

Medical facilities on highways

741. SHRI HARIVANSH: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) the steps being taken by Government to check the road accidents;
- (b) the arrangements made for medical facilities to road accident victims on the Expressways or highways;
- (c) the intervals at which this arrangement would be provided; and
- (d) the intervals at which emergency medical facility is available on National Highways or Expressways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI RADHAKRISHNAN P.) : (a) This Ministry has taken a number of steps to prevent road accidents as per details mentioned under:

- (i) The Government has approved a National Road Safety Policy. This 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 etc.
- (ii) The Ministry has requested all States/UTs for setting up of State Road Safety Council and District Road Safety Committees, if not already done, and to hold their meetings regularly so that the right message to curb the menace of Road Accidents reaches all concerned and due priority is given to road safety.
- (iii) It is ensured that road safety remains the integral part of road design at planning stage.
- (iv) Various steps are being taken to enhance road safety such as road furniture, road markings/road signs, introduction of Highway Traffic Management System using Intelligent Transport System, enhancement of discipline among contractors during construction, road safety audit on selected stretches, have been undertaken by National Highways Authority of India.
- (v) Refresher training to Heavy Motor Vehicle drivers in the unorganized sector being implemented by the Ministry since 1997-98 under plan activities.

- (vi) Setting up of Driving Training School in the States by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- (vii) Publicity campaign on road safety awareness both through the audio-visual and print media by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- (viii) Tightening of safety standards of vehicles like Seat Belts, Power-steering, rear view Mirror etc.
- (ix) Providing cranes and ambulances to various State Governments/NGOs under National Highway Accident Relief Service Scheme. National Highways Authority of India also provides ambulances at a distance of 50 Km. on each of its completed stretches of National Highways under its Operation & Maintenance contracts.
- (x) Widening and improvements of National Highways from 2 lanes to 4 lanes and 4 lanes to 6 lanes etc.

(b) to (d) A pilot project has been launched by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways for three stretches viz. Gurgaon - Jaipur section of NH-8, Vadodara - Mumbai section of NH – 8 and Ranchi –Mahulia section of NH-33 under which free cashless treatment upto a limit of ₹ 30,000/- will be provided to the road accident victims for the first 48 hours Under this project, GPS enabled ambulances, connected with a central control room through a toll-free number 1033, are stationed at intervals of 20 km to transport the accident victim to the nearest hospital for treatment within the ‘Golden Hour’.

Safety standard for car manufacturers

742. SHRI RAM KUMAR KASHYAP: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government formulated safety standards for car manufacturers to make safe cars and if so, the details thereof;
- (b) whether most of the cars sold in the country do not conform to safety standards;
- (c) whether popular car models in the country have failed the recently held independent impact tests conducted by Global NCAP, a global car safety watchdog;
- (d) whether there is any proposal to adopt internationally accepted safety norms for the safety of the passengers; and