GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 847 ANSWERED ON 7th FEBRUARY, 2019

GLOBAL STATUS REPORT ON ROAD SAFETY

847. SHRI GAURAV GOGOI: SHRI JYOTIRADITYA M. SCINDIA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware about the latest Global Status Report on Road Safety in which India retains the dubious distinction of reporting the maximum number of road fatalities;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether the road safety laws are poorly enforced in the country resulting in road fatalities; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Union Government in consultation with State Governments to enforce road safety laws strictly to check road fatalities?

ANSWER THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA)

(a) & (b): As per WHO's report titled "The state of road safety around the world", approximately 62% of reported road traffic deaths occur in 10 countries including India.

(c): The Government has already approved a National Road Safety Policy in March 2010. This Policy is based on the four E's of Road Safety viz. (i) Education (ii) Emergency (iii) Enforcement (iv) Engineering (roads as well as vehicles) and outlines various policy measures such as promoting awareness, establishing road safety information data base, encouraging safer road infrastructure including application of intelligent transport, enforcement of safety laws etc. The Ministry is taking all necessary steps to implement the policy to curb road accidents in the country. And Ministry has also taken the following steps to enforce road safety laws strictly to check road fatalities:-

i. The Government has constituted the National Road Safety Council as the apex body to take policy decisions in matters of road safety.

- ii. The Ministry has requested all States/UTs for setting up of State Road Safety Council and District Road Safety Committees, and to hold their meetings regularly.
- iii. The Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on 4 'E's viz. Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care.
- iv. Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways has been taken up.
- v. Ministry had issued guidelines vide O.M. dated 14.1.2016 for taking up of Road Safety Audits on National Highways either as part of EPC/BOT projects or as stand-alone Road Safety Audits.
- vi. The Government has approved a National Road Safety Policy. This Policy outlines various policy measures such as promoting awareness, establishing road safety information data base, encouraging safer road infrastructure including application of intelligent transport, enforcement of safety laws etc.
- Vii All the State Government/UTs have been requested to ensure that no license is issued to liquor vendors along National Highways. Further they have also been requested to review cases where licence has already been given for liquor vendors along National Highways and to take corrective action.
- (viii) Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill 2017, which has been introduced in the House by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, provides for enhanced fines for the offence of drunken driving and other traffic violations.
- (ix) Enforcement of various provisions of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is the responsibility of State Governments. This Ministry has issued instructions to all State Governments to invoke Section 185 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 which provides for punishment of imprisonment or fine or both for the offence of drunken driving.
- (d): The Committee on Road Safety constituted by the Ministry under the direction of Hon'ble Supreme Court review the road safety with the States/UTs periodically.
