

Deaths due to road accidents

*73. SHRI RAMKUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the number of deaths due to road accidents is increasing day by day;
- (b) whether about 20 lakh serious injuries take place annually due to road accidents;
- (c) whether Government has identified the prime causes of accidents and if so, the details thereof along with details of the measures taken to improve road safety;
- (d) the number of pedestrians and cyclists killed in road accidents during the last five years; and
- (e) the steps taken to check drunken driving?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) No, Sir. As per the latest issue of "Road Accidents in India 2013" published by Transport Research Wing of this Ministry, the number of persons killed in road accidents has shown a declining trend in the last three years:

Year	Persons killed in road accidents
2011	1,42,485
2012	1,38,258
2013	1,37,572

(b) No, Sir. As per the latest issue of "Road Accidents in India 2013" published by Transport Research Wing of this Ministry, about 1,74,022 persons were seriously injured in the country during the calendar year 2013.

(c) Yes, Sir. As per the latest issue of "Road Accidents in India 2013" published by Transport Research Wing of this Ministry, road accidents are caused by a number of factors These are:-

Fault of Driver	78%
Fault of pedestrian	2.0%
Fault of cyclist	0.8%
Defect in road conditions	1.4%

Defect in condition of motor vehicle	1.9%
Weather condition	1.0%
All other causes *	14.9%*

* 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 of Road Transport and Highways has taken a number of steps to prevent such road accidents as per details mentioned under:

- (i) The Government has 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 the National Road Safety Council as the apex body to take policy decisions in matters of road safety.
- (iii) The Ministry has requested all States/UTs for setting up of State Road Safety Council and District Road Safety Committees, and to hold their meetings regularly.
- (iv) The Ministry has formulated a multi-pronged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on 4 'E's viz. Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care.
- (v) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (vi) Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways.
- (vii) Setting up of model driving training institutes in States and refresher training to drivers of Heavy Motor Vehicle in the unorganized sector.
- (viii) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic and print media.
- (ix) Tightening of safety standards for vehicles like Seat Belts, Power-steering, anti-lock braking system etc.
- (x) Providing cranes and ambulances to various State Governments under the National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme for development on National Highways. National Highways Authority of India also provides

ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed stretches of National Highways under its Operation and Maintenance contracts.

(d) Number of pedestrians and cyclists killed in road accidents during the last five years is given in the table below:

Years	Pedestrian killed	Cyclist killed
2009	15,983	5,443
2010	11,754	6,203
2011	12,867	6824
2012	12,031	6,600
2013	12,536	4,863

(e) The following steps have been initiated by the Government to check the drunken driving :-

- (i) The Ministry has advised all State Governments to strictly enforce Section 185 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 which provides for punishment of imprisonment or fine or both for the offence of drunken driving.
- (ii) All the State Government/UTs have been advised to ensure that no license is issued to liquor vendors along National Highways. Further they have also been requested to review cases where licenses has already been given for liquor vendors along National Highways and to take corrective action.
- (iii) Ministry undertakes campaigns through print and electronic media to spread awareness about dangers of drunken driving.

Plan to enhance electricity generation

†*74. DR. VIJAYLAXMI SADHO: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has any plan to enhance electricity generation, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the quantum of funds allocated for electricity generation through hydroelectricity, thermal power, solar energy and other sources and the targets fixed for electricity generation?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.