National Highway commuters to follow safe driving techniques during foggy conditions such as following lane driving and maintaining safe distance from the vehicle ahead, driving at the speed of 30km/hr or less to ensure adequate visibility for stopping the vehicle safely, driving vehicles with head/back light blinking, not park vehicles on Highways but only at designated locations such as truck lay bays and wayside amenities, drive carefully near construction sites and diversions, install reflective tapes on commercial vehicles in full width of the vehicle which includes white tape on front and red colored tape at the rear of the vehicle.

Further, in order to create awareness to prevent accidents in foggy weather, necessary guidelines and instructions are published on social media. In addition, cautions/ awareness message is being sent to all the Driving Licence holders in the country during the foggy season.

(d) Foggy weather is generally observed during October to January. As per information available on eChallan Portal, total number of echallans issued during October 2025 to January 2026 is 3,27,21,011, which includes the challans issued due to non-compliance of safety norms during the foggy season.

(e) 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.

Government in the Ministry of Communications has earmarked 50 MHz in the frequency range of 5875-6925 MHz in the National Frequency Allocation Plan (NFAP-2025) for Intelligent Transport System (V2V) use. V2V (Vehicle to Vehicle) Communication system enables vehicles to broadcast their status data (such as position, speed etc.) with surrounding vehicles to provide a level of situational awareness that exceeds human vision or traditional sensors like cameras, radar, etc. specially at the intersections or blind spots. This system will enable real-time alerts to be generated in motor vehicles in low visibility conditions.

Annexure - I

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2993 ANSWERED ON 18.03.2026 ASKED BY MS. SWATI MALIWAL REGARDING FOG-RELATED ACCIDENTS AND MITIGATION ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS.

No. of Road Accidents attributed to weather condition "Foggy and Misty"						
S. No	States/UTs	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1	Andhra Pradesh	1563	1211	1656	1556	1548
2	Arunachal Pradesh	28	47	39	59	55
3	Assam	1033	1191	1202	1311	1460
4	Bihar	2258	2200	2275	2347	1960
5	Chhattisgarh	385	297	480	435	534
6	Goa	0	0	0	3	3
7	Gujarat	354	469	451	575	573
8	Haryana	1892	1530	838	1058	977
9	Himachal Pradesh	16	21	50	152	97
10	Jharkhand	623	692	597	637	665
11	Karnataka	1319	1987	2578	2212	2184
12	Kerala	1060	1498	3107	4017	3618
13	Madhya Pradesh	3432	4034	4474	4751	4947
14	Maharashtra	313	524	560	521	515
15	Manipur	57	59	90	89	71
16	Meghalaya	30	8	19	19	10
17	Mizoram	5	8	8	8	6
18	Nagaland	111	130	91	42	20
19	Odisha	895	1259	1632	1768	1997
20	Punjab	1041	1086	872	885	880
21	Rajasthan	501	322	589	693	719
22	Sikkim	25	28	29	11	13
23	Tamil Nadu	2886	2124	3353	652	508
24	Telangana	277	569	555	849	437
25	Tripura	26	16	35	25	27
26	Uttarakhand	58	56	71	62	76
27	Uttar Pradesh	6700	6658	7183	8191	9075
28	West Bengal	513	547	512	407	407
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	6	2	5	6	4
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	26	38	39	29	13
32	Delhi	194	32	462	618	177
33	Jammu & Kashmir	52	82	108	118	98
34	Ladakh	NA	13	19	37	54
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	196	283	123	227
Total		27679	28934	34262	34266	33955

- Note: 1. NA: not applicable.
2. Data have been reconciled for West Bengal and Tamil Nadu for the calendar year 2020
3. Figures of West Bengal for the year 2024 are re-casted based on the pattern of the data furnished by the State Police Department for the year 2023 and the aggregate e-DAR data of the State for the year 2024

Annexure - II

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF RAJYA SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 2993 ANSWERED ON 18.03.2026 ASKED BY MS. SWATI MALIWAL REGARDING FOG-RELATED ACCIDENTS AND MITIGATION ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS.

No. of Persons Killed in Road Accidents attributed to weather condition "Foggy and Misty"						
S. No	States/UTs	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
1	Andhra Pradesh	639	464	661	700	682
2	Arunachal Pradesh	16	30	30	24	25
3	Assam	401	415	464	562	634
4	Bihar	1722	1800	1842	1864	1559
5	Chhattisgarh	175	112	227	219	333
6	Goa	0	0	0	0	0
7	Gujarat	150	284	259	309	315
8	Haryana	912	735	422	426	494
9	Himachal Pradesh	9	11	26	71	31
10	Jharkhand	409	527	487	524	530
11	Karnataka	375	647	757	677	649
12	Kerala	182	230	458	491	424
13	Madhya Pradesh	840	1233	1177	1163	1523
14	Maharashtra	152	202	308	265	287
15	Manipur	20	21	26	15	16
16	Meghalaya	23	5	15	14	7
17	Mizoram	5	7	5	12	5
18	Nagaland	8	3	13	9	6
19	Odisha	414	572	731	832	962
20	Punjab	734	799	712	701	697
21	Rajasthan	257	160	245	324	347
22	Sikkim	7	11	14	8	8
23	Tamil Nadu	824	684	1032	189	150
24	Telangana	129	219	228	273	151
25	Tripura	14	8	18	15	18
26	Uttarakhand	43	37	31	34	37
27	Uttar Pradesh	3705	3782	3920	4408	4845
28	West Bengal	288	296	258	220	244
29	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	0	0	0	0	0
30	Chandigarh	6	1	2	2	4
31	Dadra & Nagar Haveli and Daman & Diu	17	21	16	8	8
32	Delhi	31	8	132	208	40
33	Jammu & Kashmir	4	24	24	29	25
34	Ladakh	NA	2	1	7	18
35	Lakshadweep	0	0	0	0	0
36	Puducherry	0	22	42	14	41
Total		12511	13372	14583	14617	15115

Note: 1. NA: not applicable
 2. Data have been reconciled for West Bengal and Tamil Nadu for the calendar year 2020
 3. Figures of West Bengal for the year 2024 are re-casted based on the pattern of the data furnished by the State Police Department for the year 2023 and the aggregate e-DAR data of the State for the year 2024
