

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 546
ANSWERED ON 4th FEBRUARY, 2021**

ROAD ACCIDENTS IN MAHARASHTRA

546. SHRIMATI POONAM MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) the total number of accidents occurred, persons killed and injured on National Highways (NH) due to damaged highways and traffic congestion in Maharashtra during the last three years;**
- (b) whether it is a fact that majority of these accidents were caused by heavy vehicles, mainly trucks and buses, passing through the main cities;**
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and**
- (d) the remedial measures taken by the Government to prevent accidents on NHs in Maharashtra?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

- (a) Ministry does not maintain the information regarding accidents occurring due to damaged highways and traffic congestion. However, as per the data received from police department total number of road accidents, persons killed & persons injured on National Highways in**

Maharashtra during last three calendar years i. e. 2017 to 2019 is given in the table below:-

Years	Total Number of Road accidents on all roads	Total Number of Road accidents on National Highways	Total Number of Road accidents in Maharashtra on National Highways	Total Number of persons killed on all roads	Total Number of persons killed on National Highways
1	2	3	4	5	6
2017	464,910	141466	9237(6.53)	147,913	53181
2018	467,044	140843	9355(6.64)	151,417	54046
2019	449,002	137191	8360(6.09)	151,113	53872

Total Number of persons killed in Maharashtra on National Highways	Total Number of persons injured on all roads	Total Number of persons injured on National Highways	Total Number of persons injured in Maharashtra on National Highways
7	8	9	10
3637(2.46)	470,975	142622	8351(5.86)
4088(2.70)	469,418	140622	8457(6.01)
3799(2.51)	451,361	137549	7263(5.28)

(b) & (c) No Sir. Road Accidents occurring 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.

(d) The Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act, 2019 which was recently passed by Parliament focuses on road safety and includes, inter-alia, revision in penalties for traffic violations, electronic monitoring of the same, enhanced penalties for juvenile driving, computerization/automation of vehicle fitness and driving, tests, recall of defective vehicles, streamlining the third party insurance and payment of increased compensation for hit and run cases etc. The Amendment has strengthened the Law to improve the road Safety scenario and reduce loss of lives.

The Ministry issues regulations to improve vehicle safety standards, undertakes site specific interventions to address black spots, and also mobilises various activities to promote road safety such as road safety advocacy and awareness programmes.

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has notified “Member of Parliaments’ Road Safety Committee” in each district of the country to audit promote awareness amongst road users under the

chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from the district.

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 month 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 of 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 also 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.**
