

**GOVERNMENT OF NCT OF DELHI
TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT
5/9, UNDER HILL ROAD, DELHI-110054**

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NOTIFICATION

Delhi Road Safety Policy

1. Introduction

Road accidents in the past few decades have emerged as one of the biggest causes of concern in the world and fatal accidents have been identified as a leading cause of death globally. India also records one of the highest numbers of people killed in road accidents in the world.

Delhi, the National capital of India, has witnessed a phenomenal increase in both human and vehicular population during the past few decades. There are over 10.60 million registered vehicles in Delhi. Despite the commissioning of Metro in Delhi and NCR, carrying nearly 24 lakh commuters every day, the vehicle population in Delhi roads continues to grow with registration of about 7 lakh vehicles every year.

During the year 2016, 7375 road accidents were reported in Delhi in which 7154 people were injured and 1591 people lost their lives. Data indicates that 42.86% of the persons killed in road accidents were pedestrians. Scooter/Motorcycle riders were the second most vulnerable victims constituting 35.9% of fatalities. It is also noted that road accidents tend to increase from 8 pm to 2 am. National Highways and major roads of the city are more accident prone due to heavy movement of commercial as well as other vehicles.

Although the number of deaths on the road accidents in Delhi is declining since 2011 (from 2110 in year 2011 to 1591 in year 2016), the need to promote preventive strategy for road safety remains a matter of priority.

2. Preamble

- (i) The Government of Delhi is highly concerned to prevent road accidents, injuries and fatalities on Delhi roads. Road accidents have now become a public health issue which has affected all including pedestrians, cyclists, motorists etc. Also, the road accident victims mostly belong to the poorer sections of the society, being pedestrians, cyclists, motorists etc.
- (ii) The Govt. of Delhi recognizes that the road safety demands an integrated and holistic approach to tackle road safety issues in the NCT of Delhi. The Govt. of Delhi observes that reduction in road accidents, injuries and fatalities on Delhi roads is a shared responsibility of Govt. of Delhi and of the Central Government. Hence, it requires adequate support from the Central Government.

- (iii) In view of the above, the Govt. of Delhi reiterates its commitment to bring significant reduction in road accidents in Delhi.

3. **Mission**

Ensure road safety for all road users in the NCT of Delhi, with priority to pedestrians and cyclists, to achieve zero fatalities due to road accidents in the long run.

4. **Vision**

- To achieve the goal of reduction in road accidents as well as fatalities by 30% between 2018 and 2020 and by 80% between 2018 and 2025, with a minimum 10% reduction year-on-year basis.
- To prevent, reduce and check road injuries and fatalities on various roads of Delhi in coordination with all stakeholders and government agencies, and by focusing on 4 Es – Education, Enforcement, Engineering and Emergency Care.

5. **Policy Statements**

The Government of Delhi will create an effective institutional mechanism to strengthen road safety measures in NCT of Delhi and will provide necessary support structure to enable each institution to play its role effectively. The following policy measures will be undertaken:

(i) **Awareness regarding Road Safety**

In order to achieve significant improvement in road safety, the Govt. of Delhi will make sincere and serious efforts to promote awareness about road safety; its social and economic implications and other concerned factors. The Govt. of Delhi will involve various stakeholders for planning and for promoting road safety in Delhi. Awareness among decision makers, government officials and citizens on this issue will enable them to understand that road safety is a significant problem and has to be dealt proactively.

The Govt. of Delhi will undertake, inter-alia, following activities to create awareness:

- Raise awareness amongst key decision makers and government departments responsible for making provision of safe roads and to facilitate them for planning and promoting road safety. Specifically, Traffic Police and engineering staff of any road owning or construction agency in NCT of Delhi i.e CE/SE/EE/AE/JE will be required to undergo a minimum 3-5 day training on road safety every **two** years.
- The trainings will be conducted atleast biannually for the first 3 years (2018-2020) followed by annual trainings.
- The modules for the traffic police will include but not be limited to sensitization towards non-motorized users and traffic management and enforcement to enable safe crossings.
- The modules for the road engineers will include conducting road safety inspections and audits, rectification of black spots, traffic calming elements and planning and design of new and existing roads.

- Raise awareness about the gravity of road safety issues amongst citizens of Delhi and particularly among the young, elderly and persons with disability.
- Effective involvement of Print and Electronic media for creating awareness on Road Safety among the masses by highlighting the consequences of road accidents for the drivers of offending vehicles, victims and their families, may be considered as Road Safety is a collective issue.
- Develop and implement special measures for imparting road safety education amongst school children, including conducting special road safety audits around school areas in participation with schools.
- Enlighten various road user groups with respect to their roles and responsibilities.
- Develop and implement road safety publicity campaigns.
- Develop awareness about the Supreme Court's guidelines for the protection of Good Samaritans in road accidents.
- Create awareness in public about voluntary organ donation for the sake of humanity.

(ii) **Strengthening Institutional Arrangements**

The institutional arrangements has been strengthened by re-constituting the Road Safety Cell of the Transport Department as the Lead Agency headed by an officer of the rank of Special Commissioner (Transport) and it is supported by adequate and competent staff to exclusively deal with all matters related to road safety in NCT of Delhi.

The functions of the Lead Agency shall be as follows:

- To work as a Secretariat for the State Road Safety Council, arrange meetings of the Council, issue its Minutes and monitor the implementation of the decisions of the Council by the concerned departments/agencies in Delhi.
- To coordinate with concerned departments/agencies in Delhi to ensure implementation of the State Road Safety Policy and periodically monitor and evaluate its progress.
- To coordinate with concerned departments/agencies in Delhi to ensure implementation of the directions issued from time to time by the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety and furnish Compliance Report in a time bound manner.
- To ensure implementation of the relevant directions given by Central or State government from time to time.
- To notify annual targets for reduction of road accident incidents and fatalities as fixed by the State and draw up an Annual Action Plan to achieve the targets and monitor its implementation.
- To analyse data on road accidents on regular basis, as compiled by Delhi Traffic Police, to identify areas/road stretches and categories of accident victims who should be focused upon, and subsequently ensure that remedial actions are taken in a time bound manner.

- To lay down a uniform framework and guidelines for operation of District Road Safety Committees in Delhi; coordinate and periodically monitor the progress of activities undertaken by the District Road Safety Committees.
- To carry out all monitoring and evaluation activities related to road safety in Delhi. The lead agency shall create output and outcome indicators to monitor and evaluate the implementation and impact of the road safety policy. It shall collect data with the help of road owning agencies, traffic police etc. And make it available as open data to display the government's efforts towards road safety and its benefits to the citizens.

Further, a dedicated and non-lapsable State Road Safety Fund shall be created to fund various road safety activities in coordination with all stakeholder and concerned government agencies.

The Lead Agency shall manage the State Road Safety Fund and will ensure that the fund is effectively utilized.

(iii) Establish Road Safety Management Information System

The Govt. of Delhi will establish a state level road safety management information system. To achieve this goal, the Government will develop a software as per the objectives of National Road Safety Policy and as per the requirements of the departments like Home, Public Works, Transport, Health & Family Welfare, Urban Development, Education and Research Institutions etc. The system/database will have the following features:

- All Trauma Care Centers, Hospitals and Ambulances Services in Delhi to be connected to the system/database.
- An exhaustive Trauma Care registry to be developed.
- Interfaces to be provided with VAHAN and SARATHI database of the State.
- Provide **Analytics** capability for in depth accident data collection, analysis, investigation and reporting.
- GIS & GPS enablement of real time tracking.
- Provide a public portal to facilitate easy sharing and viewing of information on road accidents in Delhi for the benefit of citizens, NGOs and researchers.

(iv) Ensure Safe Road Infrastructure

The Govt. of Delhi will undertake adequate steps to ensure conscious planning for safe design of roads, intersections and other infrastructural developments in coordination with various stakeholders and government departments. The Govt. of Delhi will ensure that best practices are incorporated and 'Safe System Approach' is followed which accommodates human error for ensuring safe transport system for all road users. The Govt. of Delhi will further adopt accident prevention and reduction strategies for existing roads and intersections through continuous identification of black spots on city roads with time bound improvement plans/programs/measures etc.

The freight audit will be undertaken for NCT of Delhi and a Freight Master Plan will be prepared as per the report on decongesting traffic in Delhi 2016.

(v) **Planning and Designing of Road**

The Government will take following measures for proper planning and designing of roads:

- Undertake mandatory accident investigation of every fatal road accident to scientifically probe the causes of the road accident and to determine remedial measures, if any. Department of Transport shall setup a specific team at state and district-levels under section 135 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, to conduct scientific accident investigations from road safety perspective.
- Regular identification of accident prone areas/black spots on the basis of accident intensity and severity every six months.
- Post identification, take corrective actions within six months in the identified accident prone areas/black spots through proper planning, design and construction techniques.
- A uniform Signage for Black Spot shall be installed at all hazardous locations with additional supplementary Plate as required, which shall be understood to all common road users. Concept of "Self explaining Roads" and "Forgiving roads" shall be introduced in the road network of entire state and actions such as lane marking, safety sign board, crash barrier, curve treatment, black spot treatment etc. shall be accordingly implemented.
- Short Term measures for Black Spot, which requires installation of Road Furnitures (Road Signage, Pavement Marking, Delineators, Road Studs, Solar Road Studs, Aluminium Backed Flexible Prismatic Sheet and Flexible Median Market), shall be taken into consideration.
- Undertake a thorough field exercise i.e Road Safety Audit of all existing roads in a phased manner conforming to IRC: SP-88 (2010) or relevant IRC guidelines issued from time to time, but no later than two years of this policy coming to effect, to identify all road engineering and signage defects that compromise road safety. This exercise shall identify all road engineering and signage defects that compromise road safety of the road users including pedestrians and non-motorised traffic conforming to IRC: SP-88 (2010). Based on identified defects, carry out sustainable improvements in the road network of entire State and take necessary actions such as road markings, speed limit signage, warning signs, curve treatment, re-designing of roads etc.
- Institute a mechanism to award Road Safety Index or Star rating as per global standards (e.g. as adopted by International Road Assessment Programme or iRAP) for all arterial and sub-arterial roads in Delhi based on technical standards of road safety for all road users. This exercise shall be completed for all arterial roads within two years of this policy coming to effect, and thereafter repeated every three years.
- Conduct Road Safety Audits by engaging independent agencies for all new capital and maintenance schemes for road projects of 5 kms or more in length – at three stages: detailed design stage, construction stage and post-construction/pre Commercial Operations Date (COD) stage.

- Digitize all black spots in the city and correct them followed by road safety inspections of streets to be redesigned.
- Similarly, any road links/road expansion approved by UTTIPEC would be subjected to Road Safety Audit at the Design State before its implementation which would help to address the concerns of all the road users.
- Remove encroachments and obstructions affecting the full use of roads and particularly use of pedestrian pathways. Ensure all footpaths have a dead zone, uninterrupted walking zone as per IRC 103:2012. This shall be strictly enforced by the Delhi Police/Delhi Traffic Police, Public Works Department, Revenue Department, Municipal Corporations of Delhi and Delhi Cantonment Board.
- Construct wayside amenities/service centers on major road network etc. which will result in substantial reduction in road accident incidents/fatalities.
- Introduce "Traffic Calming" measures to physically reduce the speed in vulnerable stretches, near schools/hospitals/markets/areas within 500m radius of major bus terminals/railway, metro stations, bus stops, other busy community locations. Safe pedestrian crossing facilities should be provided as per IRC: 103-2012 near the entrance and exit of all these vulnerable locations.
- Undertake a benchmarking exercise for speed zoning across Delhi within one year of this policy coming to effect.
- The designed speed/speed limit on all roads shall be carefully re-considered and involvement of road experts will be made compulsory in deciding the speed limit on every road/stretch of road.
- Establish an accountability mechanism for faulting contractors, concessionaires and consultants regarding poorly constructed and maintained roads, including a process for black listing them.
- No new transport vehicle shall be allowed to be introduced in the Delhi without installing speed limit device (Speed Governor) as is now required under Motor Vehicle Rules.
- Safer roads and free mobility cannot be achieved unless sufficient parking spaces are made available. Development Authorities are already entrusted with responsibility to create more parking spaces. Parking policy will be notified to impress upon vehicle owners to have parking space before vehicle is purchased.
- In order to decrease the pressure on roads, the Govt. of Delhi will adopt innovative features to encourage use of Public Transport System instead of Private Transport System.
- Establish a system for regulation and accreditation of driver training institutes/centers.

(vi) **Safer Motor Vehicles**

The Govt. of Delhi will take appropriate and adequate steps to promote statutory periodic inspection as an essential check on the road-worthiness of all motor vehicles. Automation of fitness centers shall be done in a time bound manner.

The fitness of commercial vehicles shall be done only through automated fitness process only. The existing manual fitness centre shall be converted to automated center within one year.

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(vii) **Safe Drivers**

The Govt. of Delhi will encourage the provisions for infrastructural development for training of drivers in Delhi. The Govt. of Delhi will also make conscious efforts to improve manpower, both quantitatively and qualitatively, in order to test and evaluate the driving skills of all applicants of various categories of motor vehicles applying for driving licenses in Delhi.

Driver's error is one of the causes of road accidents and to address this issue, the Government intends to:

- Undertake safety and awareness campaigns for drivers.
- Design and enforce a comprehensive and standardized driver training curriculum.
- Undertake specialized training for drivers of school transport vehicles.
- Enforce fastening of seat belts and wearing of Helmets as per statutory rules.
- Issuance of driving licenses from Automated Driving Training Centers.
- Enforcement to check violation of basic safety requirements, drunken driving etc. and implement deterrent penal provisions including cancellation of driving license for repetitive offence.
- Behavioral Education and psychometric analysis will be the part of the training curriculum of all the commercial drivers.
- Undertake measures for fatigue management of heavy motor vehicle drivers.

(viii) **Safety for Vulnerable Road users**

The Govt. of Delhi will take into account all the needs of non-motorized vehicles, pedestrians, children, elderly and persons with disability in appropriate manner in designing and construction of all roads/intersections in both rural and urban areas of the NCT of Delhi.

The Govt. of Delhi shall bring into effect a Non-Motorized Transport policy for the NCT of Delhi to specifically recognize the rights of non-motorised road users, who are disproportionately from the poorer sections of society, and will provide for dedicated resources and a policy framework to ensure a safe and accessible road system network for them.

The encroachment on roads, pathways and pedestrian paths has become one of the reasons for road accidents and congestion. In order to provide safety for vulnerable road users, the removal of encroachment of roads and pathways shall be strictly enforced and building pedestrians pathways and bicycle lanes in selected areas will be ensured.

Many vulnerable accident victims are the passengers who board/alight the buses, therefore, Bus Queue Shelters be kept free of obstructions of vendors/hawkers and all vehicular traffic for proper halting of buses and safe boarding /alighting of commuters.

(ix) Road Safety Education and Training

The Govt. of Delhi will undertake adequate steps to impart training on various parameters of road safety amongst the general public of Delhi through education, training and publicity campaigns etc. Road Safety may also be made an integral part of syllabus for school children and college/ university going students in Delhi. The Govt. of Delhi will also encourage the professionals as well as NGOs to actively associate & participate in all road safety activities/programs to be undertaken by the various government departments and other stakeholders in Delhi. The engineers at the different levels i.e CE/SE/EE/AE/JE shall be trained for the Road Safety Audits in time bound manner by an expert Agency. These programs/activities shall cover both the urban and rural areas.

(x) Enforcement of Traffic Laws/Rules & Regulations

The Govt. of Delhi will make every effort to improve the quality of traffic enforcement in the NCT of Delhi in close coordination with Delhi Traffic Police to enforce spot penalties, action against overloading of passenger vehicles, drunken driving, non-wearing of helmets and seat belts etc.

The Govt. of Delhi will ensure that the enforcement agencies are adequately manned, trained and equipped to undertake their functions more effectively & professionally. The Government will also ensure maximum use of technology for the purpose of enforcement including camera-based surveillance, speed detectors, breath analyzers etc.

The Govt. of Delhi shall also ensure that enforcement agencies take focused action on heavy vehicles with account for disproportionately more road accidents e.g vehicles with protruding rods, stalled vehicles etc.

(xi) Emergency Medical Assistance to Road Accident Victims

The Govt. of Delhi will make conscious & earnest efforts to ensure that victims of road accidents benefit from speedy and effective trauma care and health management. The essential functions of such services would include the provision of rescue operation including per-medical care, first-aid at the site of road accident, transportation of victim(s) to nearest hospital/medical centre for essential treatment.

The Govt. of Delhi will also take following adequate steps to ensure that necessary care and assistance is provided to accident victim(s) within a reasonable time period as a part of different schemes of the government formulated from time to time:

- Develop adequate number of fully equipped and properly staffed Trauma Care Centers at strategic places in Delhi.
- The Police Patrol Cars and CAT's Ambulances to operate synchronously through a central control and coordination system.

- Issuance of a uniform ambulance code and ensuring enforcement of the same.
- Establishing a mechanism for grading of hospitals based on the kind of trauma care services they provide.
- Promote involvement of private practitioners and hospitals in EMR and trauma care.
- Maintain the access roads to each emergency care hospital and free from roadside parking or obstructions.
- Emergency vehicles to have preferred right on roads, which should be enforced to go to emergency care units of the hospitals as well as trauma centers.
- Implement cashless treatment for 48 hours in trauma care centers along NHs and SHs.
- Train all commercial vehicle drivers, police officials and interested citizens in First Aid Trauma Care.
- Casualty departments of all districts equipped hospitals to provide Emergency Medical Services to trauma cases.
- Enact a Delhi specific legislation for the protection of Good Samaritans.
- A large accident victims do not achieve access to medical care within one hour of the accident, therefore, the Government will come up with an award scheme to those vehicle owners who carry victims in road accidents to the nearby hospitals.
- Ambulances to be placed on NHs and SHs in every reasonable distance between two identified trauma care units.

(xii) **Research for Road Safety**

The Govt. of Delhi will make efforts to improve road research activities and check to ensure that any problem areas in Delhi receive appropriate attention in the research activities concerning road safety. The Govt. of Delhi will make following efforts to ensure that research establishments in the Delhi are given fair support to enhance research activities on road safety:

- Identify and nominate key institutes to carry out road safety research in the State.
- Prepare priorities for research areas followed by in depth review of road safety data available from Road Accident Database System.
- Strategy for implementing Road Safety Initiatives in the State.

6. Implementation & Modification:

This Policy indicates a broad outline of the measures to be taken. The various departments/stakeholders of the Govt. of Delhi will formulate specific measures and take appropriate action to give effect to this policy.

The State Road Safety Council and the Lead Agency shall periodically review this policy and make recommendations to Government for modification as and when necessary.