

HEALTH MINISTER LAUNCHES 181 UNIVERSAL WOMEN HELPLINE

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Minister for Health Shri Vishwajit Rane launched 181 universal Women Helpline Number at a function held to mark completion of 10 years of 108 Ambulance services at Kala Academy in the city today.

Speaking on the occasion, Shri Rane said with the mission of saving lives, 108 Ambulance service was started in the state in the year 2008. The service will continue to save thousands of the lives of the people of the state. He also lauded the initiative of Chief Minister Shri Manohar Parrikar for his visionary guidance and support and said that earlier the service was started with basic facilities but now ambulance is equipped with advanced life saving systems, cardiac care among others to improve the health care facilities. He also informed about the recently launched bike ambulances.

Shri Rane also congratulated and appreciated the team of GVK EMRI (Emergency Management and Research Institute) for their dedication and commitment for their prompt and quality pre-hospital care facilities before admitting the patient to the hospital for further treatment.

Shri Ashok Kumar IAS, Secretary to health, appreciated the service rendered by GVK EMRI. He said that the fleets of 108 ambulances has increased manifold and services offered by GVK are being extended in the state right from urban to remote places.

On the occasion, the contract with 108 GVK EMRI was also renewed for another period of 10 years.

Shri K. Krishnam Raju , Director ,GVK EMRI also spoke on the occasion.

Shri Deepak Desai, Director of Women and Child Development said that toll-free helpline number will be operated under GVK EMRI for every woman in danger or in need. "It will help in having a positive impact on women empowerment and rights in the State of Goa. He further said that Department of women and child is implementing various schemes like Ladli Laxmi and Griha Adhar for the betterment of women

Professor Shaila D'souza, Head of the Department of Women's Studies,Goa University informed that to support women in need, 181 helpline has been initiated

which will provide counselling, guidance, information and also to help in various threatening situations, including domestic violence.

On the occasion, two vehicles were provided to the services of 181 helpline. Shri Rane also flagged off 108 ambulance donated by Goa Shipyard limited.

Present on the occasion were, OSD to Minister for Health Dr. Rajnanda Dessai, Dr Sanjeev Dalvi, Director of Directorate of Health Services, Dr Pradeep Naik, Dean of Goa Medical College, Smt Deepali D. Naik ,Jt. Director, Women and Child Development, officials of GVK EMRI 108,Senior doctors, among others.

Miss Namrata Vaigankar compered the function and Miss Purti Patkar Head of Operations, GVK EMRI 108, proposed the vote of thanks.

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