

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1342
ANSWERED ON:16.11.2010
RELIEF TO VICTIMS OF ROAD ACCIDENTS
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Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that most of the victims of road accidents died due to the lack of treatment; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken by the Government and medical authorities to provide medical relief on the spot?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS (SHRI MAHADEO SINGH KHANDELA)

(a) to (b): It is an accepted strategy of trauma care that if basic life support, first aid and replacement of fluids leading to initial stabilization can be arranged within first hour of the injury called "Golden Hour", lives of many accident victims can be saved. Recognizing the vital importance of quick medical assistance and evacuation of road accident victims` in reducing the trauma and probability of death and disability associated with road accidents, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been implementing a Scheme 'establishment of an integrated network of Trauma Centres' along the Golden Quadrilateral, North-South and East-West Corridors of the National Highways by upgrading the trauma care facilities in 140 identified State Government hospitals, at a total outlay of Rs. 732.75 crore during the 11th five year plan. Setting up of the integrated network of Trauma Centres along the Golden Quadrilateral, North-South and East West Corridors will ensure that each accident victim on these corridors is able to get competent medical assistance within the shortest possible time thereby saving precious lives. The trauma care network provides three categories of trauma care centres, i.e., Level-I, Level-II and Level-III. Level-I trauma centre in the states would provide the highest level of definitive and comprehensive care of patients with complex injuries. The level-II trauma centre would be available at every 300 km. The Level-III trauma centre would be available every 100-150 km. The present Scheme covers entire Golden Quadrilateral, North-South and East-West corridors. Subsequently, after evaluation of this project, other National Highways with substantial traffic density would be taken up.

The Network has been so designed that no trauma victim has to be transported for more than 50 kilometer. It will bring down the morbidity and mortality on the road by observing the golden hour concept. National Highways Authority of India (NHA) would deploy basic life support ambulances with trained and specialized manpower at every 50 Km. on the completed stretches of Highway being built and operated by them. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways would provide 140 advanced life support ambulances to 140 identified hospitals to be upgraded under this Scheme.

In addition, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under the scheme "National Highways Accident Relief Service Scheme (NHARSS)" has been providing cranes and ambulances to States/ UTs/NGOs for relief and rescue measures in the aftermath of accidents by way of evacuating road accident victims to the nearest medical aid centre and for clearing the accident site.