

- (b) if so, criteria for entitlement for such scholarship;
- (c) total number of scholarships to be provided; and
- (d) proposed amount of scholarship and yearly expenditure on such scholarship?

THE MINISTER OF MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI):

(a) The government during the last five years, has provided 3.14 crore scholarships to students from amongst the six centrally notified Minorities namely Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Buddhist, Jain and Parsi. A minimum of 30% seats are earmarked for girl students in each scheme, however, the share of girls students beneficiaries is more than 50%. Besides this, specifically for girls, the Maulana Azad Education Foundation (MAEF), an autonomous organization under the Ministry, provides scholarship under the scheme titled „Begum Hazrat Mahal National Scholarship% for meritorious girls belonging to the six centrally notified minorities.

(b) The MAEF provides scholarship to girls studying in class 9th to 12th at the rate of ₹5000/- per year for class 9th and 10th and ₹6000/- per year for class 11th and 12th subject to conditions that they secure a minimum of 50% marks in previous class, their parents’ or guardian’s annual income does not exceed ₹2.00 lakh and the beneficiary does not get scholarship from any other sources.

(c) and (d) The MAEF has decided to provide scholarship to 2,50,000 girls amounting to ₹ 137.50 crore during the current year 2019-20.

The details of beneficiaries under Begum Hazrat Mahal National Scholarship for Meritorious Girls are as under:

FY	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	Last 6 years
No. of Beneficiaries	45,426	48,000	33,482	1,14,094	2,00,000	2,50,000	6,91,002

The details are available on the websites, www.minorityaffairs.gov.in and www.maef.nic.in.

Black spots on roads

1058. SHRI SANJAY RAUT: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether police from different States have identified 8000 black spots on roads, which are dangerous for drivers and several serious accidents have happened in the past three years;

- (b) if so, the details thereof and the Government's response thereto; and
- (c) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to minimise the accidents on highways?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Ministry has taken adequate steps towards improvement of road safety through various measures including engineering measures on National Highways. Guidelines for investigation and rectification of the road accident black spots on National Highways have been notified. Based on fatalities in 2011, 2012, 2013 & 2014 calendar years, 789 black spots have been notified with unique ID numbers assigned to each of the spots. The details of which are given in Statement (*See* below). Ministry has issued Protocol for identification and rectification of road accident black spots on National Highways *vide* letter number RW/NH/1507/109/2015/P&M(RSCE) dated 28-10-2015.

(c) The road safety is on topmost priority of the Ministry. The Ministry implements various schemes on road safety such as publicity measures and awareness campaign on Road Safety through electronic and print media to create awareness among road users, setting up institutes for driving training institutes, Setting up of inspection and certification centres, Road Safety week, road safety advocacy through NGOs and taken multi-pronged efforts for strengthening automobile safety standards, improving road infrastructure, strengthening enforcement. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has also constituted a District Road Safety Committee under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) in each district of the country. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has been issuing advisories to the States / UTs from time to time for strict enforcement of provisions of MV Act 1988 and CMVR 1989. Some major initiatives taken are as under:-

- (i) Government has launched a mobile app for highway users *i.e.* „SukhadYatra 1033% which enables highways users to report potholes and other safety hazards on National Highways including accidents.
- (ii) Rectification of identified Black spots.
- (iii) Road Safety Week is observed every calendar year for spreading awareness about safer behavior of road users on National Highways.
- (iv) 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.

- (v) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) Setting up of model driving training institutes in States.
- (viii) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic and print media.
- (ix) Tightening of safety standards for vehicles like Seat Belts, anti-lock braking system etc.
- (x) High priority has been accorded to identification and rectification of black spots (accident, prone spots) on national highways.
- (xi) 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% of funds allocated to the state roads under Central Road Fund.
- (xii) 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.
- (xiii) Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States/UTs.
- (xiv) A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) and 42 Auditors are certified.
- (xv) Free Eye Check-up Camp and distribution of eye glasses is conducted for truck/bus drivers operating on NH.
- (xvi) Capacity building through training of NHAI field staff/Concessionaires/ Contractors/Consultants engaged in NHAI project works throughout India.
- (xvii) Removal of Liquor Shops as per directions of Hon'ble Supreme Court *vide* circular of F. No. RW/NH-33044/309/2016/S&R dated 06-04-2017 and 01-06-2017.

*Statement**Details of Black Spot*

Sl. No.	States/UTs	Total nos. of Black spot	Under jurisdiction of PWD	Under jurisdiction of NHAI	Under State Road/ BRO
1.	Andhra Pradesh	9	0	9	0
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	1	0	0	1
3.	Bihar	25	5	19	1
4.	Chhattisgarh	30	15	15	0
5.	Delhi	13	0	2	11
6.	Gujarat	26	0	25	1
7.	Himachal Pradesh	5	3	0	28
8.	Haryana	38	0	36	2
9.	Jharkhand	26	6	16	4
10.	Jammu and Kashmir	9	0	5	4
11.	Karnataka	86	12	38	36
12.	Kerala	33	19	14	0
13.	Maharashtra	35	3	26	6
14.	Meghalaya	8	5	3	0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	54	6	31	17
16.	Mizoram	1	0	0	1
17.	Nagaland	3	3	0	0
18.	Odisha	12	0	12	0
19.	Rajasthan	61	13	40	8
20.	Telangana	76	26	45	5
21.	Tamil Nadu	102	18	78	6
22.	Uttar Pradesh	104	6	68	30
23.	West Bengal	32	4	24	4
TOTAL		789	144	506	139