

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1953
ANSWERED ON 28TH JULY, 2022**

TRANSPORTATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN

1953. SHRI RAJESHBHAI CHUDASAMA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that unsafe means of transport are being used to carry the school children to their schools, thus putting their lives in danger and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;**
- (b) the number of such accidents which have occurred in Delhi and other States, during the last five years and the current year; and**
- (c) the details of measures adopted to prevent the use of such unsafe mode of transport for school children and action taken against such vehicles that are violating the safety norms?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) The buses owned by college, school or other educational institutions and used solely for the purpose of transporting students are transport vehicles which require permits to ply on public roads. Such permits are issued by a State or Regional Transport Authority for use of the vehicles as transport vehicles, in accordance with various terms and conditions, including safety of the students. As per provisions under Section 192A of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, whoever drives a motor vehicle or causes or allows a motor vehicle to be used in contravention of the permit conditions, shall be punishable with cancellation of the permit and/or with fine or imprisonment or with both.

(c) The details of measures adopted to prevent the use of such unsafe mode of transport for school children and norms prescribed by this Ministry against such vehicles that are violating the safety norms are as under:-

(i) As per Section 2 (47) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, an educational institution bus is a transport vehicle which requires a permit to ply on road. Permits are granted by the State Governments with various terms and conditions. Such vehicles also need to undergo mandatory fitness test without which the permit cannot be renewed. Section 192A of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 prescribes penalties for using vehicle without permit.

(ii) The sub-rule (2) of rule 125C of Central motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 mandates that the testing and approval for the body building of school buses shall be in accordance with AIS:063-2005, as amended from time to time for vehicles mentioned therein.

Further, this Ministry vide G.S.R. 367(E) dated 13th April, 2018 has mandated that all school buses shall be fitted with Fire Detection Alarm System (FDAS) and Fire Detection Suppression System (FDSS) meeting the requirements of AIS-135 and AIS:153.

Furthermore, this Ministry vide G.S.R. 48(E) dated the 27th January, 2022 has notified that the type III buses of category M3 [a motor vehicle used for carriage of passengers, comprising nine or more seats in addition to the driver's seat and having a Gross Vehicle Weight exceeding five tonnes] and school buses shall also comply with fire Alarm and protection system in occupant compartment as per AIS-135.

(iii) Section 190 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 prescribes penalties for using vehicle in unsafe condition. Sub-section 2 of Section 190 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 stipulates that any person who drives or causes or allow to be driven, in any public place a motor vehicle, which violates the standards prescribed in relation to road safety, control of noise and air-pollution, shall be punishable for the first offence with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three months, or with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both and he shall be disqualified for holding licence for a period of three months and for any second or subsequent offence with imprisonment for a term which may extend to six months, or with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees or with both.
