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Crowd busy taking photos, cops' quick dash saves lives

Abhay@timesofindia.com

New Delhi: What began as a routine evening round for traffic inspector Gopal Baisla and head constable Lal Singh quickly turned into a race against time to save lives on Monday evening. During their rounds on the newly inaugurated Delhi-Dehradun Expressway, the cops were informed about a serious accident, in which two men were injured. An unidentified vehicle had hit their bike from behind.

Blood was oozing out of one man's head as he lay close to a road divider, barely conscious and struggling to move, when the police team reached the spot. A crowd had gathered and many of them were taking videos and photos on their phones, but nobody came forward to help, Baisla told **TOI**.

Without waiting for an ambulance, Baisla asked the crowd to disperse, shifted the injured into the PCR van with the help of Singh and reached a hospital in 17 minutes. "Every minute mattered, so I didn't wait. We knew their condition could worsen with every passing second," he said.



Traffic inspector Gopal Baisla (in pic) and head constable Lal Singh turned saviours

The victims were later identified as Farhan (24) and his elder brother, Mohammad Kaif (25), residents of Mustafabad in northeast Delhi. They work as AC mechanics and were travelling on their motorcycle towards Khajuri Khas.

Farhan, with severe head injuries and multiple fractures, was stated to be critical while Kaif has received injuries on his legs and hands. "Kaif only remembers that a vehicle suddenly hit them from behind. They lost control of the bike and fell hard on the road. After that, everything became blurry for him," Baisla said.

BAISLA SAYS

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Additional CP (traffic) Monika Bhardwaj said the control room was informed about the incident, which took place approximately 150 metres ahead of a crematorium on the stretch towards Gandhi Nagar, around 7.52pm. Police found one helmet at the spot.

Baisla, posted with the Gandhi Nagar circle, said that after the call came, they immediately turned towards the location as it was reported as a serious accident. "Around 8.15pm, we reached the spot and saw a large number of people standing there." As the ambulance was taking time, Baisla and his colleague took the injured to the hospital in the PCR vehicle.