

Rising number of cases of road accidents in India

DR. L. HANUMANTHAIHAH (Karnataka): In India, information regarding road traffic accidents is gathered through two reports, namely, 'Road Accidents in India' published by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, and, 'Crime in India' released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB). The data is solely sourced from police departments. Details about crashes are recorded through FIRs filed by involved parties, witnesses or on-site police officers. In 2022, there were 1,50,998 cases reported for deaths due to negligence relating to road accidents. This is a 10.5 per cent rise from cases reported during 2019 with 1,36,587 cases, which is alarming and requires immediate intervention.

However, the reporting process itself has limitations. The majoring of cases are attributed to human error, overlooking other factors such as vehicle and infrastructure issues. The cause of the crash is documented as the fault of a road user, without considering other contributing elements.

Furthermore, the reporting mechanism does not account for fatalities occurring in hospitals after 30 days, as highlighted in the 'Road Accidents in India — 2019' report published by the Ministry of Road Transport itself. The World Health Organisation categorized India's official data on road traffic fatalities as either 'unusable' or 'unavailable' due to 'quality issues' in their 2019 Global Health Estimates released in December, 2020. I would like to urge the Government to adopt revised methodologies for collecting road traffic accident data that align with international standards.

THE VICE-CHAIRMAN (DR. SASMIT PATRA): The following hon. Members associated themselves with the Special Mention made by Dr. L. Hanumanthaiyah: Shrimati Jebi Mather Hisham (Kerala), Dr. Kanimozhi NVN Somu (Tamil Nadu), Dr. V. Sivadasan (Kerala), Shri M. Mohamed Abdulla (Tamil Nadu), Dr. John Brittas (Kerala).

Need to prohibit setting up coal plants in non-coal producing areas

श्री रामचंद्र जांगड़ा (हरियाणा) : महोदय, बढ़ता हुआ वायु प्रदूषण इन दिनों पूरी मानवता, पशु-पक्षी सबके लिए गंभीर खतरा एवं चुनौती है। महोदय, वायु प्रदूषण के लिए वैसे तो बहुत से कारण हैं, लेकिन इसमें सबसे बड़ा घटक कोयला आधारित बिजली संयंत्र हैं। महोदय, एक समय था जब लोड फैक्टर के मध्य में बिजली संयंत्र लगाया जाता था, जैसे बठिंडा, पानीपत आदि ताकि चारों तरफ बिजली की आपूर्ति हो सके, लेकिन पूरे देश में ग्रिड सिस्टम के विस्तार के बाद इसकी