GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1068 ANSWERED ON 8TH FEBRUARY, 2024

ACCIDENTS DUE TO FOG

1068. SHRI ANIL FIROJIYA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of plans being prepared to avoid road accidents due to fog; and
- (b) the details of works being done to enhance commuting experience on National Highways?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) As per the data received from the Police Departments of all States/UTs, road accidents occur due to multiple causes such as over speeding, use of mobile phone, drunken driving/consumption of alcohol and drug, driving on wrong side/ lane indiscipline, jumping red light, nonuse of safety devices such as helmets and seat belts, vehicular condition, weather condition, road condition, fault of driver /cyclist/ pedestrian etc. To address this issue, Ministry has formulated a multipronged strategy based on Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care and taken various initiatives. The provisions/initiatives taken to avoid road accidents due to fog inter-alia include:
 - i. Rule 124 of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR), 1989 provides that all types of lighting and light signalling devices, meet the performance requirements as per AIS:010 (Rev.1) as applicable and installation requirements as per AIS:008 (Rev1). Further, the requirements of defrosting and demisting systems, if fitted, to meet the requirements as per AIS:084 (Part 1 & 2).
 - ii. Rule 125B of CMVR, 1989 authorizes the State Governments to notify four-wheeled transport vehicles plying on designated routes or areas in hilly terrains equipped with fog lamps & defrosting and demisting systems.

- iii. Rule 189 of CMVR, 1989 provides for testing of fog lamps (if fitted) as per AIS-008 or AIS-008 (Rev.1), at the time of fitness of the vehicle.
- iv. Further, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has issued Policy Circular on 03rd January, 2024 for enhancing Safety of Road Users in Foggy Weather.
- v. Provision for installation of Delineators, cat's eye, retro-reflective tapes, safety signage boards, crash barriers, road markings, etc. along the NHs to avoid road accidents.
- vi. Provision for installation of proper lighting in Truck/Bus lay byes, top and underside of grade separated structures and interchange areas on NHs for enhanced visibility.
- vii. Ministry administers Road Safety Advocacy Scheme for raising awareness about road safety among the road users.
- viii. Road Safety Awareness through print media, social media etc.
- (b) Ministry has taken various initiatives to improve commuting experience on National Highways which inter-alia includes:
 - i. Measures to make NHs pothole free to ensure smooth riding.
 - ii. Development of way side amenities for resting purposes. Ministry has issued policy guidelines on 11th February, 2021 for development of way side amenities along National Highways and Expressways. As per the guidelines, the facilities for Trucks/Goods vehicles at the Wayside Amenities (WSAs) include truck parking, dhabas for truckers, toilet facilities (separate for ladies, gents & Divyangjan), dust bin, baby care room, drinking water, first aid box, dedicated area for local artisans in form of kiosk, landscaping and safety awareness corner. Till now, 182 WSAs have been awarded out of which 48 Numbers are operational.
- iii. The following facilities are being provided to enhance commuting experience across Brownfield and Greenfield NHs Corridors:
 - i. Dhabhas/ Restaurant / Food court/ Eateries
- ii. Toilet Facility
- iii. Baby Care room
- iv. Car / Bus Parking
- v. First Aid/Medical Room
- vi. Children care room
- vii. Truck Parking
- viii. Drinking Water Facility
 - ix. Convenience Stores, etc.,
