

Competent Authority for Land Acquisition (CALA). After determination of the award of amount of compensation under section 3G of the Act, the amount is deposited by the implementing agency in the account of CALA for disbursement among the legitimate land owners. If the amount determined by the CALA is not acceptable by the affected party, there is a provision in the Act for Arbitration, if an application is so made by the party.

Action to reduce road accidents

912. SHRI MD. NADIMUL HAQUE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the United Nations has promulgated the United Nations Decade of Action targeting to reduce road accidents by 50 per cent by the year 2020;
- (b) if so, the details of steps taken by Government to implement the aforesaid target;
- (c) whether Government has proposed to set up a Road Safety Authority to reduce the number of accidents on Indian roads;
- (d) if so, the details of composition and functioning of the Authority; and
- (e) the details and break-up of funds allocated and sanctioned by Government to fix blank spots (accident spots) throughout the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government along with other member countries of the United Nations Organization has set a target of reducing road accidents fatalities by 50% by 2020. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has taken a number of steps to implement the said target:

- (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 has been taken up.
- (vii) High priority has been accorded to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on National Highways. Around 700 such black spots have been identified for improvement.
- (viii) The threshold for four laning of National Highway has been reduced from 15,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10,000 PCUs. About 52,000 Km. of stretches of State Highways has been identified for conversion to national highways.
- (ix) Setting up of model driving training institutes in States and refresher training to drivers of Heavy Motor Vehicle in the unorganized sector.
- (x) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic and print media.
- (xi) Tightening of safety standards for vehicles like seat belts, power-steering, anti-lock braking system etc.
- (xii) 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.
- (xiii) Launch of pilot projects for providing cashless treatment of road accident victims on Gurgaon - Jaipur, Vadodara - Mumbai stretch of National Highway No. 8 and Ranchi - Rargaon - Mahulia stretch of National Highway No. 33.

(c) and (d) The Ministry has drafted a new Road Transport and Safety Bill covering entire gamut of road safety. The Bill envisages the creation of a National Road Safety and Traffic Management Authority (NRSTMA) to look after all issues related to vehicle regulation and road safety.

(e) A sanctioned ceiling of ₹ 500 crore has been earmarked under NH(O) for rectification of identified road accident black spots on National Highways during the year 2015-16 for the entire country.