

National Highways in Odisha

1853. SHRI DILIP KUMAR TIRKEY: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the total length of National Highways in Odisha;
- (b) the details of the existing National Highways in Odisha, lane-wise; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Ministry to expand National Highways in Odisha?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) and (b) The total length of National Highways in Odisha is 5413 kms. Lane-wise details of existing National Highways in Odisha are as under:—

Lane details	Length (in km)
Less than 2-lane	425
2-lane	4136
4-lane and above	852

(c) The Ministry considers declaration of some State roads as new National Highways (NHs) from time to time depending upon requirement of connectivity, *inter-se* priority and availability of funds. 1817 kms length of State roads in Odisha as new NHs are under consideration subject to outcome of the Detailed Project Reports (DPRs).

Compensation for deaths in road accidents

1854. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one death occurs every three minutes in road accidents, in the country but only half of them receive compensation;

(b) whether there is any road safety policy in vogue, if so, how many States have such a safety policy;

(c) whether the Centre is planning to have a uniform road safety policy for the entire country for the benefit of the road accident victims and their kith and kin; and

(d) how does Government propose to increase the awareness of such policy amongst the general public?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI MANSUKH L. MANDAVIYA): (a) As per "Road Accidents in India 2016, which is based on the information/data reported by Police Department of States/UTs, the total number of road accidents and persons killed for the calendar during 2016 in the country were 4,80,652 and 1,50,785 respectively.

As per Section 165(1) of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, a State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, constitute one or more Motor Accidents Claims Tribunals for such area as may be specified in the notification for the purpose of adjudicating upon claims for compensation in respect of accidents involving the death of, or bodily injury to, persons arising out of the use of motor vehicles, or damages to any property of the third party so arising, or both. Sub-section (2) of Section 165 empowers the State Government to appoint such number of members as the State Government may think fit to appoint. Sub-section (3) of Section 165 empowers State Government to regulate distribution of business if there are two or more Claims Tribunals for an area. Thus, the matter regarding disposal of cases by Motor Accident Claims Tribunals comes under the jurisdiction of State Governments. The data for pending road accident cases/compensation is not maintained by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

(b) The Government has approved a National Road Safety Policy. As per information available with Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, all the States/UTs except, Delhi, Lakshadweep and Nagaland have framed the Road Safety Policy.

(c) The provisions relating to compensation for the road accident victims and their kith and kin are uniform across the country and provided in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(d) The Ministry is administering a scheme for Publicity and Awareness Measures regarding road safety to create awareness among citizens about road safety including Road Safety Policy.

Toll charges for commuters on National Highways

1855. SHRI PARTAP SINGH BAJWA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of toll collected by Government on various National Highways during the last three years and the current year, State-wise and year-wise;

(b) whether there is any plan/proposal to suspend collection of toll charges from the commuters till the condition of fog improves in North India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?