

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

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. - 1089
ANSWERED ON 05th FEBRUARY, 2026**

IMPLEMENTATION OF SPEED MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

1089. DR. MOHAMMAD JAWED:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken steps to introduce and implement scientific speed management guidelines across the country, with speed limits determined based on road characteristics, built-up areas, road design and road usage;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that under Section 183 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, there are no penalties for speeding by two-wheelers, whereas such penalties existed earlier; and

(d) if so, the relevant provisions under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 that enable penalisation for speeding by two-wheelers?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) and (b) Government in Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has published and fixed the maximum speed in respect of the class of

motor vehicles, vide S.O. 1522 dated 06.04.2018 as per legal mandate under Section 112 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, as specified in the table below:

Maximum speed per hour in kilometres on roads in India					
S. No.	Class of Motor Vehicles	Expressway with Access Control	4 lane and above divided carriageway (roads with Median strips/Dividers)	Road within Municipal Limits	Other Roads
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1.	Motor vehicles used for carriage of passengers comprising not more than eight seats in addition to the driver's seat (M1 category vehicles)	120	100	70	70
2.	Motor vehicles used for carriage of passengers comprising nine or more seats in addition to the driver's seat (M2 and M3 category Vehicles)	100	90	60	60

3.	Motor vehicles used for carriage of goods (All N category Vehicles)	80	80	60	60
4.	Motor Cycles	80*	80	60	60
5.	Quadricycle	-	60	50	50
6.	Three wheeled vehicles	-	50	50	50
*If permitted to ply on Expressway.					

However, under Section 112(2) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, the State Government or any authority authorised in this behalf by the State Government may, if satisfied that it is necessary to restrict the speed of motor vehicles in the interest of public safety or convenience or because of the nature of any road or bridge, by notification in the Official Gazette, and by causing appropriate traffic signs to be placed or erected under Section 116 at suitable places, fix such maximum speed limits or minimum speed limits as it thinks fit for motor vehicles or any specified class or description of motor vehicles or for motor vehicles to which a trailer is attached, either generally or in a particular area or on a particular road or roads.

Design speed is used for design of geometrics of road intersection layout and various other road elements. Further, design speed is governed by the terrain classification through which a section of road passes. Speed limit is basically reduction in operating speed compared to design speed to address safety concerns of a particular location. Speed limit is enforced through speed limit signs, which are mandatory in nature and physical measures in road environment introduced to reduce speed, which are generally called traffic calming measures. Indian Road Congress (IRC) has published guidelines for traffic calming measures.

(c) & (d) As per section 183 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, Whoever, drives or causes any person who is employed by him or subjects someone under his control to drive a motor vehicle in contravention of the speed limits referred to in section 112 shall be punishable in the prescribed manner. Sub section (1) of Section 183 provides that where such motor vehicle is a light motor vehicle fine shall not be less than one thousand rupees but may extend to two thousand rupees.

As per the sub section (21) of Section 2 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, “light motor vehicle” means a transport vehicle or omnibus the gross vehicle weight of either of which or a motor car or tractor or road-roller the unladen weight of any of which, does not exceed 7500 kilograms.
