

ROAD ACCIDENTS IN DELHI 2015



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FOREWORD

I have great pleasure in writing this foreword to our annual publication "Road Accidents in Delhi - 2015". This compilation is in the tenth year of its publication. During this period, this report has earned an important place amongst academicians, researchers and professionals engaged in the complex task of traffic management in metropolitan cities.

Road traffic injuries are a major public health problem and a leading cause of death and injuries around the world. Road traffic accidents are responsible for over 100,000 deaths every year in India. More than half a million are injured or maimed. While the numbers of fatal accidents on Delhi Roads have been declining over the past five years, we recorded 1582 fatal accidents in 2015, an alarming number in a scenario where, frankly, even one death is too many. Driving recklessly/dangerously, non observance of traffic rules, over speeding, jumping red lights, driving without driving licence, driving without training, disqualified drivers, driving by minors, driving under the influence of liquor, driving while talking on mobile phone, driving without helmet, ill health of vehicles and bad road infrastructures are amongst the causes of road accidents.

Prevention of road traffic accidents has gained wide spread attention all over the world. The United Nations launched the Global Plan for the decade of Action for Road Safety (2010-2020) mainly to address the growing concerns that global best practices need to be analyzed and adopted to suit contextual needs wherever possible.

Advances in technology will continue to stretch the frontiers of traffic management. Driverless cars, high speed mass rapid transport system, app based aggregators, alternative fuel efficient vehicles etc. pose new challenges to regulation and law enforcement agencies. Conversely, technology enables more powerful and holistic solutions to traffic management problems. Computer based transport algorithms, geo-locators, internet based applications etc. offer exciting possibilities for innovative efficient solutions to complex problems.

Towards this end, a detailed analysis of accidents in Delhi 2015 is being published by the Delhi Traffic Police. We are hopeful that this publication will

continue to be useful to both, experts and member of general public, who are interested in traffic management and Road Safety.

I thank the officers and staff of Delhi Traffic Police Accident Research Cell for their outstanding efforts in compiling and publishing this compendium We look forward to your suggestions to improve future reports.

This report is also available in PDF format on our website at www.delhitrafficpolice.nic.in.

AJAY KASHYAP, IPS

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

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PREFACE

The world saw over 1.2 million fatalities per year related to road accidents which was higher than fatality due to the major epidemics in the world and stood at number one as causes of deaths for youth between 15 to 29 years even most major epidemics. United Nations launched the Global Plan for Road Safety for the Decade from 2010-2020 with the aim to increase Road Safety and bring down road related deaths to 50 percent of the decade ending 2010.

In India Road fatality is the 4th most prevalent reason for death in the age group of 15-49 and overall 7th most prevailing reason from age group 15-65.

Road accidents have multitude of factors like archaic Road Engineering, lack of urban planning, Poor Traffic and Transportation planning, weaker enforcement of traffic laws, faulty licensing system, etc.

Delhi has a vehicular population of about 89 lakhs according to STA with asymmetric modes of transport ranging from buffalo-carts to SUVs. This number is increasing everyday with a registration of almost 40,000 vehicles a month besides transport modes not covered under MV Act like non motorized vehicles, e-Rikshaw etc. Despite the commissioning of metros in many parts of the city, the vehicle population of Delhi's roads has not decreased. This can be attributed not only to the mindset of Delhi's diverse population but also the absence of a well coordinated public transport system and continual increase in the number of persons joining the work force and travelling every day in the city.

However, owing to continuous enforcement effort and Road Safety awareness campaigns by the Delhi Police and growing public response and concern, the numbers of fatal accidents have reduced consistently since 2010 in Delhi. This has been achieved by strict enforcement and optimal deployment of traffic police at important traffic junctions, coverage of dark spots, Special drives, collaboration of Delhi Police Road Safety Cell with various stakeholder to generate awareness etc. Latest in the effort has been the concerted campaign launched in October 2016 in Schools on Road Safety where 926 schools participated and 12.46 lakhs students from class 5th to 12th were actively made aware of Road Safety.

The Accident Research Cell, within the Delhi Traffic Police, conducts in-depth analysis of factors behind each fatal accident to define trends and suggest remedial measures based on which Delhi Police had undertaken various measures viz. Speed calming strips, increased strategic deployment and enforcement, alteration in road engineering, etc. to reduce the number of accidents both fatal and non-fatal by emphasizing the three vital Es of traffic i.e. Engineering, Education and Enforcement.

We hope that the present booklet on "Road Accidents in Delhi 2015" compiled by the Accident Research Cell of Traffic Unit provides readers and researchers with in-depth analysis of Road accidents to analyze, identify and work on system solutions and measures for achieving best standards for safe traffic flow in Delhi. The booklet also aims to help Engineers, Policy makers, Researchers, Academicians and other civil society organizations working in the areas of Road Safety in having better awareness about the data on Accidents to assist them in their decision making on Road Safety issues.

Delhi as a capital city needs to do much more in terms of a more holistic approach to address various issue related to Road Safety and reduce accidents, for which, much more emphasis needs to be laid on an efficient, affordable and interlinked public transport system and transportation related policies. Delhi Traffic Police as the main Enforcement agency will remain in the fore-front to face the challenge of regulating traffic, and ensuring safety of the citizens of Delhi.

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