

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

**LOK SABHA  
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 525  
ANSWERED ON 4<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021**

**ROAD SAFETY**

**525. MS. RAMYA HARIDAS:**

**Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

**be pleased to state:**

- (a) whether faulty road design and complex coordination mechanism of Government agencies are the major hindrances in ensuring road safety in the country;**
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (c) whether the Government is taking any initiative to strengthen the provisions relating to motor vehicles and make road contractors and consultants accountable for faulty road design and construction; and**
- (d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?**

**ANSWER**

**THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)**

**(a) & (b) No Sir. Road Accidents occur due to multiple causes such as over speeding, drunken driving/consumption of alcohol, driving on wrong side/lane indiscipline, fault of the driver of motor vehicle, use of mobile phones during driving, mechanical defect/fault of the vehicle defect in road condition, weather condition and lack of knowledge on road signage etc. These various factors can broadly be categorized into human error, road condition/environment and vehicular condition that lead to accidents on roads.**

**(c) & (d) The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, recently passed by the Parliament has inserted a new Section 198A in the Motor vehicles Act, 1988 which provides as under:-**

**“198-A Failure to comply with standards for road design, construction and maintenance-**

**(1) Any designated authority, contractor, consultant or concessionaire responsible for the design or construction or maintenance of the safety standards of the road shall follow such design, construction and maintenance standards, as may be prescribed by the Central Government from time to time.**

**(2) Where failure on the part of the designated authority, contractor, consultant or concessionaire responsible under sub-section (1) to comply with standards for road design, construction and maintenance, results in death or disability, such authority or contractor or concessionaire shall be punishable with a fine which may extend to one lakh rupees and the same shall be paid to the Fund constituted under section 164B.”**

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