INTRODUCTION
A frantic call to attend any emergency is not unusual to a medical man and one of the commonest emergency encountered is that of injury. A slip in bath room, fall from roof, road side accident, a mishapening in factory, criminal asault or injury with farm machines, animals, and various chemicals used in farm are all too common in civilian life. An automobile accident is far too common injury as more than 18 million people have been killed, disabled, maimed or crippled in it since the manufacture of first automobile by Mr. Henry ford in USA alone – more than total American killed in World War I, World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War and all other wars involving United States (Dankenbring, 1969). It exceeds all crime of violence by ratio of 10:1 in America. At present rate, one out of every two Americans can expect to be killed or injured in a traffic accident during his/her life time. On other front house hold or court yard is also not free from such mishaps particularly in India.

In todays' world there are dangers everywhere. In the world accident injuries rank fifth among the leading cause of death (Michel Mancioux and Claude J. Ramer). Cities growing vertically and horizontally at a diabolical pace and population bomb ticking off for zero hour, science and technology growing like a monolith taking precedence over all other social priorities, man is paying a heavy price for the very progress which has
started recoiling on him. Over last two decades a healthy school of opinion has emerged postulating that man and nature have to live together as one individual unit for the very survival of human species. It is against this background that one has to delve in detail into growing number of road accidents spawned by proliferation of the four wheel monsters, rampaging along our city and village road, moving down precious lives. The twentieth century saw the growth of automobile almost into a frankenstein out to destroy the very same species which has assiduously built up man's quickest means of conveyance on road (Ravindran Nair, 1982).

The increasing industrialization and urbanisation all over the world, has resulted in rapid growth of transport system with greater movement of people and goods. The transport system specially on road continue to grow both in developed and developing countries as key element in economic and social development. In rural area too, national highways are being built for high speed traffic with little thought given to need and problems of road users specially pedestrians and animals. Apparently this creates a chaotic situation which often result in road accident. Every where accidents are proving to be major and increasing cause of injury which often result in hospitalization, disability and even death among school going children, the young people and elderly persons (Agarwal, 1985).
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In case of road accidents the interaction is between driver, vehicle and the road. There, the most important factor, is the perception and behaviour of road users, such as the observance of traffic signs, choice of speed and decision on when to overtake or cross the road etc. The conference commended by WHO for its concern with its growing threats to public health and for extending its activities from the developed countries of the world to encompass all the WHO regions. The Mexico conference was the first WHO International Conference on road traffic accidents in developing countries and as such it marked an important milestone in attempts at the International level to combat the problem. Road accidents on highways are greatest killers of young people of our country accounting more death than epidemics, tidal waves and malnutrition (Agarwal ND).

Farm accidents take a large toll in life and limb and affect men, women and children to the extent that they are a leading cause of death and disability. The agricultural workers and family have share in the experience because of their occupation. Farm injuries are also on increase in India due to increase in mechanization of agriculture (WHO TRS, No. 246). They are mainly caused by machines, such as threshers, belt in pumping sets, tractors and animals. Electrocution accident occur where naked wires present. Chemicals and insecticides used in farming may also some time cause accidents.
In Punjab, Haryana, and Western Uttar Pradesh, particularly, every grain harvesting and cane crushing season leaves hundreds of farm workers without fingers, hands or forearms - their limbs chopped off in threshers or mutilated in crushers (Kamla Mankekar, 1981).

Industrialization has brought in its wake several problems. One such is accidents which constitute a major cause of industrial hazards. They are common cause of death and disability. With rapid advancement in industrial processes, newer types of dangers to life, limb and health are being increasingly introduced (Brig. Chaddha, S.L., 1978). Every year a thousand workers die and another two lakh fifty thousand are injured in industrial accidents in India. These figures pertaining to only organised industry. There are thousand of others crippled in accidents in the unorganised sector.

Most of the accidents are avoidable by taking proper precautionary measures. Illiteracy and lack of knowledge of proper precautions are an important factors in India to cause accidents. In Western countries the mechanization of agriculture started since 1920 but in India it is still in developing stage.

**DEFINITION OF HOME**

Domestic accidents take place in or around the home and for the purposes of study the home must be understood to include the dwelling unit itself, the garden
garrage and all that is personal to the household (WHO, 1957a, Brit. Med. Assoc., 1964). Also included are the area of stairs and approaches to flats or room, so long as they are reserved for the use by tenants (United States, Deptt. Health Education Welfare, 1958).

Accidents in the home as cause of injury and death are of increasing importance accounting for about half of the accidental deaths and equivalent in public health term of major epidemic, common accidents noted are falls, burns, poisoning, animal and snake bites, cuts and bruises, Electrocution and electric burns, drowning explosion injuries and sport injuries. Injuries from sharp or pointed instruments (including injuries from fire arms or cutting or thrusting weapons).

Home accidents includes injuries within family dwelling, inside the hut and in its immediate surrounding as usually cattle shed, just by the side of house and food may be cooked out side or fire wood and agriculture implements may be stocked by the side of house. Eighteen percent of all the accidents were in this situation and more in females as compared to males.