GOVERNMENT OF INDIA MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 495 ANSWERED ON 4TH FEBRUARY, 2021

DECADE OF ACTION FOR ROAD SAFETY

495. DR. SHASHI THAROOR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether specific measures introduced to reduce road fatalities by at least 50 percent by pursuing the "Decade of Action for Road Safety" as adopted by the UN General Assembly for 2011-2020 could not be successfully implemented as India still witnesses around 5 lakh accidents and 1.5 lakh deaths every year;
- (b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor;
- (c) whether the online cab aggregators have also partnered with the Government to spread awareness about road safety and if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) whether there is a reduction in allocation of funds for road safety in the budget and if so, the reasons therefor?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) & (b) The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways accords very high priority to road safety and has taken various steps for road safety as per the Decade of Action. The main key successes in the field of Road Safety during the last decade are as under:
 - (i) Focus on four Es based strategy for road safety i.e. Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency.
 - (ii) Strengthening the legislation for road safety by way of Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019
 - (iii) Improvements in vehicle safety standards.
 - (iii) Rules for protection of Good Samaritans.
 - (iv) Awareness campaigns to create awareness among the citizen.
 - (v) Road safety audit of the road project
 - (vi) Identification and rectification of black spots.
 - (vii) Member of Parliaments' Committee on Road Safety under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament in each district.
 - (viii) IT system for monitoring and enforcement

As per available information, data on road accidents & persons killed during the last four years 2016-2019 are as under:-

Year	Total Road Accidents	%change over previous year	No. of persons killed	% change over previous year
2016	4,80,652		1,50,785	
2017	4,64,910	(-)3.28	1,47,913	(-)1.90
2018	4,67,044	(+)0.46	1,51,417	(+)2.37
2019	4,49,002	(-)3.86	1,51,113	(-)0.20

The road Accidents are multi-causal and are the result of interplay of various factors which can broadly be categorized into human error, Road condition/environment and vehicular condition. The volume of traffic also increases travel risks and traffic exposure at a much faster rate.

- (c) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways have taken various measures to make our roads safer. However, to take cognizance of the issue and make road safety awareness a mass movement, the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways also appeals to all the other stakeholders i.e. OEMs, Transporter associations, online cab aggregators etc. from time to time to propagate the cause of safer roads amongst the road users. The National Road Safety Month, 2021 has been scheduled from 18th January, 2021 to 17th February, 2021. During the Month, a various awareness and public participation programmes are being organised.
- (d) No Sir. Adequate funds are allotted for road safety in the budget every year.
