

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-774
ANSWERED ON-26/07/2021

RIISING ROAD ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES

774. SHRI HARNATH SINGH YADAV:
LT.GEN. (DR.) D. P. VATS (RETD.):
SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH TOMAR:

Will the MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state :-

- (a) whether it is a fact that road accidents and fatalities are rising despite measures taken by the Central and State Governments;
- (b) if so, whether any study has been made to reduce the rate of accidents, since incidents of road accidents have increased day-by-day; and
- (c) the steps taken by Government, including those under the Pradhan Mantri Sadak Suraksha Yojana in this regard?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) As per the data received from police department of all States/UTs the total number of road accidents and persons killed on all roads in the country during the last four calendar years 2016 to 2019 is shown in the table given below:

Year	Total Number of Road Accidents (in numbers)	% age increase / decrease	Total Number of Persons Killed (in numbers)	% age increase / decrease
2016	480,652		150785	
2017	464,910	-3.3	147913	-1.90
2018	467,044	0.5	151417	2.37
2019	449,002	-3.9	151113	-0.20

It is observed that the road accidents and fatalities have reduced from 2018 to 2019.

(b) & (c) Road Accidents are occurring due to multiple causes such as over speeding, drunken driving/consumption of alcohol, driving on wrong side/lane indiscipline, fault of the driver of motor vehicle, use of mobile phones during driving, mechanical defect/fault of the vehicle, defect in road condition, weather condition and lack of knowledge on road signage, etc.

The Ministry has formulated a multi-prolonged strategy to address the issue of road safety based on Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care. Accordingly, various initiatives have been taken by the Ministry are detailed below:-

i. **Education:**

- The Ministry implements a scheme for undertaking publicity measures and awareness campaigns on road safety to create awareness among road users through the electronic media, print media, NGOs etc.
- Observance of National Road Safety Week/Road Safety Month every year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety. The award for Road Safety is also provided during Road Safety Week/Road Safety Month.
- A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced at Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE).

ii. **Engineering (both of Roads and vehicles)**

1. **Road engineering**

- High priority to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
- Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MoRTH for technical approval of the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots.
- Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States / UTs.

2. **Vehicle engineering:**

- Safety standards for automobiles have been improved.
- Ministry has notified fitment of Speed Limiting devices on all transport vehicles
- Scheme for setting up one model Inspection & Certification Centre in each State/UT with Central assistance for testing the fitness of vehicles through an automated system

iii. **Enforcement**

- The recently passed motor vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 provides for strict enforcement through use of technology and further provides for strict penalties for ensuring strict compliance and enhancing deterrence for violation of traffic rules.
- Rules for protection of Good Samaritans as per MV (Amendment) Act, 2019 have been published.

iv. **Emergency care:**

- The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019 provides for a scheme for the cashless treatment of victims of the accident during the golden hour.
- The National Highways Authority of India has made provisions for ambulances at all toll plazas on the completed corridor of National Highways.
- Further, out of this, 297 ambulances have been upgraded to Basic Life Support as per AIS-125 and upgradation for the remaining is under process.
