

- (b) if so, whether any survey has been conducted in this regard;
- (c) if so, the outcome of the survey;
- (d) whether any effective policy has been formulated to investigate road accidents in the country;
- (e) if so, the details thereof; and
- (f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) to (c) Road accidents continue to be a major developmental issue, a public health concern and a leading cause of death and injury across the World killing around 1.35 million globally. The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways collects data of road accidents from the Department of Police of the States/UTs. The same is published by the Ministry on calendar year basis. The Total number of road accidents, the number of persons killed and no. of persons injured in such accidents in the country during the calendar year 2018 is available in report "Road Accidents in India" at Ministry's website <https://morth.nic.in/road-accident-in-india>.

(d) to (f) To review the road accident data collection / reporting format so as to make recording and reporting of road accident data more accurate, objective and ensuring coverage of all relevant information, a Committee was constituted consisting experts from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi, IIT Kharagpur, World Health Organization (WHO), senior officers from Police and Transport Departments of States, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and officers of the Ministry. On the basis of the recommendations of the Committee, a revised uniform road accident recording and reporting format has been adopted since calendar year 2017.

The recently passed Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Act, 2019 has introduced a new provision in section 135(3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 which reads as "The Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, make one or more schemes to conduct in-depth studies on the causes and analysis of road accidents."

Road accidents in the country

3340. SHRI A. MOHAMMEDJAN: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 40 per cent of road accidents are caused by sleep deprived drivers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that fatigue is the main reason for dozing off on the wheels;

(c) whether Government will take a note of a recent accident involving a passenger bus and a container lorry in which 19 persons had lost their life at Tiruppur in Tamil Nadu on 20.02.2020; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI): (a) and (b) As per the available information, Road Accidents are multi-causal Over speeding, Drunken driving/consumption of alcohol, Driving on wrong side/ lane indiscipline, Fault of the driver of motor vehicle, use of mobile phones, Mechanical defect/fault of the vehicle and lack of knowledge on road signage are the various factors, which can broadly be categorized into human error, road condition/environment and vehicular condition, that lead to accidents on roads.

(c) to (d) As per report from the State Government of Tamil Nadu, an accident took place on 20-02-2020 at 3.30 A.M. on National Highways (NH-544), near Ruchi Hotel, Avinashi Bye pass (Coimbatore to Salem road) in Thirumurugan Poondi Police Station limit, Avinashi Taluk, Tiruppur district in Tamil Nadu.

A Vehicle- HMV LORRY (Container) No. KL07CS6325 was proceeding from Ernakulam to Salem and at around 3.20 A.M. on 20-02-2020, the driver lost control over the vehicle which rammed over the centre median and passed to the opposite lane. The KSRTC Omni bus was coming from the opposite side towards Ernakulam from Bangalore. After the lorry rammed the centre median, the container was detached from the driver cabin and fell in the opposite lane with which the Omni Bus collided leading to 19 fatalities and 24 injuries.

New and inovative measures undertaken by Ministry

3341. DR. VINAY P. SAHASRABUDDHE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state: