



SAFETY FIRST. The Safe Way is the Best Way.

NEWS IN BRIEF

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IRF's Mission
 To promote the development of roads and road networks that enable sustainable access and mobility for all

IRF's Vision
 A world of safe, sustainable, and efficient roads and road networks

IRF's Values
 Commitment to safe, smart & sustainable roads

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FROM THE CHAIRMAN'S DESK



Dear Members,

Greetings from International Road Federation – India Chapter.

At IRF IC, we are committed to the cause of Road Safety, which our activities and interventions would bear out. The cause has been garnering support from all corners, both public and private sectors, taking increasing interest.

We have been continuously striving to give wake up calls to various stakeholders, aiming at effective reduction of the road accidents and fatalities. Recently, we had a half-day seminar with Insurance Companies to highlight the manner they function in other countries for promoting road safety measures. This is a win-win situation for all; smaller outgo for insurance claims, less number of affected people, less burden on hospitals and trauma care and eventually less economic loss of the country. Indian insurance companies have

been doing some works towards road safety. They agreed, in principle, to look into other aspects of road safety and implement them as far as practicable.

We also had a half-day seminar on 'Road Safety In Dark Hours' when a significant percentage of accidents takes place. Various aspects of engineering, enforcement, education, vehicle design and trauma care which are particularly important for dark hours were highlighted.

All the efforts have been paying in terms of reduced accidents, but the rate is slow. What is needed is something like 'National Movement' for road safety. We seek indulgence of all our members, well-wishers and any person or organization supporting road safety to come in a big way to support road safety programs.

We urge upon you to start the road safety movement by advocating observance of road safety rules.

Warm Regards,
 N.K. Sinha

SEMINAR ON 'ROAD SAFETY DURING DARK HOURS'

International Road Federation with the support of Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRT&H), held a Seminar on 'Road Safety During Dark Hours' on 13th September 2014 at the India International Centre.

A part of the series of seminars, being organized by the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways and International Road Federation – India Chapter (IRF IC), the seminar was held to specially increase awareness about hazards and road mishaps occurring at night and to highlight the various measures for avoiding them. Mr. Vijay Chhibber, Secretary, MoRT&H was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Mr. Sanjay Bandopadhyay, Joint Secretary, MoRT&H,



Mr. K.K. Kapila, Chairman of the International Road Federation – Geneva Programme Centre (IRF GPC) and Mr. N.K. Sinha, Chairman of the International Road Federation's India Chapter were the other distinguished dignitaries on the dais.

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The Seminar began with floral presentations to the distinguished guests and with a Lighting of the ceremonial Lamp.



Welcoming all participants to the Seminar, **Mr. Sanjay Bandopadhyay** focused on its relevance, especially when we are sensitizing the country on various issues, which cause fatalities and accidents. He informed all present that the Motor Vehicles and Traffic Act, which was in the process of being amended, has been uploaded on the MoRT&H's website for seeking stakeholder suggestions. Digitalizing and providing more facilities on the driving database and vehicle database and linking it to the penalty system that is the demerit system, and finally to the insurance and the penalties, are some of the steps, proposed to be provided in the new Bill.

Mr. K.K. Kapila, Chairman, IRF GPC, dwelt upon the pathetic global road safety scenario. Among the many causes of road accidents, 'Road Safety During Dark Hours' has remained a worrying factor. A comprehensive study reveals that in 2012, 16.6% cases of road accidents were reported to have occurred between 1800 hours to 2100 hours i.e. 6 to 9 in the evening. And another 6.3% between the wee hours of morning – midnight to 3 AM. A comprehensive study on road safety has found that human errors were the sole cause in 57% of all accidents and was a contributing factor in over 90% cases. In contrast, only 2.4% were solely due to mechanical faults and 4.7% were caused by environmental factors. He enumerated the various measures that need to be taken for bringing down road accidents and fatalities.

He concluded by emphasizing the need to holistically review these ideas, concretize and prepare an action plan.

Mr. Vijay Chhibber, Secretary, MoRT&H, talked of the importance of civil society being involved with road safety, building it into something like a national movement. He complimented IRF on its work and welcomed other such initiatives from civil society.

Although most factors are important, road furniture or reflective devices are of paramount importance for ensuring Road Safety during dark hours. He also stressed the importance of our workforce being upgraded in their awareness, without which no change can occur.

A very important element in the new legislation is finality regarding the 'National Road Safety and Traffic Management Board', which envisages State wise

outreach, both in terms of what is to be done and financial support. He was hopeful of instituting this Board through an executive order without waiting for the legislation to be passed.

The Inaugural Session ended with a Vote of Thanks by **Mr. N.K. Sinha**.

TECHNICAL SESSION

The Technical Session was structured into 6 slots.

Mr. Balraj Bhanot, Chairman, TEDC, Bureau of Indian Standards, spoke on the subject of "Vehicle Standards for Night Drivers". Through a Powerpoint presentation, he highlighted various safety features, which should be provided in vehicles and which are commonly incorporated elsewhere such as Rear Under Run Protection device (RUPD), Front Under Run Protection device (FUPD), Adaptive Front Lighting System, Triangle, Retro-Reflective Tape, Side Protection devices, Mirrors and Video Cameras with slight amendments and enforcement to ensure implementation. He said these improvements would help save lives.

Prof. P.K. Sikdar, President, ICT & Advisor, IRF IC, spoke about the "Hazards of Night Driving", highlighting particularly the need of Good Lighting, providing Stopping Sight Distance, taking care of High Susceptibility Disability Glare, Under Run Protection, Retro Reflective Material, Thermal Imaging Technology, High Visibility Road Marking, Automated Safety Systems and other safety gadgets and measures.



Ms. Debashree Mukherjee, Chairman & Managing Director, Delhi Transport Corporation, looked at the Road sector in Delhi, particularly the DTC experience. She stressed the importance of rigorous eye testing for their drivers, both at the time of recruitment and after drivers reach the age of 55. The DTC analyzes accidents at two levels, the Operations Wing brings out a preliminary report, followed by a detailed analysis, which the Road Safety Wing undertakes. A monthly Depot wise review of traffic violations, Reflective tapes on buses, Speed Governors and GPS devices, frequent Monitoring of buses are some of the measures followed.

DTC has recently instituted a Road Safety Award for its drivers to incentivize them with good safety records. Installation of CCTV cameras has been taken up in 200 buses and will be extended. DTC has been continuously

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improving its Road Safety record and for the last 3 years been awarded the Annual Road Safety Awards by ASRTU as well as the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways. It has been adjudged Safest Road Transport Organization in the Urban Services category.

For tackling night time safety, DTC tried to ensure that the drivers deployed for night duty are not doing overtime so as to reduce driver fatigue. Flagging certain issues such as the increased incidence of accidents in January and February, need for increased spaces for pedestrians, training drivers, issues of road design etc., she stated that we all need to work together for bringing about behavior change.



Mr. Anil Shukla, Joint Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Delhi, speaking on the subject of Problems faced by Police in Accident Investigation and Night Time Enforcement, mentioned that we lose a Jumbo Jet i.e. 350 people in India every day in fatal accidents. 60% of them die at night.

Overspeeding, Overloading, Drunk Driving and Colour Blindness are some of the reasons of accidents. Delhi Traffic Police has identified 120 accident zones and carried out an analysis of which roads are accident prone zones. Many accidents take place at the base of flyovers and unfortunately there is no Road Safety Auditor.

He talked of his efforts and experiences in dealing with truck traffic, which is a constant menace. Although 22,000 vehicles have been impounded so far by Delhi Traffic Police, apart from the problem of safe keeping them, the Judiciary going easy on them is a major problem.

Increased Police presence at night takes its toll on police presence in the day time. He spoke of RUPD, LUPD and his taking up personally with TATA Motors and Ashok Leyland, all Metro sites, all PWD sites, MCD, NDMC regarding these devices. Ensuring conspicuity of big



containers was a challenge. He spoke of the dangers of protruding rods, and the need for securing containers, reflective tapes at W points and high friction service at night. He gave the example of Sweden's zero accident vision policy and Malaysia's 2 + 1 roads. The latter has resulted in reduction of fatalities of motor vehicle accidents by 83%.

Mr. Harish Banwari, Vice President, South East Asia Pacific, 3M India Ltd., spoke of the importance of increasing visibility and making sure that human factors that cause accidents are taken care of through better design of roads, visibility, signages, road furniture, etc. He emphasized the importance of a reward system not just for drivers but for contractors and manufacturers. He gave the examples of Russia, Germany and the U.S., which allocates Budget, based on road safety track records. He stressed the importance of instituting an independent enforcement body sufficiently empowered to enforce implementation.

Prof. Amit Banerjee, Director, Professor at Maulana Azad Medical College & GB Pant Hospital talked about his experiences at the Lok Nayak Hospital. He stressed the importance of transporting accident victims to hospitals within the Golden Hour.

Apart from factors already talked about earlier, such as blinding by high beam headlights, drunken driving, fatigue, protruding objects, he also spoke about the menace of bikers. He highlighted that the help of RWAs should be sought for identifying rogue bikers.

A large number of interesting instances were given by him such as non-uniformity of number plates, providing bus bays, drunk driving checks by police at liquor vends and colonies, etc.



INTERACTIVE SESSION

The Interactive Session following upon the Technical Session brought out many challenging questions and generated discussion.

Safety is a Choice, not a Chance!

Main Recommendations of the Seminar on Road Safety During Dark Hours are as follows:-

Policy and Institutional Issues

1. Road Safety audits at night time to be made mandatory on highways, arterial roads, accident prone roads, etc. and suggestions arising therefrom be implemented on top priority.
2. Adequacy of street lighting be ensured in urban areas, especially for highways, arterial roads, accident prone roads.
3. All new commercial vehicles manufactured and launched into the market to have Front Underrun Protection Device (FUPD), Rear Underrun Protection Device (RUPD) and Side Underrun Protection Device (SUPD). Commercial vehicles already on road to be Retro fitted within a stipulated time and in any case before the annual inspection of the vehicle.
4. Adaptive Front Lighting System (AFS) to be fitted in the commercial vehicles so as to adjust the headlight beam according to the light conditions.
5. Smart Head lights should be designed so as to do more than just reduce headlight glare. They can block the rays of light that reflect off snowflakes and raindrops to enhance a motorist's vision when driving at moderate speed at night in snow or rain. They can also boost light output as needed to fully illuminate road signs and potential obstacles.
6. Use of white helmets to be promoted, as it was found to reduce visibility related motorcycle collisions by 45%.
7. Road Safety Cell to be created in all Public Works Department, across the country.
8. Assured Ambulance Service for rapid transportation of accident victims, needs to be provided.
9. Staggered times to be adopted in schools, particularly for those in close proximity to each other to combat traffic congestion and potential accident zones, during school hours.
10. Road Safety awards to be instituted for drivers with impeccable safety records.

Enforcement Issues

11. Retro-reflective tape colour specifications mandatory under Rule 62 of CMVR, to be fitted on all commercial vehicles – white in front, yellow on sides and red at the rear.
12. Installation of Fog Lamps on all vehicles, should be made mandatory.
13. All commercial vehicles to be mandatorily fitted with frontal bonnet mirror and side mirrors.
14. Annual Medical eye tests to be made mandatory for all drivers.
15. Monthly review of challans should be undertaken and habitual/repeat defaulters to be punished more stringently.
16. Installation of GPS, CCTV Camera, Speed Governors in buses to monitor the driver as well as the road conditions.
17. Fixing of Alcolock on four wheelers to check drunken driving to be installed. Their installation to be made mandatory in trucks and buses.
18. Containers moving on Indian roads must be anchored on trailers and they must have adequate reflectivity with reflective tapes affixed on all sides – white in front, yellow on sides and red at the rear.
19. Provisioning of Unique High Security Number Plates should be speeded up.
20. Installation of Videos in the front dash board should be banned.

Road Safety Engineering Measures

21. Segregation of cycles and pedestrians through dedicated lanes
22. Ensure properly placed delineators, road studs, nose protection, chevron panels appropriately at all required locations.
23. Accident analysis to identify the common cause should be undertaken regularly.
24. Bus shelters should be free of encroachments.
25. High visibility road markings to be promoted, especially on speed breakers.
26. Educate and Promote use of Safety Air Triangle provided as a part of the kit to isolate and mark the accident or break down site.



IRF India Chapter led a delegation of IRF members to participate in the **5th SARF/IRF Regional Conference on 'Better Roads Moving Africa'** held at **CSIR Centre in Pretoria**, the historic and Administrative Capital of **South Africa**, from **2nd to 4th September 2014**.

The Conference, with its three parallel sessions and multi-disciplinary approach to improve capacity and safety for road transport, stimulated challenging debates on the role and performance of the road and transport industry, providing a balanced mix of speakers from both the private and public sector. Many eminent personalities of road sector and intellectuals spoke during the technical sessions, covering topics like Safer Roads and Mobility, ITS, Work zone Safety, Incident Management Systems, Funding for Roads, Road tolling, Implementation of Road Infrastructure Projects, Environmental Management for Roads, Asset Management, Managing Road Logistics & Freight and Rural Access Roads.

An exclusive Trade Exhibition was also held along with the Conference and exhibitors from all around the world participated in it. The Indian delegation had a large presence, accounting for approximately 30% of the stalls and presented an impressive front. The Indian Exhibitors included AJS Scale International, Alchemist Touchnology Limited, Ashoka Buildcon Ltd., Central Road Research Institute, Dilip Buildcon Ltd., Dineshchandra R Aggarwal Infracon Pvt. Ltd., Era Infra Engineering Ltd., Intercontinental Consultants & Technocrats Pvt. Ltd., IRB Infrastructure Developers Limited, II&FS Transportation Networks Ltd., Jaiprakash Associates Limited, L&T Construction, Maccaferri Environmental Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Michelin

India Pvt. Ltd., Montecarlo Ltd., Rosmerta Technologies Ltd.

The IRF India Chapter Stall was a great draw and served as a meeting ground for the various participating members and exhibitors. Many brainstorming sessions and in depth discussions were held over delicious hot steaming cups of coffee, which was provided by IRF.

Visitors from different countries and sectors with stake in road related infrastructure and technology visited the exhibition. It was an excellent opportunity for them to view and access information on the latest products of various participating Companies. The exhibitors also were able to reach out and network with potential buyers and were provided with an opportunity to up-scale business and explore new markets and technologies.

The event brought together Civil Engineering Contractors, Consultants, Suppliers, Departments of Transport, Municipalities, Road Agencies/Authorities, Procurement Managers, Road and Bridge Builders and Maintenance Personnel, Road Building and Road Maintenance Companies, Road Safety Suppliers and Specialists, ITS and Communications Companies, Road Lighting and Signage Companies and Environmentalists etc.

Over all, the event was voted by the participants as a great success. Ties have been established, coordinates exchanged and would hopefully lead to a sustained growth in business and new frontiers to access.

UPCOMING EVENTS

IRC's Conference on "Road Safety Scenario in India and Way Forward" - 29-30 November, 2014

International Conference on "**Road Safety Scenario in India and Way Forward**" on **29-30 November, 2014** at **Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi**, is being organized by Indian Roads Congress (IRC) with IRF as an organiser along with other eminent organising partners.

The **five themes** of the Conference are ❶ *Overview of Traffic Rules, Regulations & Enforcement: National/International Best Practices*; ❷ *Safer Roads and Road Safety Audit*; ❸ *Overview of Urban and Non-Urban: Sustainable Way of Traffic Management including Emergency Crash Response, Trauma Care Facility*; ❹ *Overview of Road Users' Behaviour: Innovative Methods for Mass Awareness to improve Road Safety* and ❺ *Review of Design of Vehicle Safety, Innovative and Environmental Friendly Models*.

For further details, visit the website : www.irc.org.in.

Seminar on "Status of Road Safety and Safe Mobility Initiatives in India" - 15-16 January 2015

International Road Federation along with the support of Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Ministry of Urban Development is organising a Seminar on "**Status of Road Safety and Safe Mobility Initiatives in India**" on **15-16 January 2015** in **New Delhi**.

Tentative themes of the four Technical Sessions are 1) Legal Initiatives for Road Safety; 2) Road Safety – Designs, Architecture & Artifacts; 3) Stakeholder Initiatives and Awareness Campaign and 4) In-vehicle Safety and Trauma Care.

Apart from these, there will be one exclusive session with 'Roads Australia'.

More details will be soon uploaded on our website: www.indiairf.com.

IRF and Roads Australia to Host Major Regional Conference in Sydney, 4-7 May 2015

Road industry leaders from across Asia and the Pacific will meet in Sydney from 4th to 7 May 2015 for the first ever **IRF-RA Regional Conference for Asia and Australasia** hosted by the International Road Federation (IRF) Geneva and Roads Australia (RA) coinciding with the United Nations' Global Road Safety Week.

Road safety will be a key theme of the Conference, alongside **innovation and value-for-money** procurement and delivery of infrastructure.

Mr. K.K. Kapila, Chairman, IRF GPC informed that the Conference would also reinforce the strong messages on road safety that are at the heart of the **UN Global Road Safety Week**. Dignitaries from governments across the region will be invited to Sydney to spell out their commitment to road safety and progress in meeting the goals set in the Decade of Action.

The Organising Committee is inviting abstracts for presentations at the Conference, **deadline for which is November 30**. For more information, visit: <http://www.irfnet.ch/australia2015>.



International Road Federation
India Chapter

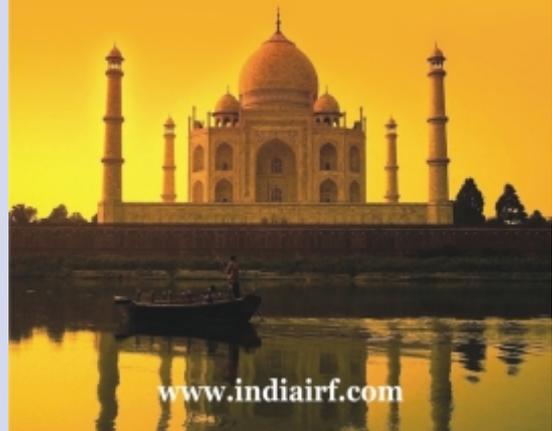
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MEMBERSHIP OF IRF INDIA CHAPTER

IRF IC is a membership-based organization, representing corporate and institutional players and stakeholders in the road infrastructure sector in the country. Road safety has been at the core of IRF IC's activities, which also promotes "green road" approach. IRF IC has made a dent in policy through advocacy.

IRF India Chapter invites all stakeholders in road sector to join it as members and contribute to the efforts for better road infrastructure and safety.

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Be Alert. Do Not Get Hurt.