

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5279
ANSWERED ON 25TH JULY, 2019

ACCIDENTAL DEATH ON NHs

5279. SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA:
SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD:
SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM:

Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री

be pleased to state:

- whether the Government has taken note of the increasing number of accidents/accidental deaths on various National Highways (NHs)/Expressways in the country and if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;
- the number of persons killed in road accidents during the last three years in the country, State/UT-wise;
- whether any scheme for financial assistance is available for the victims of road accidents and if so, the details thereof;
- if not, whether the Government proposes to bring any legislation for rendering financial assistance to the victims of road accidents and if so, the details thereof;
- whether causes of higher number of deaths on certain sections/NHs have been ascertained by the Government and if so, the details thereof; and
- the steps being taken by the Government to ensure safety and provide emergency medical services on the highways?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS

(SHRI NITIN JAIRAM GADKARI)

(a) As per information received from police department of all States/UTs, the total number of road accidents and persons killed on National Highways (including expressways) in the country for the calendar years i.e 2015 to 2017 is given in the table below:-

Years	Total Number of accidents on National Highways/Expressway in the country	Total Number of persons killed on National Highways/Expressway in the country
2015	1,42,268	51,204
2016	1,42,359	52,075
2017	1,41,466	53,181

(b) State-wise total number of persons killed in road accidents in the country for the calendar years 2015 to 2017 is at **Annexure**.

(c) & (d) The provisions relating to compensation for the road accident victims and their kith and kin are uniform across the country and provided in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Chapter X and XI of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 deal with third-party insurance and payment of compensation in case of injury or death. The provisions provided in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 relating to compensation for the road accident victims are uniform across the country. The Ministry has reviewed the compensation amount and substituted Schedule-II of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 relating to compensation amount under section 163A vide notification S.O. No.2022(E) dated 22nd May, 2018. As per the revised Schedule – II, compensation for:–

- (i) Fatal Accidents:
Compensation payable in case of Death shall be five lakh rupees.
- (ii) Accidents resulting in permanent disability:
Compensation payable shall be = [Rs.5,00,000/- X percentage disability as per Schedule I of the Employee's Compensation Act, 1923 (8 of 1923).
The minimum compensation in case of permanent disability of any kind shall not be less than fifty thousand rupees.
- (iii) Accidents resulting in minor injury:
A fixed compensation of twenty five thousand rupees shall be payable

Further, as per Section 165(1) of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, a State Government may, by notification in the official Gazette, constitute one or more Motor Accidents Claims Tribunals for such area as may be specified in the notification for the purpose of adjudicating upon claims for compensation in respect of accidents involving the death of, or bodily injury to, persons arising out of the use of motor vehicles, or damages to any property of the third party so arising, or both. Sub-section (2) of Section 165 empowers the State Government to appoint such number of members as the State Government may think fit to appoint. Sub-section (3) of Section 165 empowers State Government to regulate distribution of business if there are two or more Claims Tribunals for an area. Thus, the matter regarding disposal of cases by Motor Accident Claims Tribunals comes under the jurisdiction of State Governments. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has inserted a provision in Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill, 2017 which inter-alia envisages the creation of a Motor Vehicle Accident Fund.

(e) The Ministry analyses the road accidents data received from the Police Department of the States/UTs and public the report "Road Accidents in India" annually. As per the report, Road accidents occur due to multiple causes such as use of Mobile phone, drunken driving/consumption of alcohol/ drug, overloaded Vehicle, poor light condition, jumping red light, over speeding, overtaking, neglect of civic bodies, weather condition, fault of driver, driving on wrong side, defect in road condition, defect in condition of motor vehicle, fault of cyclist, fault of pedestrian etc.

(f) The National Road Safety Policy outlines various policy measures such as promoting awareness, establishing road safety information data base, encouraging safer road infrastructure including application of intelligent transport, enforcement of safety laws. The Ministry has taken number of steps to address the issue of road safety. These based on Education, Engineering (both of roads and vehicles), Enforcement and Emergency Care. The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has constituted a District Road Safety Committee in each district of the country to promote awareness amongst road users under the chairmanship of Hon'ble Member of Parliament (Lok Sabha) from the district.

In addition to the above, the initiatives of the Ministry to promote road safety are listed as below:

- (i) Advocacy/Publicity campaign on road safety through the electronic media and print media to create awareness.
- (ii) Issue of Guidelines for protection of Good Samaritans.
- (iii) Setting up of model driving training Institutes in States.
- (iv) Sanction of 22 Inspection and certification Centres for testing the fitness of the commercial vehicles through an automated system
- (v) Launch of mobile app for highway users i.e. “Sukhad Yatra 1033” which enables highways users to report potholes and other safety hazards on National Highways including accidents.
- (vi) Observance of Road Safety Week every calendar year for spreading awareness and strengthening road safety.
- (vii) Road safety has been made an integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (viii) The threshold for four laning of national highway has been reduced from 15,000 Passenger Car Units (PCUs) to 10,000 PCUs.
- (ix) Safety standards for automobiles have been improved.
- (x) High priority has been accorded to identification and rectification of black spots (accident prone spots) on national highways.
- (xi) Ministry has delegated powers to Regional Officers of MORTH for technical approval to the detailed estimates for rectification of identified Road Accident black spots for expediting the rectification process to ensure safety of road users.
- (xii) Guidelines for pedestrian facilities on National Highways for persons with disabilities have also been issued to all States / UTs.
- (xiii) A Certification Course for Road Safety Auditors has been commenced in Indian Academy of Highway Engineers (IAHE) and 42 Auditors are certified.
- (xiv) Free Eye Check-up Camp and distribution of eye glasses is conducted for truck/bus drivers operating on NH.
- (xv) Removal of Liquor Shops as per directions of Hon’ble Supreme Court vide circular of F. No. RW/NH-33044/309/2016/S&R dated 06-04-2017 and 01-06-2017.

ANNEXURE REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 5279 TO BE ANSWERED ON 25th JULY, 2019 ASKED BY SHRI M.V.V. SATYANARAYANA, SHRI CHANDESHWAR PRASAD AND SHRI KARTI P. CHIDAMBARAM REGARDING ACCIDENTAL DEATH ON NHs.

Total Number of Persons killed in Road Accidents in India: 2015 to 2017

S.No	State/UTs	2015	2016	2017
1	Andhra Pradesh	8297	8541	8060
2	Arunachal Pradesh	127	149	110
3	Assam	2397	2572	2783
4	Bihar	5421	4901	5554
5	Chhattisgarh	4082	3908	4136
6	Goa	311	336	328
7	Gujarat	8119	8136	7289
8	Haryana	4879	5024	5120
9	Himachal Pradesh	1096	1271	1203
10	Jammu & Kashmir	917	958	926
11	Jharkhand	2893	3027	3256
12	Karnataka	10856	11133	10609
13	Kerala	4196	4287	4131
14	Madhya Pradesh	9314	9646	10177
15	Maharashtra	13212	12935	12264
16	Manipur	139	81	136
17	Meghalaya	183	150	182
18	Mizoram	72	70	60
19	Nagaland	30	46	41
20	Odisha	4303	4463	4790
21	Punjab	4893	5077	4463
22	Rajasthan	10510	10465	10444
23	Sikkim	70	85	78
24	Tamil Nadu	15642	17218	16157
25	Telangana	7110	7219	6596
26	Tripura	158	173	161
27	Uttarakhand	913	962	942
28	Uttar Pradesh	17666	19320	20124
29	West Bengal	6234	6544	5769
30	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	23	17	21
31	Chandigarh	129	151	107
32	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	42	46	43
33	Daman & Diu	42	38	36
34	Delhi	1622	1591	1584
35	Lakshadweep	0	1	0
36	Puducherry	235	244	233
Total		146133	150785	147913