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**BI MONTHLY NEWSLETTER** 

## **ROAD SENSE**

**NOV - DEC 2021** 



#### Partner Updates



Consultation with enforcement officials on MVA Act, 2019: Challenges and Way forward, Mysuru, Karnataka

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scenario in state of Karnataka, the key provisions of the MVA Act, 2019, district level road safety related issues and challenges and possible solutions, two wheeler safety and speed management related challenges and best practices and finally the road designs which are friendly with the common road users, speed and traffic calming measures based on international and national standards and views of the district road safety officials were discussed in detail. In the meeting Dr. Ajay Kumar Singh, former DGP of Karnataka called road safety as permanent pandemic and said that to ensure road safety there is need of common sense and expertise both. Madhu Sudan Sharma, Senior Programme Officer, CUTS talked about the key provisions of the MVAAct, 2019 and road crash data. Dr. C.T. Murthy, Joint Commissioner of Transport, Mysuru told that the MVA Act, 2019 provisions provide much scope of improvement in road safety. He said that ensuring road safety at schools and semi urban areas is also very crucial and done on priority. Prof. Ashish Verma, Ph. D, Transport Engineer, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru talked about the special provisions of road designs for vulnerable road users and other technical provisions. Dr. Bharat Kumar Pathivada, Transport Engineer, Ph.D., IIT Mumbai talked about two wheeler safety and speed management in detail. Shri Chetan Kumar, Traffic SP of Mysuru talked about the new initiatives taken by Mysuru traffic police and said that people must thing that traffic police is for their safety rather than for making money. Dr. Annapoorna from PAF summarized the discussion and gave vote of thanks.

# Consultation with key stakeholders on demand for effective implementation of MVA Act, 2019: Challenges and Way forward, Mangaluru, Karnataka

The divisional level consultation on 'Generating Demand for Effective Implementation of MVA, 2019' was conducted at Mangaluru on December 15, 2021. Dr. Annapoorna Ravichander, Executive Director, Public Affairs Foundation, Bengaluru welcomed the dignitaries. George Cheriyan Director

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percent of the vehicles, accounts for 11 percent of the global road accident deaths. He recommended strengthening District Road Safety Committee to enforce road safety laws effectively on ground implementation. The Chief Guest, Dr. Rajendra K.V IAS, District Collector Mangaluru, remembers his days as doctor when he used to treat trauma cases, he said that behavioural of road users need to be changed, both as drivers and as pedestrians. Shri. Akshay Sridhar, Commissioner, Mangaluru City Corporation stated that the MVA 2019, is the placing more weightage on the regulatory aspect than on the developmental aspect. Mr. Giridhar Prabhu, Director, Achal Industries, Mangaluru stated that accidents are not good business and suggested for a road safety national mission. Dr. Sudhakar Rao Trauma Surgeon and RMO's highlighted the importance of providing training for trauma care and prevention care while providing licenses to every driver. The address by Natraj, ACP (Traffic) Mangaluru and Dr. Kumara IAS, Chief Executive Officer – Zilla Parishad both focused on 4Es. Mr. R. M. Varnekar, Regional Transport Officer, Mangaluru appreciated the provisions of MVA Act, 2019 related to enhancing road safety, improving citizen facilitation, strengthening of rural roads and automation of services to the public.

### Maharashtra finally implements the Motor Vehicles Amendment Act 2019

Road safety NGO Parisar, which has been advocating for the implementation of stricter penalties as per the Motor Vehicle Amendment Act, welcomes the much-awaited decision by the Government of Maharashtra to notify the new offences in the **compounding notification** which allows challans with the higher fines to be issued by traffic police to traffic rule violators. Parisar had been following up with the transport minister to issue the compounding notification for two years.

However, it is disappointing to see that fines for non-use of helmets and seat belts have remained the same which is a matter of great concern. International evidence shows that driver behaviour is influenced not only by the quantum of the fine but also the surety of getting caught and the certainty of having to pay the fine immediately. With **no increase in fines** for key risk behaviours such as non-use of helmets and seat-belts and speeding of two-wheelers, as well as the

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extent that is needed.

### Road Safety Network submits suggestions to the draft Safety Standards for Children on motorised two wheeler by MoRTH

Ministry of Road Transport Highways (MoRTH) on 21st of October 2021, notified draft rules to seek suggestion/objections for Safety Standards for children on a motorised two-wheeler (MTW).

Road Safety Network submitted the inputs and <u>suggestions</u> gathered through consultative process among members to the MoRTH. The inputs and suggestions to the draft rules comprise facilitating elaborate consultations across the country with the civil society groups and organisations, NGOs, experts, users, caregivers and parents of the child, manufacturers and suppliers, standardising and testing agencies, road safety research organisations, state and city governments, enforcing agencies and elected representatives. It also mentions regarding safety harness and headgear for children, speed limit for two-wheeler driver carrying a child, better enforcement, research and data collection, etc.

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### **Citizens for Road Safety**

What happens when citizens' esp. youths are encouraged to strengthen road safety in various ways at ground level? It results in sensitization and strengthen their efforts towards road safety! State partners of Consumer Voice in <a href="Madhya">Madhya</a> <a href="Pradesh">Pradesh</a> and <a href="West Bengal">West Bengal</a> organized such activities involving important stakeholders and citizens on the occasion of World Day of Remembrance for road traffic victims.

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काढण्यास प्रचंड दिरगाई केली. देशात रस्ते अपघातात मरणाऱ्यांच्या संख्येत दुसरे स्थान असलेल्या आपल्या राज्यात (पहिले स्थान उत्तर प्रदेशचे आहे) हा विलंब खरं तर अक्षम्य आहे. या अधिसूचनेच्या अभावी दोन वर्ष कायद्याची हवी तशी अंमलबजावणी राज्यात झाली नाही आणि परिणामी रस्ते अपघात व त्यात मरणाऱ्यांच्या व गंभीर जखमी होणाऱ्यांच्या संख्येला



नाही असा प्रकार आहे. हल्मेट आणि सिटबेल्टचा वापर वाढवायचा असेल तर नियमांची सक्तीने अंमल करणे आणि पकडले गेलात तर बोचेल असे दंड आकारणे याला पर्याय नाही. लोकप्रिय नसले तरीही याची अंमलबजावणी कडक हवीच.

वाढत्या महागाईत लोकांवर हा अधिक बोझा नको असे ही बोलले जाते. परंतु दंड हा कर किंवा महागाई सारखा नाही. नियम

## दंडवसुलीचा सोस नको

व्हावा तसा उतार पडला नाही. ती म्हणावी तशी

मोडला तरच द्यावा लागतो. नियम पाळले तर दंड

## Parisar's Ranjit Gadgil writes about compounding notification

The Marathi article published in Maharashtra Times focuses on the role of enforcement and stricter fines in increasing compliance to helmets and seat belts. Read the full article **here**.



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## India: where Traffic rules violations are a norm

5 lakh road crashes and 1.5 lakh fatalities in India. Seems too much but not really. I often get amazed and perhaps relieved that these numbers aren't even higher. Look at the sheer number of vehicles on the road. Look at the number of trips made every day. Look at the frequency of violations which we make every day. If you stand on the corner and count how many drivers make violations such as over speeding, triple seat driving, not wearing helmet/seat belts, lane cutting, distracted driving, under-age drivers, etc it is nothing short of mind boggling. Proportional to the violations, it seems the crashes aren't as many!

Read more from the writer Sandeep Gaikwad from Parisar here.

### Social Media Highlights

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## A powerful message on road safety by a brave young achiever

Avani Lekhara, the brave girl who made the Indians Proud by winning Gold & Bronze Medals in air rifle shooting in Tokyo Paralympics 2020. Avani who is also a Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awardee has given a **message** to strengthen road safety in India on the occasion of world day of remembrance for road traffic victims.

We salute her determination, mental strength and hard work to make the difference despite all obstacles.

Parents are the pillar of strength for their children and they also play an important role to encourage their children to achieve high goals despite all hardships. Watch the **video** on role of parents to strengthen road safety by Smt. Shweta Lekhara, mother of Avani Lekhara who made our country proud by winning Gold & Bronze Medals in air rifle shooting in Tokyo Paralympics 2020.

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**Road Safety Network** (RSN) is a national coalition of NGOs, CSO, educational institutions, road safety experts striving for safer roads.

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### Network partners



















You are receiving this newsletter as you have been concerned by road safety and have been part of some of our activities. We hope that you would be interested in knowing how our network members continue to strive for safer roads and reduce road crashes in India. If, unfortunately, you do not wish to receive our updates you can <u>unsubscribe</u>.

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