

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1005
ANSWERED ON 27TH JUNE, 2019

ROAD ACCIDENTS

1005. SHRI MOHANBHAI KALYANJI KUNDARIYA:
SHRIMATI RANJAN BEN DHANANJAY BHATT:
SHRIMATI RAMYA HARIDAS:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether road accidents are increasing in various parts of the country;
- (b) if so, whether the Government is considering to take special steps to check road accidents and if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is a fact that Government has asked the automakers to work towards safe designs and explore the possibility of use of silicon in tyres as part of its efforts to reduce road accidents and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether the Government is also mandating pre and post journey alcohol tests of drivers as well as their assistants of the State owned transport operators, private operators and commercial vehicle operators and if so, the details thereof?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) No Sir, the Ministry collects data/information on road accidents from the Police Department of all State/UTs in the prescribed format on calendar year-wise. The latest data of road accidents published by the ministry are for the calendar year 2017. The data for calendar year 2017 reveals that the number of road accidents was down by 3.3% and the number of injuries by 4.8% in 2017 as compared to 2016.

(b) Road safety is a multi-sectoral and multi-dimensional issue requiring a multipronged approach at various levels. The main thrust of accident prevention and control is on 4 E's, i.e. (i) Education, (ii) Enforcement, (iii) Engineering and (iv) Environment and Emergency care of road accident victims. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways administer Motor Vehicles (MV) Act 1988 and Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR) 1989. However, its provisions are enforced by the States / UTs. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways have been issuing advisories to the States / UTs from time to time for strict enforcement of provisions of MV Act 1988 and CMVR 1989.

Ministry has taken a number of steps including long terms strategy to prevent road accidents and road accident fatalities as per details mentioned under: -

- (i) Government has launched a mobile app for highway users i.e. "SukhadYatra 1033" which enables highways users to report potholes and other safety hazards on National Highways including accidents.
- (ii) Rectification of identified Black spots.
- (iii) Road Safety Week is observed every calendar year for spreading awareness about safer behavior of road users on National Highways.

- (iv) 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.
- (v) 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.
- (vi) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (vii) The threshold for four laning of national highway has been reduced from 15,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10,000 PCUs. About 52,000 Km of stretches of State Highways has been identified for conversion to national highways.
- (viii) Setting up of model driving training institutes in States.
- (ix) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic and print media.
- (x) Tightening of safety standards for vehicles like Seat Belts, anti-lock braking system etc.
- (xi) High priority has been accorded to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
- (xii) As a measure of supplementing the efforts of States/UTs for minimizing the accident potential at the identified locations / stretches through engineering improvement on state roads, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways had taken a decision to sanction road safety works on state roads with an earmarked allocation of 10% of funds allocated to the state roads under Central Road Fund.
- (xiii) Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MORTH for technical approval to the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots for expediting the rectification process to ensure safety of road users.
- (xiv) Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States / UTs.
- (xv) A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) and 42 Auditors are certified.
- (xvi) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has constituted a District Road Safety Committee in each district of the country to promote awareness amongst road users under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from the district.
- (xvii) Free Eye Check-up Camp and distribution of eye glasses is conducted for truck/bus drivers operating on NH.
- (xviii) Capacity building through training of NHAI field staff / Concessionaires/Contractors/Consultants engaged in NHAI project works throughout India.
- (xix) Removal of Liquor Shops as per directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court vide circular of F. No. RW/NH-33044/309/2016/S&R dated 06-04-2017 and 01-06-2017.

(c) This Ministry has issued notification S.O. 1139 (E) dated 28.04.2015 and S.O. 2412 (E) dated 03.09.2015 wherein for amendment of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 (CMVRs) the following crash standards have been notified: -

- (i). Automotive Industry Standard 098-2008 as amended from time to time for Protection of occupants in the event of an Offset Frontal Collision shall be mandatory for the new models from 1st October, 2017 and for all models 1st October, 2019
- (ii). Automotive Industry Standard 099 -2008 as amended from time to time for Side door impact for all passenger cars, Protection of Occupants in the event of Lateral Collision shall be mandatory for the new models from 1st October, 2018 and for all models with effect from 1st October, 2019.

Further, silicon derivatives are used in manufacturing of tyres to improve rolling resistance, road grip and longevity.

(d) No Sir. No such proposal is under consideration.
