

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

STARRED QUESTION NO:172

ANSWERED ON:19.08.2013

AMBULANCE SERVICE ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

Gaikwad Shri Eknath Mahadeo;Paranjpe Shri Anand Prakash

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

(a) whether the Government has made it mandatory for every road developer to deploy one ambulance and one patrolling vehicle for every 50 km. stretch of National Highways (NHs) to shift road accident victims to the nearest medical aid centre;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has received complaints against road developers not deploying ambulances and patrolling vehicles on NHs during the last three years and the current year; and

(d) if so, the details thereof along with the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES)

(a) to (d) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (d) OF THE LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 172 ANSWERED ON 19TH AUGUST, 2013 ASKED BY SHRI EKNATH M. GAIKWAD AND SHRI ANAND PRAKASH PARANJPE REGARDING 'AMBULANCE SERVICE ON NATIONAL HIGHWAYS'.

(a) and (b) Ambulances and Route Patrol Vehicles are provided on all National Highway stretches that are entrusted to the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and the stretches are being tolled. On all the stretches for the purpose of operation and maintenance through Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) and/or Operation, Maintenance and Transfer (OMT) concessions, one Ambulance and one Route Patrol vehicle are mandated at each toll plaza. The toll plazas are normally located at an average distance of 60 Km. On the stretches being maintained by NHAI under short term maintenance scheme, Ambulances and Route Patrol vehicles are provided for an average stretch of 50 km length. In order to ensure their availability on the designated stretch, prevent misuse of these vehicles and for effective control on movement and for convenience of highway users, these vehicles are painted with unique colour scheme standardised by NHAI. Ambulances are painted with red and white diagonal stripes, route patrol vehicles are painted with blue and white diagonal stripes. Emergency phone numbers are displayed at every 5 km on either side of highways and are also printed on toll tickets. Boards depicting names of contact person and emergency contact number are also displayed at prominent locations on toll plazas. It has also been decided that all ambulances/road patrol vehicles deployed by the concessionaire in project site, should be fitted with a Vehicle Tracking System (VTS) with the facility of Global Positioning System (GPS) on each vehicle.

(c) and (d) No such incident of non-deployment of ambulances and patrolling vehicles by any concessionaire on National Highways (NHs) has ever been reported to the Government or the NHAI. However, as per existing provisions of Model Concession Agreement (MCA), penal provisions have been made for non fulfilment of conditions precedent by the concessionaire.