

(b) if so, how the Ministry plans to rework the methodology for data collection/estimation/analysis; and

(c) if not, how the Ministry explains this huge gap, almost to the tune of 51 per cent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) collects data on fatalities due to road accident from States/UTs using Ministry of Home Affairs approved proforma on the calendar basis and compiles and publishes the same in Annual Report 'Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India'. As per data collected from States/UTs, a total number of fatalities in road accident during 2012, 2013 and 2014 are 1,39,091, 1,37,423 and 1,41,526 respectively.

World Health Organization (WHO) estimated road traffic fatalities 2,07,551 during 2013. The estimate of WHO does not indicate the actual number of fatalities due to road accidents as their estimates are based on statistical projection and several other factors. Some of the factors are total population of the country, total number of vehicles per 1000 person, total roads (Km.) per 1000 hectares, maximum national speed limited on rural and urban roads (Km./hour), health system access available, alcohol apparent consumption, working population, percentage of total vehicles that are motorbikes, control of corruption index, existence of national policies that encourage walking and/or cycling, etc.

Steps to reduce road fatalities

910. SHRI RAVI PRAKASH VERMA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the road safety stakeholders across the world have asked political leadership to act rather than just making commitments;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether one in every 10 road deaths across the globe is recorded in India;

(d) if so, Government's response thereto; and

(e) the decision taken in the Brasilia meet to reduce the road fatalities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is not aware about such a statement.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d) As per Road Accidents in India 2014 published by Transport Research Wing of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, a total number of 1,39,671 persons were killed in road accidents in India during the year 2014. The Government is committed to reduce road fatalities and has taken several steps such as: framing of National Road Safety Policy, constitution of National Road Safety Council, Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways, formulation of 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, Identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots), etc.

(e) 2nd Global High level Conference on Road Safety was held in Brasilia, Brazil on 18-19th November 2015. The important decisions taken in the conference to strengthening road safety are as under:-

- (i) To encourage States that have not yet done so to designate and/or strengthen funded lead agencies and related coordination mechanisms at national or sub-national level as well as to strengthen the collaboration between Governments, including parliamentary bodies, civil society, academia, private sector and philanthropic foundations in that realm;
- (ii) To encourage civil society, academia, private sector and philanthropic foundations to strengthen their commitments to accelerate the implementation of the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020;
- (iii) To invite States that have not yet done so to redouble efforts to develop and implement national road safety plans and to adopt and enforce comprehensive legislation, in line with the Global Plan for the Decade of Action for Road Safety 2011-2020.
- (iv) To identify other risk factors which lead to distracted or impaired driving, such as medical conditions and medicines which affect safe driving, fatigue, the use of narcotic, psychotropic drugs and psychoactive substances, road environment visual distraction, cell phones and other electronic and texting devices and adopt, as appropriate, effective and evidence-based legislation;
- (v) To enhance road policing strategies and traffic enforcement measures, with a view to reducing road traffic crashes, including by means of promoting integration among traffic enforcement agencies in policing and inspection, as well as collecting road infrastructure and road traffic crashes data;
- (vi) To improve the quality of systematic and consolidated data collection on the occurrence of road traffic crashes, including information from different sources,

as well as on mortality and morbidity and disabilities, comprising disaggregated data; in order to address matters of data reliability and underreporting, data collection should be conducted by the appropriate authorities, including traffic police and health services, in line with international standards and definitions;

- (vii) To encourage States to introduce new technologies in traffic management and intelligent transport systems to mitigate road traffic crash risk and maximize response efficiency.

The detailed declaration is available on the website of World Health Organization (WHO) *i.e.* www.who.int

New National Highways

†911. SHRI RAM NATH THAKUR: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has announced the construction of new National Highways in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of such National Highways in the country and their number and locations in Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The construction and development of national highways in the country including the new national highways is a continuous process. The projects report for development of national highways are prepared after its declaration and are taken up for construction depending upon the availability of resources and *inter-se* priority. There are 42 national highways in the State of Bihar out of which on newly declared national highways, 4 projects are under implementation.

National Highways constructed *vis-a-vis* target fixed

912. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the length and breadth of National Highways constructed during the last one and a half year and added to the already built up ones;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.