

# ROAD ACCIDENTS IN DELHI 2016

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#### **FOREWORD**

Injuries caused by road accidents are a major public health concern and require concerted efforts for effective and sustainable prevention. Globally, almost 1.2 million people were killed in road accidents last year, while the number injured is estimated to be as high as 50 million – the combined population of five of the world's largest cities. This is an alarming and tragic waste of precious human life as at some level or other, all accidents are preventable.



Delhi continues to witness skyrocketing increase in both human and vehicular population. The ever increasing number of road users competing for limited road space on a crowded road network poses a major challenge for safe management of traffic on Delhi roads. There are over ten million registered vehicles in Delhi. 870,000 vehicles were added during 2016 alone! In spite of these challenges Delhi witnessed a marginal decrease (2.9%) in total road accidents that resulted in fatalities. This marked the sixth consecutive year in which fatal accidents have shown a decrease. The need to promote preventive strategies for road safety remains urgent. The Delhi Traffic Police remains primarily engaged in ensuring safe and efficient flow of traffic on the roads of Delhi through enforcement, regulation, creating awareness and suggesting engineering improvements in road infrastructure.

Presently prosecution of traffic violations, based primarily on *boots on the ground*, has its limitations: particularly the marginal or diminishing returns to each person deployed. Technology can prove to be the game changer. Our forward looking programs to induct latest technology for enforcement of traffic rules and regulations in the City will be achieved through the induction of Intelligent Traffic Management Systems. Traffic Management Systems include **Speed check day and night** cameras with **Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR), Red Light Violation Detection (RLVD)** cameras, **Adaptive Road Signals** and **Variable Message Signs**. These technology initiatives will enable prosecution of traffic rules violators independently of deployed manpower, enable 24X7 surveillance on roads and real time management of traffic on the roads.

Citizens of Delhi have also been empowered through technology to report traffic violations committed by motorists through social networking sites like **Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp,** and through Delhi Traffic Police's phone app **'Traffic** 

**Sentinel'** These initiatives empower citizens to assist in creating better discipline on the roads while reporting overt traffic violations. Emulation of **global best practices** in Traffic management, incorporating relevant **innovations in design** of roads, intersections and other infrastructure by the concerned agencies will also be enabled through technology.

Our efforts to adopt **accident reduction strategies** for existing roads and intersections through continuous **identification of black spots** on city roads with time bound improvement projects will remain priority areas of Delhi Traffic Police.

**Knowledge partnerships** with institutions such as the Indian Institutes of Technology, Central Road Research Institute, School of Planning and Architecture leverage the operational strength of traffic police with their respective domain expertise to develop new, innovative approaches to solve problems.

In order to achieve significant improvement in road safety, Delhi Traffic Police will continue their efforts to promote awareness about it. Road safety awareness and community outreach will be available at each citizen's fingertips through technology.

Delhi Traffic Police, in close coordination with the various stakeholders of the city will continue to implement their forward looking strategy to achieve Mobility with Safety. The objective is to promote road safety and increase awareness amongst the citizens of Delhi in order to reduce the number of accidents. Even one fatality on the roads is one too many. Our long term goal remains to achieve zero accidents on the roads of Delhi.

The current issue of "Road Accidents in Delhi -2016" includes extensive data and in depth analyses on road accidents and their impact. I am confident that this publication would help create awareness and assist decision making in the area of road safety, and would be useful for policy makers, academia, citizens, and civil society organizations working in areas that influence road safety.

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

AJAY KASHYAP, IPS

SPECIAL COMMISSIONER OF POLICE:

TRAFFIC: DELHI.

### **PRFFACE**

Under the Global Plan for Road Safety for the Decade from 2010-2020, the aim is to improve Road Safety and bring down road related deaths by 50 percent. For Delhi it means bringing down fatalities from 2153 in 2010 to 1000 by 2020 @ 11% in the next 3-5 years.

Road accidents are affected by a multitude of factors like defective and archaic road engineering and architecture, lack of urban planning, poor traffic and transportation planning, weak enforcement, faulty licensing system, Multi modal transportation etc.



Despite the commissioning of Metro in Delhi and NCR, carrying nearly 35 lakh commuters every day to Delhi and vice-versa, the vehicle population in Delhi roads has consistently increased with registration of over 70,000 vehicles every month. This can be attributed not only to the mindset of Delhi's diverse population but also to the absence of an integrated public transport system and continual increase in the number of persons joining the work force.

Owing to continuous enforcement efforts, Road Safety awareness campaigns, and improved public support and concern, the number 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 and sensitive traffic junctions, reduction of dark spots based on analysis of reasons and outreach of Delhi Police Road Safety Cell to various stakeholders like HTV/Bus Drivers, TSR Unions and Schools through summer camps etc for children to generate awareness.

Delhi as a capital city needs a holistic approach to traffic management and urban planning with medium and long term policy changes in licensing procedures, parking policy, road engineering issues, development of road infrastructure viz. CCTV, ANPR, surveillance cameras, junction management interventions, vehicle on-board systems, a comprehensive freight management policy and public transportation policy under a unified traffic management system to address above issues.

The Accident Research Cell of Delhi Traffic Police, as per practice has conducted detailed analysis of factors behind individual fatal accidents of 2016 to indicate trend and suggested remedial measures. Based on these, the Delhi Police has undertaken various measures in 2017 like installing Speed calming devices, increasing strategic

deployment and enforcement, appropriate in road engineering interventions etc. to reduce the number of accidents. Specific emphasis is laid on three vital Es of traffic i.e. Engineering, Education and Enforcement. Based on inputs by Traffic Police and other stake holders the Hon'ble L.G has constituted 6 Task forces to remove congestion on 29 priority corridors of Delhi.

We hope that the present booklet on "Road Accidents in Delhi 2016" provides stakeholder and researchers with required analysis 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, policy makers and other civil society organizations working in the area of Road Safety to have a better understanding and have required information to make specific strategic and policy interventions.

**GARIMA BHATNAGAR, IPS** 

JOINT COMMISSIONER OF POLICE

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