

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 622
ANSWERED ON 28TH NOVEMBER, 2024**

**INDEPENDENT AGENCY TO MAINTAIN STANDARDS AND
COORDINATION ON NHS**

622. SHRI KULDEEP INDORA:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a considerable rise in accidents on National Highways, if so, the details thereof;**
- (b) whether the Government has any plan to have an independent agency to maintain standards and coordination between States and Union Government with regard to National Highways and if so, the details thereof; and**
- (c) the measures being taken to fix the accountability of various agencies involved in the construction of roads?**

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) The Government publishes “Road Accidents in India” annually based on data received from Police Departments of States/ UTs. As per the report, the total number of road accidents on National Highways (including National Expressways) from calendar year 2018 to 2022 is given in the table below : -

Year	No. of Road Accidents
2018	1,44,221
2019	1,41,057
2020*	1,19,615
2021*	1,28,825
2022	1,51,997

*** - Covid affected year**

(b) Indian Roads Congress (IRC) formulates Standards, Guidelines, Manuals, etc. for all aspects of highway building and maintenance, including road safety. MoRTH also issues policy circulars on road safety engineering issues pertaining to National Highways (NHs). Such

Standards, Guidelines, Manuals of IRC and policy circulars of MORTH are applicable and binding on all NHS.

(c) Design and drawings prepared by the contractor/ concessionaire for NH project is vetted by Road Safety Auditor. Contractor/concessionaire prepares traffic management plan for the construction period to ensure safety of traffic and construction workers. Before issue of Completion Certificate, safety audit is carried out to ascertain the safety requirements of the projects. In the contracts, there are adequate provisions to address the lapses by either contractor/ concessionaire or authority's engineer/ independent engineer.
