GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1996 ANSWERED ON 22ND SEPTEMBER, 2020

PREVENTION OF ROAD ACCIDENTS

1996. SHRI NIHAL CHAND:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has recently hiked the amount of fine for violation of road traffic rules in view of the rise in cases of road accidents and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) the extent to which the number of such accidents has come down as a result thereof;
- (c) whether the Government proposes to launch some other measures to bring down the number of road accidents;
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the details of measures taken/to be taken by the Government to create awareness among the people regarding road traffic rules?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

[GEN. (DR.) V.K. SINGH (RETD.)]

(a) Yes, Sir. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 passed by the

Parliament was published on 9th August, 2019. It is aimed to strengthen

road safety scenario in the country and inter alia provides for increase in penalties for violation of provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(b) As per the provisional information available from certain States and UTs, the number of road accidents before and after implementation of the said Act in the country is as under:-

Ма	onth wise o	compariso	on of Accide	ents and	Fatalities	
	Accidents		Increase/	Fata	lities	Increase/
			decrease			decrease
	2018	2019		2018	2019	
August	35811	34051	-4.91	11040	10710	-2.99
September	35337	32016	-9.40	10843	10107	-6.79
October	38182	35365	-7.38	12147	11577	-4.69
November	38366	36866	-3.91	12691	12463	-1.80
December	38705	37007	-4.39	13379	12598	-5.84
TOTAL Aug-						
Dec(*)	186401	175305	-5.95	60100	57455	-4.40
	Accidents		Increase/	Fatalities		Increase/
			decrease			decrease
	2019	2020		2019	2020	

January	40602	38920	-4.14	13292	12267	-7.71			
February	36726	38472	4.75	12199	12587	3.18			
March(#)	38793	31049	-19.96	13155	10538	-19.89			
April – June	112215	50336	-55.14	39013	18876	-51.61			
TOTAL Jan-									
June(@)	230355	160797	-30.19	79678	56288	-29.35			
(*):data for the State of Tripura for 2019 has not been received									
(@): Excluding the data for the state of Tripura and Jharkhand as the									
same has not been received									
(#) data from J&K not included as the same has not been received									

(c) to (e): The Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care. Accordingly, various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry as detailed below:

- (i) Education:
 - The Ministry implements a scheme for undertaking publicity measures and awareness campaigns on road safety to create awareness among road users through the electronic media, print media, NGOs etc.
 - > Observance of National Road Safety Week every year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.

- A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE).
- (ii) Engineering (both of Roads and vehicles)
 - > Road engineering
 - High priority to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
 - Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
 - The threshold for four laning of national highway has been reduced from 15,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10,000 PCUs.
 - Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MORTH for technical approval to the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots.
 - Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States / UTs.
 - > Vehicle engineering:
 - Safety standards for automobiles have been improved.
 - Ministry has notified fitment of Speed Limiting devices on all transport vehicles

- Scheme for setting up one model Inspection & Certification
 Centre in each State/UT with Central assistance for testing the
 fitness of vehicles through an automated system
- (iii) Enforcement
 - The recently passed Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 provides for strict enforcement through use of technology and further provides for strict penalties for ensuring strict compliance and enhancing deterrence for violation of traffic rules.
 - Issue of Guidelines for protection of Good Samaritans and draft rules as per Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 has been published.
- (iv) Emergency care:
 - The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 provides for a scheme for the cashless treatment of victims of the accident during the golden hour.
 - The National Highways Authority of India has also deployed 466 ambulances at toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.

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