

COMPARATIVE ACCIDENT STUDY ON SOME SELECTED NATIONAL HIGHWAYS OF BANGLADESH

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ABSTRACT

Road accidents in Bangladesh claim on average 4000 lives and injuries another 5000 every year. Previously many studies on accident were performed for different corridor of Bangladesh. But a comparative study on accident between more than single national highways are not too much available. This is probably due to limitation of summarized accident data of same year interval for different highways. The primary objective of this study is to make a comparative analysis of accident characteristics by using accident data on the selected three important national highways in Bangladesh. This analysis is based on accident severity, road users' class, timing of accident, type of vehicle involved and location of accident. For this study, seven years (2000 to 2006) accident data have been collected from Accident Research Institute (ARI), BUET and detail diagnosis have been done on these available data. In this study, analysis has been carried out for about 257, 317 and 78 km length for the Dhaka-Chittagong, Dhaka-Sylhet and Dhaka-Aricha highway. Based on accident characteristics, it has been found that exposure to accident is too much in Dhaka-Aricha national highway than the other two selected highways. It is observed that among the three selected highways accident rate based on study highway length was maximum for Dhaka-Aricha national highway is about 5.26 which is 1.84 times more than Dhaka-Chittagong national highway and 3.44 times more than Dhaka-Sylhet national highway. Among the total reported accident, fatal type accident was highest for each of the highway. From this study it is observed that accident frequency was highest for the time period 10.00A.M to 14.00 P.M. and around 88% accidents were causes in rural area on these national highways. It is also revealed that maximum accident involved vehicle was large bus and truck on these highways.

KEYWORDS: Accident Exposure, Accident Severity, Black Spot, Comparative Analysis, National Highway