

(b) if not, the time by which this facility is likely to be provided to benefit the rural people; and

(c) the number of veterinary hospital functioning at present in Nasik district of Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAYANTILAL VIRCHANDBHAI SHAH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[English]

Accidents on National Highways

1307. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO:
SHRI C. P. MUDALAGIRI-
YAPPA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents on the National Highways during the last three years;

(b) whether there is a steep increase in the number of accidents on the National Highways;

(c) if so, the causes thereof; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken to check accidents on the National Highways?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b). Figures are available only upto the year 1988. Hence, a Statement is enclosed showing the number of road accidents during 1986, 1987 and 1988 as Annexure.

(c) The major causes of accidents are summarised below:

(a) As a result of the Driver's rash and negligent driving non-observance of traffic regulations, driving under strain or fatigue, drunken driving and defective vision of health;

(b) Fault of the road users like pedestrians or cyclists, due to absence of knowledge about safety;

(c) Mechanical defects in the vehicles such as stalling of engines, failure of brakes, worn-out tyres, electrical or signal defects;

(d) Defective road conditions such as sub-standard road designs, defective road signs;

(e) Bad weather conditions; and

(f) Increase in the number of vehicles as also rapid urbanisation leading to congestion on roads and heterogenous traffic in the cities, over-loading of vehicles, etc.

(d) The main steps taken by the Central Government in promoting road safety are the following:-

1. The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and the rules framed thereunder provide for stricter requirements in respect of issuance of driving licences.
2. Formal training in driving in a driving school is made a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles.
3. Maximum speed limits have been prescribed for all vehicles.
4. Uniform intervals for checking the fitness of vehicles have been prescribed throughout the country.

5. It is prescribed that the road safety devices should be fitted in the vehicles viz. direction/indicators with blinker system in two-wheelers, dual brake system for vehicles, special labels on carriages carrying dangerous or hazardous goods.
 6. The National road Safety Council has been set up for formulation of road safety measures.
 7. In order to promote road safety consciousness, road safety weeks are organised all over the country.
 8. Efforts are made to improve the condition of the roads so as to facilitate smooth flow of traffic.
- State Governments were requested to set up State level road safety councils.

STATEMENT

Accidents on National Highways for the year 1986 to 1988

State/U.T.	1986	1987	1988(P)
1	2	3	4
STATES			
Andhra Pradesh	3729	4530	4407
Arunachal Pradesh	35	34	40
Assam	947	938	1067
Bihar	1261	2453	2453 (R)
Goa	583	613	547
Gujarat	3942	3938	5072
Haryana	1062	1235	1235 (R)
Himachal Pradesh	216	144	234

<i>State/U.T.</i>	1986	1987	1988(P)
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>
Jammu & Kashmir	252	379	532
Karnataka	3953	4443	4677
Kerala	3646	3907	4400
Madhya Pradesh	3542	3882	3747
Maharashtra	10826	12008	14561
Manipur	162	167	190
Meghalaya	146	115	115 (R)
Mizoram	36	44	47
Nagaland	45	57	52
Orissa	2027	2131	1660

<i>State/U.T.</i>	1986	1987	1988(P)
1	2	3	4
Punjab	186	446	310
Rajasthan	1658	544	4548
Sikkim	42	35	50
Tamil Nadu	9338	8589	9556
Tripura	69	122	183
Uttar Pradesh	4244	4630	4827
West Bengal	NA	NA	NA
UNION TERRITORIES			
A. & N. Islands	-	-	-
Chandigarh	232	-	48

<i>State/U.T.</i>	1986	1987	1988(P)
1	2	3	4
D & Nagar Haveli	-	-	-
Delhi	741	688	722
Daman @ Diu*	@	@	7
Lakshadweep	-	-	-
Pondicherry	-	132	111
Total : (Reporting States/UTs)	52949	56204	62398

R=Previous year's figure repeated.
 @=included in the data of 'Goa'