

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

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:749  
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2009  
MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ON NHs  
Rajaram Shri Wakchaure Bhausahab

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

- (a) whether the medical assistance available on the National Highways is sufficient;
- (b) if so, the details of the ambulance service available on the National Highways especially in backward and rural areas of the country;
- (c) if not, whether the Government is considering to make available the trauma medical assistance mobile vehicles on the National Highways to tackle the accident cases;
- (d) the time by which this facility is likely to be made available; and
- (e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government for providing medical assistance on the National Highways/Expressways to ensure safe road journey?

**Answer**

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

(a) to (e) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has been implementing the Scheme namely " Project for establishment of trauma care facilities along National Highways" during the 11th Five Year Plan, started in the year 2007-08, at a total outlay of Rs. 732.75 crore to develop a network of Trauma Centers along the Golden Quadrilateral, North-South and East West Corridors of the National Highways to help the accident victims. 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. Level III Trauma care centres, primarily district hospitals, will provide initial evaluation and stabilization of the trauma patients. The Level-III trauma centre will be available at every 100-150 km.

The trauma care network has been so designed that no trauma victim has to be transported for more than 50 kilometer. The project comprises of well equipped life support ambulances at every 50 Kilometer of the completed stretches of the National Highways equipped with life support equipments and trained staff, to be provided by National Highways Authority of India (NHA).

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways is committed to provide 140 advanced life support ambulances to the 140 identified hospitals under the Scheme.

Presently, NHA has provided 145 ambulances on the National Highways entrusted to it. Details of location of these ambulances are at Annexure I. In addition to this, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, under the scheme "National Highways Accident Relief Service Scheme (NHARSS)" has already provided 437 ambulances to States/ UTs/NGOs for relief and rescue measures on National Highways in the aftermath of accidents by way of evacuating road accident victim to nearest medical aid centre. Details of these ambulances given to States/UT's are at Annexure-II.