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Title: Need to check road accidents in Himachal Pradesh.

SHRI ANURAG SINGH THAKUR (HAMIRPUR): The roads of Himachal Pradesh have seen an increasing number of accidents. In 2016, the State reported over 2,000 accidents in which 780 people were killed and 3,000 injured. Roads are the lifeline for both residents and tourists who visit the State, particularly in the absence of a well-developed rail network. The high number of accidents is a cause for concern. Road engineering needs to be improved and accident-prone areas like sharp curves and blind turns should be properly marked. Modern road building technologies should be adopted to deal with issues like rockfalls and avalanches. Accident victims are unable to reach hospitals within the 'golden hour' after the accident which could save their lives and air ambulances can help in this regard. The government should improve the condition of roads, provide complete barricading along the highways and strictly enforce laws against drunken driving and use of mobile phones while driving.