

Sl. No.	Year	Total No. of fatal road accidents
1.	2016	136071
2.	2017	134796

(b) NHAI is implementing ATMS (Advance Traffic Management System) on EPE (Eastern Peripheral Expressway) with installation of CCTV cameras and control systems to monitor speed violations, lane discipline etc.

Educational qualification for driving licence

1684. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is likely to waive off mandatory educational qualification for truckers and bus drivers for seeking a driving licence;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government would amend this rule and issue a draft notification shortly for comments from stakeholders; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The Government has proposed to waive off mandatory educational qualification required for obtaining a driving licence for truckers and bus drivers. The Ministry has notified a draft notification *vide* GSR 431 (E) dated 18.06.2019 for omission of Rule 8 (*i.e.* Minimum Educational Qualification for driving transport vehicles) in the Central Motor Vehicles Rule, 1989.

Shortage of truck drivers

1685. SHRIMATI VIJILA SATHYANANTH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a shortage of 22 lakh drivers in the transport and logistics sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government is considering to provide any relaxation to the drivers of medium and heavy transport vehicles; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Shortage of truck drivers is an issue which has been highlighted by various transporters. Ministry has not carried any study to assess the exact figures of shortage of drivers.

(c) and (d) Ministry has proposed to waive off mandatory educational qualification for truckers and bus drivers for seeking a driving licence. A draft notification *vide* GSR 431(E) has been issued on 18-06-2019 regarding omission of rule 8 (minimum educational qualification) in the Central Motor Vehicles Rule, 1989.

Land acquisition for highway projects

1686. SHRI K. R. ARJUNAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that currently 23 national highway projects are facing delay in completion because of land acquisition;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that on an average, NHAI acquires around 10,000 hectares of land a year and disburses ₹10,000 crore as compensation; and

(d) the target fixed by the NHAI for land acquisition in the current fiscal?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) Sir, there are some national highway projects which are facing delay in completion due to land acquisition. The details of such national highway projects is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) The details of land acquired and expenditure made by NHAI during last 5 years are as under:-

Achievements	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Possession (Ha.)	6733	9285	7491	9494	13982
Expenditure (Cr.)	9,097	21,933	17,823	29,200	34,527

(d) NHAI has fixed a target of 10000 Ha for the Current Fiscal Year (CFY) 2019-20.