

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1715
ANSWERED ON 11th FEBRUARY, 2021**

ROAD ACCIDENTS

1715. SHRI JAYADEV GALLA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that the number of persons killed due to road accidents in India is highest in the world;**
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) whether there has been any decline in the number of accidents after enactment of amended Motor Vehicle Act last year;**
- (d) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (e) the manner in which the Government is using technology to prevent road accidents and reduce the number of resultant fatalities in the country?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) Yes, the number of road accident deaths in India is highest across the 199 countries reported in the “World Road Statistics” (WRS) 2018. This has also been reported in the Road Accident in India Report for 2019.

(b) 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 Highways have 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 MV(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 550 ambulances at toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.**
- **Out of 550 ambulances, 171 ambulances have been upgraded to Basic Life Support as per AIS-125.**

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has notified “Member of Parliaments’ 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.

(c) & (d) A comparison of the monthly data on accidents and fatalities post implementation of the Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act 2019 shows a perceptible decline in both accidents and fatalities with accidents registering a decline of 6.19% and fatalities a decline of 4.57% over the period Sept to Dec 2019 as given in the Table below:-

Month wise comparison of Accidents and Fatalities at All India Level

	Accidents		% Increase/ decrease	Fatalities		% Increase/ decrease
	2018	2019		2018	2019	
September	35,387	32,059	-9.40	10,867	10,148	-6.62
October	38,238	35,398	-7.43	12,172	11,595	-4.74
November	38,417	36,936	-3.86	12,710	12,504	-1.62
December	38,761	37,071	-4.36	13,405	12,660	-5.56

TOTAL	1,50,803	1,41,464	-6.19	49,154	46,907	-4.57
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(e) The Government is using technology to prevent road accidents and to reduce the number of resultant fatalities in the country by taking various initiatives under the Roads and Vehicle engineering and Emergency care as follows:-

- **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 Highways have been reduced from 15,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10,000 PCUs.**
- **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**
- **Emergency care :**
 - **The National Highways Authority of India has also deployed 550 ambulances at toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.**
 - **Out of 550 ambulances, 171 ambulances have been upgraded to Basic Life Support as per AIS-125.**
