



Road Safety In India : A profile

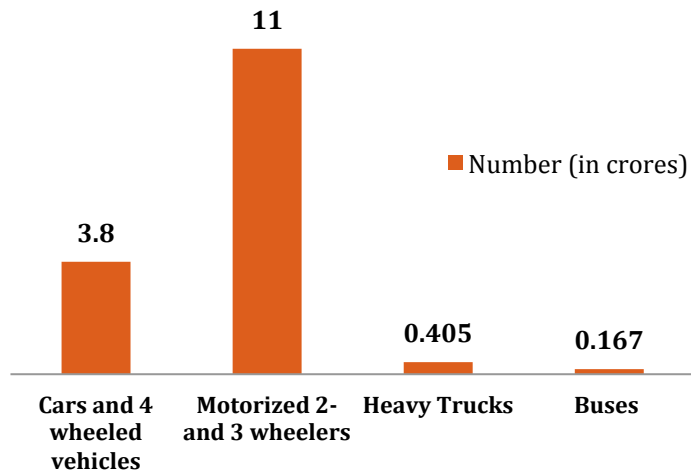
Road Safety in India : Some Figures

Nodal Agency : Department of Road Safety, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)

3.6 %

Estimated GDP loss due to road traffic crashes

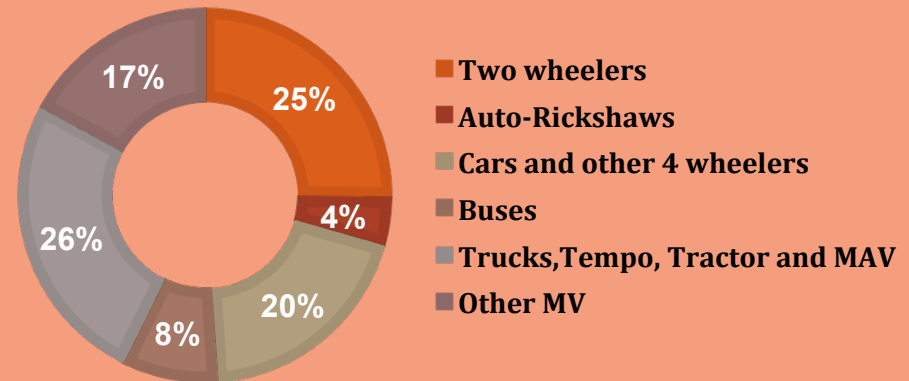
Distribution of Registered Vehicles



✓ Total Number of Registered Vehicles: 15,94,90,578

✓ Largest number of vehicles belong to the motorized 2-3 wheeler category amounting to 11,54,19,175

Death by Road Vehicle category



- ✓ The total number of persons killed in the year 2015 through road accidents was 1,46,133
- ✓ The highest number of deaths were caused by a single vehicles type i.e two wheelers which include motor cycles, mopeds, and scooters. These vehicles contributed to 36, 803 number of deaths.

Best Practices of Road Safety

Fatalities of road accidents kill more than 1.24 million people worldwide and disable as many as 50 million a year. More than 90 % of these casualties occur in developing countries. According to the World Health Organization (WHO) most of these fatalities are due to key risk factors like (i) high speed of the vehicles (ii) drink driving (iii) inefficient usage of helmets (iii) low rate of seat belts and safety vehicles norms which are not off the required criteria. Some of the developing countries have outlined strict legislation to counteract the abovementioned categories



India

Penalty for driving under the influence of alcohol

China

Permissible Blood Alcohol Content : ≥ 30 mg per 100 ml or 0.3 dg per 0.1 litre

- Maximum Penalty : Fine of Rs 3000 or/and imprisonment of 2 years

Permissible Blood Alcohol Content

20 mg to 80 mg

≥ 80 mg

- Maximum Penalty : Suspension of license for five years

- Maximum Penalty : Suspension of license for life

Best Practices of Road Safety

Preventive Measures taken against offenders of drunk driving



Victoria, Australia

**Alcohol Interlock System (AIS):
The courts of Victoria, Australia
utilize AIS monitor offenders**

- It is a breath testing device which is attached to the ignition of the car, it is designed in such a manner that the car would not power if the driver does not blow into the device.
- Any person who has been found guilty of driving under the influence of alcohol has to install a Alcohol Interlocker System in her/his car. This also includes first time offenders,
- S/he has to blow into the device to start the vehicle, moreover they also have to blow into the machine through the duration of the journey.
- The duration for which the AIS has to be installed in the car can range from 6 months to 4 years depending on number of offences. The record of AIS installation is linked to the driver license database.

Helmet Standards in Kenya



Kenya

**Quality Helmet Standards in
Kenya**

- The Kenyan Road Traffic Act requires a set standard of helmets to be worn motorcycle drivers and passengers. The law just outlines the standards by another legal entity
- These helmet standards are set by a Kenyan Board of Standards, a body which is similar to the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
- Hence depending upon the prevalent standards at the time, the helmet standards are subject to change without any corresponding change in the law.
- In 2012 the Kenya Board of Standards/Vehicles Technical Committee (TC122) finalized a revision to the national helmet standard (KS77)

Recommendations to the Present Legislations

Presently the legislation which is responsible for road safety is The Motor Vehicles Act 1988. The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2016 introduced in the Lok Sabha on August 9, 2016 seeks to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 and provide standards for motor vehicles, grant of driving licenses, and penalties for violation of these provisions. Here are some recommendations which can be included in the aforementioned Bill.

Recommendations

Clauses

Insurance

- 1 Companies should provide an insurance manual on the purchase of every new vehicle, so that the customer can find out and compare the best insurance policy.

Clause 49 of the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act substitutes Chapter XI of the principle Act with a new chapter XI. This Chapter empowers the Central Government to prescribe the premium and the corresponding liability of the insurer for such a policy.

Simplification of Processes

- 2 Automation and Simplification of Processes
 - Automation of procedures, which include drivers' data, software by Siemens in London.
 - Simplifying and automating the procedures to obtain a license, in order to prevent corruption.

Clause 45 of the Motor Vehicles Amendment Bill seeks to insert a new section 136A in the Act, in order to allow electronic monitoring and enforcement.

Recommendations to the Present Legislations

Recommendations

Clauses

Stricter Penalties

3 In order to encourage lane driving and promote safe driving, imposition of high penalty on non-followers and suspension of license for upto six months.



Clause 11 seeks to amend Section 19 of the Act in order to provide for disqualification from holding driver's license or revocation of license, on commission of offences related to driving such as jumping red lights, driving in the wrong lane etc..

Overloading of Carriers

4 Regulating and preventing overloading of transport carriers.



Clause 76 of the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act seeks to amend Section 194 of the Act, in order to enhance the penalties for driving vehicle exceeding permissible weight. It also provides that a motor vehicle will not be allowed to move before excess load is removed.

Minimum Speed Limit

5 Introduction of Minimum Speed Limit: The minimum speed limit must be specified for the National Highways to prevent accidents caused by slow driving.



Section 112 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 prohibits driving above the maximum speed limit and below the minimum speed fixed for the vehicle. However, the Central Motor Vehicles Rules, 1989 does not prescribe the minimum speed limit for vehicles.

Recommendations to the Present Legislations

Recommendations

Service Manual

6 Companies should be obligated to provide a rule book with the service manual, so that the driver is aware of the traffic rules and is not subject to the imposition of unnecessary fines by various departments.

Fitness Services for A Vehicle

7 Simplifying the procedure for the issuance of fitness certificate by removing geographical constraints and ensuring that the fitness certificate for a vehicle can be obtained from anywhere in India

Clauses

The Rules of the Road Regulations, 1989 provides guidelines for driving the motor-vehicles and lists provisions to ensure road safety. Violation of the Rules of the Road Regulations is punishable under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

Clause 22 of the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act seeks to amend section 56 of the Act to provide for automated testing facilities at authorized testing stations for grant of certificates of fitness to motor vehicles. It also empowers the Central Government to direct other motor vehicles, in addition to transport vehicles, to carry certificates of fitness. It also seeks to provide that transport vehicles with valid certificates of fitness shall carry clear visible distinguishable marks on their bodies

Key Provisions of The Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 2016

The Bill was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 8th August, it seeks to make the earlier Act more comprehensive in term of stricter deterrence, heavier penalties. It also provides a framework of support for the victim. Here are certain key provisions which provide a brief overview of the Bill.

Vehicle Recall

The Bill permits the central government to order for recall of motor vehicles in case a defect in the vehicle may cause damage to the environment, or the driver, or other road users.

Victims of Road Accidents and Golden Hour

The Bill provides a scheme for cashless treatment of road accident victims during golden hour. The golden hour is defined as the time period of up to an hour following a traumatic injury, during which the likelihood of preventing death through prompt medical care is the highest. The Bill also increases the compensation for death in a hit and run case from Rs 25,000 to Rs two lakh or more, as prescribed by the central government.

Good Samaritan

In order to prevent good Samaritans from procedural hassles, the Bill provides that such a person will not be liable for any civil or criminal action for any injury to or death of an accident victim. The central government may, through rules, provide for procedures related to their questioning or disclosure of personal information.

Aggregator Services

In the burgeoning space for online cab providers, the Bill defines an aggregator as a digital intermediary or market place and defines their responsibilities.. The aggregator's services may be used by a passenger to connect with a driver for transportation purposes. The Bill requires these aggregators to obtain licenses. The aggregators are also required to comply with the Information Technology Act, 2000.

The logo features a stylized 'S' composed of three overlapping, flame-like shapes in shades of yellow and orange. To the right of this symbol, the words 'Swaniti Initiative' are written in a clean, sans-serif font. 'Swaniti' is in a dark orange color, and 'Initiative' is in a lighter orange color.

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