

- (iii) Observance of National Road Safety Week every year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.
- (iv) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (v) The threshold for four laning of national highway has been reduced from 15,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10,000 PCUs.
- (vi) 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.
- (vii) Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States/UTs.
- (viii) 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.

Reduction in road fatalities

1254. SHRI S. MUTHUKARUPPAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering to reduce the overall fatalities by road accidents by 25 per cent by 2024;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether it is also a fact that Government is considering to create an Integrated Road Accident Database (IRAD);
- (d) whether it is also a fact that an information technology based road safety structure and incidence management system shall also be erected on all the four lane and above highways; and
- (e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is very much

concern about road safety. The Ministry analyses the road accidents issue on the basis of data from the Department of Police of the States/UTs. Analyses of road accident data reported by the police department of States/UTs reveals that road accidents are multi-causal and are the result of interplay of various factors which can broadly be categorized into human error, road condition/environment and vehicular condition. The Ministry has taken various initiatives to promote road safety which include:

The Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act, 2019 passed by Parliament focuses on road safety and includes, *inter alia*, hike in penalties for traffic violations, electronic monitoring of the same, enhanced penalties for juvenile driving, computerization/automation of vehicle fitness and driving, tests, recall of defective vehicles, streamlining the third party insurance and payment of increased compensation for hit and run cases etc. The amendment has strengthened the law to improve the road safety scenario and reduce loss of lives.

The Ministry issues regulations to improve vehicle safety standards, undertakes site specific interventions to address black spots, and also mobilises various activities to promote road safety such as road safety advocacy and awareness programmes. Ministry has notified fitment of speed limiting devices on all transport vehicles, issue of guidelines for protection of good samaritans. Besides,

- (i) Scheme for setting up of model Driving Training Institutes in States/UTs with central assistance.
- (ii) Scheme for setting up one model Inspection and Certification Centre in each State/UT with Central assistance for testing the fitness of vehicles through an automated system.
- (iii) Observance of National Road Safety Week every year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.
- (iv) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (v) The threshold for four laning of National Highway has been reduced from 15,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10,000 PCUs.
- (vi) 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.

- (vii) Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States/UTs.
- (viii) 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.

(c) The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has launched "Integrated Road Accident Database (IRAD) System". The primary purpose of IRAD is to enhance road safety, and thus endeavors to generate various types of insights through the Analytics Dashboard, Trend Analysis etc. and therefore, decision making by Apex Authorities. The six States identified for piloting the project are Maharashtra, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

(d) and (e) Advance Traffic Management Systems (ATMS) as detailed out Manual of Expressways, 6 lane and 4 lane are to be provided for smoother and safer flow of vehicles. ATMS may have sub systems like Emergency Call Boxes, Mobile Communication Systems, Variable Message Sign Systems, Meteorological Data System, Automatic traffic Counter and Vehicle Classification, Video Surveillance System and Video Incident Detection System (VIDS). Moreover various incident managed service like ambulances, life support system, crane service etc. are also provided by the concessionaires/contractors for such developed highways as per the stipulation of the scope of work.

Termination of road projects in Tamil Nadu

1255. SHRI T.K. RANGARAJAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether any road projects have been terminated in Tamil Nadu;
- (b) if so, the details of the projects; and
- (c) the reason for termination of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) This Ministry is primarily responsible for development and maintenance of National Highways in the country. Eight National Highway projects being implemented through National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) have been