

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA**

STARRED QUESTION NO:301
ANSWERED ON:13.12.2005
SETTING UP OF COMMISSIONERATE FOR ROAD SAFETY
Patel Shri Kishanbhai Vestabhai;Singh Shri Sugrib

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government proposes to set up a Commissionerate for road safety;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; (
- (c) the details of ambulances and patrol vehicles presently available with National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to look after safety arrangements on the national highways;
- (d) the percentage of the cess coming to NHAI used for study and research of road safety issues and developing state-of-art systems in the country; and
- (e) the steps taken by the Government to bring awareness about road safety among the people using these highways?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a) to (e) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) to (e) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 301 FOR ANSWER ON 13.12.2005 ASKED BY SHRI KISHANBHAI V. PATEL AND SHRI SUGRIB SINGH REGARDING SETTING UP OF COMMISSIONERATE FOR ROAD SAFETY.

(a)&(b) A Committee has been setup to deliberate and recommend on creation of a dedicated body on Road Safety and Traffic Regulations under the Chairmanship of Shri S. Sundar, Distinguished Fellow, The Energy Research Institute. The Committee has been remitted to submit its recommendations by 31st January, 2006 to enable to take a final decision by the Committee On Infrastructure chaired by the Prime Minister.

(c) At present, 67 ambulances, 62 patrol vehicles and 5 ambulance-cum-patrol vehicles are available with National Highways Authority of India to look after safety aspects on the completed stretches of National Highways entrusted to National Highways Authority of India.

(d) There is no system of earmarking a fixed percentage of cess allocated to National Highways Authority of India for study and research of road safety issues and developing state-of- the art system in the country. Such studies are undertaken in a need-based manner.

(e) The Government undertakes campaigns through audio, video and print media on various aspects of road safety. The advertisements on road safety are also given through cinema slides, hoardings, railings, etc. Publicity material like fun games, story books, riddles, drawing books, posters, pamphlets, calendars, etc. are also printed and distributed to the users of roads, students, children through State Governments, Non Governmental Organisations and other Institutions. Grant-in-aid is also given to Non Governmental Organisations to promote awareness about road safety among the people using highways and impart training to drivers of heavy vehicles in the unorganised sector.