

1	2	3	4	5
UTs				
29.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	10	9	10
30.	Chandigarh	34	29	35
31.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	0	0	0
32.	Daman and Diu	0	0	0
33.	Delhi	343	348	300
34.	Lakshadweep	0	0	0
35.	Puducherry	130	120	69
TOTAL		48,466	52,924	48,768

Road deaths and injuries

2885. SHRI N.K. SINGH :

DR. JANARDHAN WAGHMARE :

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

(a) whether Government is aware that road deaths and injuries in the country cost at least Rs. 1 lakh crore per year;

(b) if so, whether the existing road safety strategy is not effective to check/ control road accidents;

(c) if so, whether Government proposes to seek views of the road safety experts to bring down road fatalities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and other concrete steps Government proposes to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) The Working Group on

Road Accidents, Injury Prevention and Control set up by the Planning Commission in the year 2000 had assessed the social cost of road accidents in India at Rs. 55,000 crore which constituted about 3% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the country in the year 1999-2000.

(b) The Ministry has adopted a multi pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on four E's of Road Safety viz. (i) Education (ii) Enforcement (iii) Engineering (roads as well as vehicles) and (iv) Emergency care. As per the latest issue of "Road Accidents in India 2012" published by Transport Research Wing of this Ministry, India has been successful in reducing its road accidents from 4,99,628 in 2010 to 4,97,686 in 2011 and to 4,90,383 in 2012.

(c) and (d) The Government has constituted National Road Safety Council (NRSC) under section 215 of Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 at the national level which considers issues on road safety raised by different stakeholders from time to time. Wherever feasible, actions are initiated on the suggestions.

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

- (i) The Government has already approved a National Road Safety Policy. This Policy outlines various policy measures such as promoting awareness, establishing road safety information data base, encouraging safer road infrastructure including application of intelligent transport, enforcement of safety laws etc.
- (ii) The Government has constituted National Road Safety Council as the apex body to take policy decisions in matters of road safety. The Ministry has requested all States/UTs for setting up of State Road Safety Council and District Road Safety Committees.
- (iii) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at the planning stage.
- (iv) Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways/ Expressways,

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

High powered apex committee report

2886. SHRI SALIM ANSARI :

SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN SINGH :

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

- (a) whether it is a fact that a High Powered Apex Committee constituted by Government has recommended that the States/UTs should be allowed to use any additional memory in the Smart Cards of various types of vehicles;
- (b) if so, the details of the Apex Committee report; and
- (c) the action that Government has taken to implement the recommendations of the Apex Committee so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI TUSHAR BHAI CHAUDHARY) : (a) to (c) A Committee was set up on the 13th March, 2009 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Road Transport and Highways) to look into the issues regarding the charges levied by the service providers for Smart Card based driving licences/registration certificates. In the meeting of the Committee held on 13th April, 2009, it was brought out that the Gazette Notification G.S.R. 339(E) dated 10th August, 2004 left margin for State Governments to add any additional technologies over and above the National Standards, which created the disparity in the cost of Smart Card. The Committee recommended elimination of the "Note" suffixed at the end of the said Notification. After considering the views and observations of the Committee, the Government published Gazette Notification G.S.R. 67(E) dated 10th February, 2010, proposing to amend rule 2 and Annexure-XI of Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 and inviting objections and suggestions thereto within a period of 45 days. No objections or