

Ministerial Committee (IMC) in the Government looks at specific complaints regarding violation of the Programme Codes by private TV channels and recommends appropriate action in cases of violation of the programme codes. Furthermore, there is provision under Information Technology Act, 2000, administered by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, for removal of objectionable online content for regulation of content on social media. Also the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines) Rules 2011 under Section 79 of the IT Act requires that the Intermediaries shall observe due diligence while discharging their duties and shall inform the users of computer resources not to host, display, upload, modify, publish, transmit, update or share any information that is harmful, objectionable, affect minors and unlawful in any way. On case to case, basis, social media platform are approached for removal of specific objectionable content coming to the notice of Government.

Monitoring of accidents on NHs

*259. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government proposes to give directions to the toll management companies to monitor accidents on National Highways (NHs) so that the said companies could provide ambulance and first-aid services, at the earliest to the victims of accidents;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;
- (c) the number of deaths that took place in road accidents during the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and
- (d) the steps being taken/likely to be taken by Government to reduce road accidents?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, as per the provisions in the Concession Agreement BOT/OMT, the Concessionaire is required to provide one ambulance, one crane/one patrolling vehicle at each fee plaza. There is also one first aid room at every toll plaza. The concessionaire/O&M agencies are monitoring the accidents and providing ambulance and first aid to the victims of accidents within their respective National Highway section. Similarly, all O&M contractors are providing the above facilities on their projects under incident management.

(c) The State-wise details of deaths that took place in road accidents during the last three calendar years *i.e.* from 2015 to 2017 are given in Statement (*See* below).

(d) The Ministry has taken a number of steps including long term strategy to prevent road accidents and road accident fatalities 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 constituted Group of Ministers of State Transport Ministers to examine the best practices of Transport and suggest issues to improve road safety.
- (iv) Based on the recommendation of Group of Minister, the Ministry introduced Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill, 2017 covering entire gamut of road safety.
- (v) The Bill contains the provision of creation of Motor Vehicle Accident Fund, implementation of Cashless Treatment Scheme during Golden Hour, setting up of a dedicated agency for road safety viz. National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board (NRSTMB), enhancement of penalty for traffic rule violations, etc. which have direct impact on road safety.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (viii) Road Safety Audit of selected stretches of National Highways has been taken up.
- (ix) 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.
- (x) Setting up of model driving training institutes in States and refresher training to drivers of Heavy Motor Vehicle in the unorganised sector.

- (xi) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic and print media.
- (xii) Tightening of safety standards for vehicles like Seat Belts, anti-lock braking system etc.
- (xiii) High priority has been accorded to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
- (xiv) Guidelines for identification and rectification of black spots, carrying out road safety audits and preparation of road safety improvement proposals on NHs and also guidelines on implementation of road safety engineering measures on state roads under Central Road Fund (CRF) have been issued.
- (xv) 789 black spots based on fatalities in 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014 calendars years have been identified. So far 189 spots have already been rectified. Rectification measures at 256 spots have been sanctioned which are in various stages of implementation. 138 spots are on State Government roads/ with other agencies. The balance 206 spots would be taken separately or would be rectified as part of ongoing projects.
- (xvi) As a measure of supplementing the efforts of States/UTs for minimizing the accident potential at the identified locations/stretches through engineering improvement on State roads, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways had taken a decision to sanction road safety works on State roads with an earmarked allocation of 10 per cent of funds allocated to the State roads under Central Road Fund.
- (xvii) Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MORTH for technical approval to the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots for expediting the rectification process to ensure safety of road users.
- (xviii) Ministry had issued guidelines *vide* O.M. dated 14.1.2016 for taking up of Road Safety Audits on National Highways either as part of EPC/BOT projects or as stand-alone Road Safety Audits.
- (xix) Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States/UTs.

- (xx) In order to ensure safe and smooth flow of traffic, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has envisaged a plan for replacement of all the Level Crossing on National Highways by ROB/RUBs and replacement/widening/strengthening of weak and narrow bridges under a scheme Setu Bhartam. Under this programme, construction of 208 Level Crossings at an estimated cost of ₹ 20,800 crore are included.
- (xxi) Two National Level Workshops and several Regional Training workshops in 11 States have been organised on Road Safety Engineering.
- (xxii) A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) and 42 Auditors are certified.
- (xxiii) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has constituted a District Road Safety Committee in each district of the country to promote awareness amongst road users under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from the district.
- (xxiv) During 2017-18, National Highways Authority India (NHAI) has conducted the "Free Eye Check-up" campaign at 50 selected Toll-Plazas in order to reduce the no. of accidents involving Multi Axle Vehicles/Trucks and distributed free glasses to the Truck Drivers having poor vision.

Statement

*Total number of deaths took place in Road Accidents during the last three years
(2015 to 2017)*

Sl. No.	State/UT	2015	2016	2017
1.	Andhra Pradesh	8297	8541	8060
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	127	149	110
3.	Assam	2397	2572	2783
4.	Bihar	5121	4901	5554
5.	Chhattisgarh	4082	3908	4136
6.	Goa	311	336	328
7.	Gujarat	8119	8136	7289
8.	Haryana	4879	5024	5120

Sl. No.	State/UTs	2015	2016	2017
9.	Himachal Pradesh	1096	1271	1203
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	917	958	926
11.	Jharkhand	2893	3027	3256
12.	Karnataka	10856	11133	10609
13.	Kerala	4196	4287	4131
14.	Madhya Pradesh	9314	9646	10177
15.	Maharashtra	13212	12935	12264
16.	Manipur	139	81	136
17.	Meghalaya	183	150	182
18.	Mizoram	72	70	60
19.	Nagaland	30	46	41
20.	Odisha	4303	4463	4790
21.	Punjab	4893	5077	4463
22.	Rajasthan	10510	10465	10444
23.	Sikkim	70	85	78
24.	Tamil Nadu	15642	17218	16157
25.	Telangana	7110	7219	6596
26.	Tripura	158	173	161
27.	Uttarakhand	913	962	942
28.	Uttar Pradesh	17666	19320	20124
29.	West Bengal	6234	6544	5769
30.	Andaman and Nicobar Islands	23	17	21
31.	Chandigarh	129	151	107
32.	Dadra and Nagar Haveli	42	46	43
33.	Daman and Diu	42	38	36
34.	Delhi	1622	1591	1584
35.	Lakshadweep	0	1	0
36.	Puducherry	235	244	233
TOTAL		146133	150785	147913