

**QUESTION:**

A driver, drives a truck of mass 10 ton at a velocity of 72km/hr sees an obstruction on the road at a distance of 145m. If person at reaction of driver is in 0.8second, find whether accident will take place or not. If the retarding force of brake is 16000N.

**SOLUTION:**

During the  $t_r = 0.8$  second (the time of reaction) the truck continues to move at constant velocity  $v_0$  and travels the distance:

$$s_1 = v_0 t_r$$

Then, when a driver begins to brake, the truck begins to move with deceleration. We find the value of deceleration using Newton's second law:

$$F = m \cdot a$$

$$a = \frac{F}{m}$$

Here  $F$  is the force of brake and  $m$  is the truck's mass.

So, now we can find the time  $t_s$ , it takes the truck to stop since driver begins to brake. The truck's velocity  $v_t$  depends on time according to the following equation (because it is motion with constant acceleration):

$$v_t = v_0 - a \cdot t$$

And when  $t = t_s$  truck's velocity is  $v_t = 0$ , therefore

$$0 = v_0 - a \cdot t_s$$

$$t_s = \frac{v_0}{a} = \frac{m v_0}{F}$$

The distance traveled since driver begins to brake depends on time according to the following equation (because it is motion with constant acceleration):

$$s_2 = v_0 t - \frac{a \cdot t^2}{2}$$

Substituting  $t$  with  $t_s$  we find the distance, the truck travels since driver begins to brake and until truck stops:

$$s_2 = v_0 \cdot \frac{m v_0}{F} - \frac{F}{2m} \frac{m^2 v_0^2}{F^2} = \frac{m v_0^2}{F} - \frac{m v_0^2}{2F} = \frac{m v_0^2}{2F}$$

(There is another way to obtain the previous equation – without finding the time  $t_s$  :

$v^2 = v_0^2 + 2 \cdot a \cdot s_2$ , since the final velocity of the truck is equal to zero, and  $a < 0$  and  $|a| = \frac{F}{m}$  we

$$\text{get } s_2 = \frac{v_0^2}{2a} = \frac{v_0^2}{2 \frac{F}{m}} = \frac{mv_0^2}{2F}$$

Total distance traveled

$$s_{\text{tot}} = s_1 + s_2 = v_0 t_r + \frac{mv_0^2}{2F}$$

(72 km/hr=20 m/s)

$$s_{\text{tot}} = 20 \cdot 0.8 + \frac{10 \cdot 10^3 \cdot 20^2}{2 \cdot 16 \cdot 10^3} = 141 \text{ m.}$$

Hence, the truck will stop before an obstruction.

### ANSWER

The accident won't took place