

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 627
ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY, 2024**

ROAD SAFETY

**627. SHRI RAHUL KASWAN:
SMT. POONAMBEN HEMATBHAI MAADAM:**

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government has formulated any comprehensive policy to improve road safety in the country and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;**
- (b) the details of the funds allocated and spent towards road safety during the last five years;**
- (c) whether the Government has undertaken public awareness campaigns about road safety, if so, the details thereof;**
- (d) the details of notable initiatives taken or campaigns associated with road safety; and**
- (e) whether the Government has established mechanisms for citizens to provide feedback or report road safety issues, if so, the details thereof?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) 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 at Annexure - I.

(b) Road Safety is an integral and indispensable component of every National Highways Project. Road Safety initiatives on National Highways commence with the inception of Detailed Project report as road safety audit of all National Highways projects has been made mandatory at all stages i.e. design, construction, operation & maintenance through third party auditors/experts. As per available data, funds allocated to be spent for comprehensive road safety aspects varies from 2.21 % to 15 % of total cost of the development projects depending upon structures involved for construction of National Highways.

Besides, Ministry also implements schemes for creation of awareness among road users, financial assistance for setting up of Model Driving Training Institutes/Centres in States/UTs, setting up of Model Inspection & Certification Centres, improving and Strengthening of Public Transport System etc. The details of funds released by the Ministry for these schemes during last five years are at Annexure – II.

(c) and (d) Ministry has taken various public awareness initiatives for road safety which *inter-alia* includes :-

- i. Various road safety activities including road safety pledge, road safety quiz, training of road safety volunteers etc. were conducted through MY Bharat Portal during the National Road Safety Month, 2024.**
- ii. Ministry sanctioned financial assistance to States/UTs for conducting road safety activities during the National Road Safety Month, 2024.**
- iii. Ministry administers Road Safety Advocacy Scheme to provide financial assistance to various agencies for raising awareness about road safety and for administering road safety programs.**
- iv. Ministry along with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, has implemented a pilot program for improving vision and well-being of 50,000 truck drivers along with measures like basic health check-up, awareness and sensitization about health and hygiene, and basic yoga techniques.**
- v. Ministry creates road safety awareness through messages on social media handles X, facebook, instagram etc.**
- vi. Ministry has circulated sign and signages booklets and display panels to all the CBSE affiliated schools in the country. Additionally, handbook on eDAR, Signages on NHs/NEs and scheme for compensation to victims of Hit and Run motor accidents are also circulated to concerned stakeholders.**
- vii. National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) has taken initiatives to spread awareness about the 1033 helpline number through installing posters/hoardings near the Toll Plazas and signboards along National Highways.**

(e) Ministry redresses queries/suggestions received on Centralized Public Grievance redress and monitoring system (CPGRMS) platform.

Ministry has also developed a Media Attention Portal to systematically monitor, manage and address media-reported issues related to road infrastructure that fall under Ministry's purview. This portal aims to

enhance accountability, transparency and efficiency in handling public grievances and media reports management.

Toll free 1033 helpline number and Rajmargyatra App has been launched by National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) for the benefit of the Highway users.

General Statutory Rules (GSR) Notifications under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 are notified after due consideration and consultation with all the concerned stakeholders.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 627 ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY, 2024 ASKED BY SHRI RAHUL KASWAN & SMT. POONAMBEN HEMATBHAI MAADAM REGARDING ROAD SAFETY.

Details of various initiatives taken by the Ministry to address the issue of Road Safety: -

(1) Education:

- i. Ministry administers Road Safety Advocacy Scheme to provide financial assistance to various agencies for raising awareness about road safety and for administering road safety programs.**
- ii. Observance of National Road Safety Month/Week every year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.**
- iii. Ministry administers a scheme for setting up of Institutes of Driving Training & Research (IDTRs), Regional Driving Training Centres (RDTCs) and Driving Training Centres (DTCs) at state/district level across the Country.**

(2) Engineering (both of Roads and vehicles) :

2.1. Road engineering:

- i. Road Safety Audit (RSA) of all National Highways (NHs) has been made mandatory through third party auditors/ experts at all stages i.e. design, construction, operation and maintenance etc.**
- ii. High priority is accorded to identification and rectification of black spots /accident spots on NHs.**
- iii. Road Safety Officer (RSO) has been designated at each Regional Office of road owning agencies under the Ministry to look after RSA and other road safety related works. RSO of each RO will submit road worthiness certificate of National Highway under their jurisdiction biannually.**
- iv. Ministry administers the electronic Detailed Accident Report (e-DAR) Project to establish a central repository for reporting, management and analysis of road accidents data across the Country.**
- v. Ministry has issued guidelines for the provision of signages on Expressways and National Highways to offer improved visibility and intuitive guidance to the drivers.**
- vi. Provisions have been made in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 for failure to comply with standards for the road design, construction and maintenance by the Central Government from time to time.**

2.2 Vehicle engineering:

Ministry has taken various initiatives to make vehicles safer, including the following:-

- i. Mandatory provision of an airbag for the passenger seated on the front seat of a vehicle, next to the driver.**
- ii. Prescribed norms related to safety measures for children below four years of age, riding or being carried on a motor cycle. It also specifies use of a safety harness, crash helmet and restricts speed to 40kmph.**
- iii. Mandatory provisions for fitment of following listed safety technologies: -**

For M1 category vehicles:

- Seat Belt Reminder (SBR) for driver and co-driver.**
- Manual Override for central locking system**
- Over speed warning system.**

For all M and N category vehicles:

- Reverse Parking Alert System**

iv. Mandated Anti-Lock Braking System (ABS) for certain classes of L [Motor vehicle with less than four wheels and includes a Quadricycle], M [Motor vehicles with at least four wheels used for carrying passengers] and N [Motor vehicles with at least four wheels used for carrying goods which may also carry persons in addition to goods, subject to conditions stipulated in BIS standards] categories.

v. Mandated speed limiting function/speed limiting device in all transport vehicles, except for two wheelers, three wheelers, quadricycles, fire tenders, ambulances and police vehicles.

vi. Published the rules for recognition, regulation and control of Automated Testing Stations, which define the procedure for fitness testing of vehicles through automated equipment and the procedure for grant of fitness certificate by ATSS. The rules have been further amended on 31.10.2022 and 14.03.2024.

vii. Formulated the Vehicle Scrapping Policy based on incentives/dis-incentives and for creating an ecosystem to phase out older, unfit a polluting vehicles.

viii. A Scheme to set up one model Inspection & Certification Centre in each State/UT with Central assistance for testing the fitness of vehicles through an automated system.

ix. Published rules regarding the Bharat New Car Assessment Program (BNCAP) to introduce the concept of safety rating of passenger cars and empower consumers to take informed decisions.

x. Published rules regarding prescribed level playing field in the area of manufacturing of buses by Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) and Bus Body Builders.

xi. Mandated vehicles manufactured on or after 01.10.2025 shall be fitted with an air-conditioning system for the cabin of vehicles of N2 (goods vehicle with gross vehicle weight exceeding 3.5 tonnes but not exceeding 12.0 tonnes) and N3 (goods vehicle with gross vehicle weight exceeding 12.0 tonnes) category.

(3) Enforcement:

i. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 as stands implemented provides for strict penalties for ensuring compliance and enhancing deterrence for violation of traffic rules and strict enforcement through use of technology.

ii. Ministry has issued rules for Electronic Monitoring and Enforcement of Road Safety. The rules specify the detailed provisions for placement of electronic enforcement devices on high risk & high density corridors on National Highways, State Highways and critical junctions in cities with more than one million population.

iii. Ministry on 10th June, 2024 has issued an advisory to all the States and Union territories on technological interventions for ensuring compliance with Motor Vehicle Act, 1988.

(4) Emergency care:

i. Ministry has for the protection of Good Samaritan, who in good faith, voluntarily and without expectation of any reward or compensation renders emergency medical or nonmedical care or assistance at the scene of an accident to the victim or transports such victim to the hospital.

ii. Ministry has enhanced compensation of victims of Hit and Run motor accidents (from Rs. 12,500 to Rs. 50,000 for grievous hurt and from Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 2,00,000 for death).

iii. The National Highways Authority of India has made provisions for ambulances with paramedical staff/Emergency Medical Technician/Nurse at toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.

iv. Ministry along with National Health Authority (NHA), has implemented a pilot program for providing cashless treatment to victims of road accidents in Chandigarh and Assam.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 627 ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY, 2024 ASKED BY SHRI RAHUL KASWAN & SMT. POONAMBEN HEMATBHAI MAADAM REGARDING ROAD SAFETY.

The details of funds released by the Ministry for these initiatives during the last five Financial Years are as under:-

(Rs. In Crores)											
Sl. No.	Activity/ Programme	BE FY 2019-20	Expenditure in FY 2019-20	BE FY 2020-21	Expenditure in FY 2020-21	BE FY 2021-22	Expenditure in FY 2021-22	BE FY 2022-23	Expenditure in FY 2022-23	BE FY 2023-24	Expenditure in FY 2023-24
1	Road Safety publicity measures and awareness campaigns, NHARSS, refresher Training of Drivers in Unorganised Sector and Human Resource Development, etc.	130.00	46.26	171.00	65.94	109.00	41.48	189.50	68.67	138.00	86.33
2	Inspection and Certification Centres (Revenue)	22.00	15.08	29.00	16.20	29.00	14.15	33.00	14.60	24.00	17.00
3	Improving and Strengthening of Public Transport System	89.00	1.40	89.00	30.60	103.00	10.80	15.00*	30.33	50.00	38.00

*** Rs.40.00 crore at RE Stage**
