

Position of India in road accidents

2563. DR. K.V.P. RAMACHANDRA RAO: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that India has the first position in regard to the largest number of road accidents in the world;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) the main reasons for the accidents; and
- (d) the long term strategy is proposed to prevent the road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) As per the latest issue of the "World Road Statistics" (WRS) 2010, brought out by the International Road Federation, (IRF) Geneva, United States of America had reported the maximum number of injury accidents at 16,30,000 in the world followed by Japan at 7,66,147 and India at 4,84,704 for the year 2008. The highest number of fatalities in road accidents in the world in 2008 was reported by India (1,19,860) followed by China (73,484) and United States of America (37,261).

(c) and (d) The analysis of road accident data received from States/UTs reveals that drivers' fault is the single most important factor responsible for accidents (78%). Some of the other factors responsible for road accidents are as under:

Fault of cyclist	1.2%
Fault of pedestrian	2.7%
Defect in road conditions	1.2%
Defect in condition of motor vehicle	1.7%
Weather condition	1%
All other causes*	14.2%

*Includes fault of driver of other vehicles, fault of passengers, poor light condition, falling of boulders, neglect of civic bodies, stray animals, other causes and causes not known.

The Ministry has taken the following steps to minimize road accidents in the country:

- (i) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at the planning stage.
- (ii) Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways/Expressways.

- (iii) Establishment of driving training institutes.
- (iv) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles like helmets, seat belts, power-steering, rear view mirror.
- (v) Publicity campaigns on road safety awareness.

Liquor vends along the NHs

2564. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
 SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
 SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that as many as 1.34 lakh deaths are reported in road accidents every year in the country and 70 per cent of all fatalities are due to drunken driving;
- (b) if so, the State-wise details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that mushrooming growth of 24 hour liquor vends along the National Highways results in impulsive buying of alcohol and responsible for about 72 per cent of road accidents in National Highways; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the measures being taken to control the operation of liquor vends on National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (DR. TUSHAR CHAUDHARY): (a) and (b) During the year 2009 (the latest available data), 1,25,660 persons were killed in road accidents out of which 9,307 people died due to intake of alcohol/drugs. The States/UTs-wise details of number of persons killed and person killed in road accidents due to intake of alcohol/drugs in 2009 is given in Statement (*See below*).

(c) and (d) Licensing of liquor shops is covered under Excise Policy of the States. All States/UTs have been requested to ensure that no license is issued to liquor vendors along National Highways. State Governments were also requested to review cases wherever licence had already been given for liquor vendors along National Highways for taking corrective action. In addition, the following steps have been taken to curb road accidents caused by drunken driving:-

- (i) Section 185 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 provides for punishment of imprisonment or fine or both for the offence of drunken driving.
- (ii) Ministry undertakes campaigns through print and electronic media to spread awareness about dangers of drunken driving.