

## **MAHARASHTRA**

Maharashtra is the second-most populous State in India. Spread over 307,713 Km<sup>2</sup> (118,809 sq m), it is the third-largest State by area in India. Maharashtra is among the most developed Indian States and continues to be the single largest contributor to the national economy with a share of 14 percent in all-India nominal GDP, thanks to the industrialisation, entertainment industry, etc. The State is home to various heritage Sites such as Ajanta, Ellora, and Elephanta caves.

At 267,452 kilometres (166,187 mi), Maharashtra has India's largest road network. Seventeen National Highways connect Maharashtra to six neighbouring states. The State's National Highways are 4,688 kilometres long. Maharashtra also has a large state-highway network; in March 2018, 99.5 percent of the state's villages were connected by all-weather roads.

The statistics compiled by the Maharashtra Highway Safety Patrol revealed that 13,346 people died and 15,922 people got injured in 29,292 accidents in 2021. On an average, 36 people lost their lives every day in Maharashtra in road accidents last year, despite partial travel restrictions prompted by the Covid-19 pandemic statistics compiled by the Maharashtra Highway. The death toll is up by 1,777 as compared to 2020. In the past 5 years, a total of 63,475 people died in 1,58,960 accidents in the State.

In the year 2021, Nashik and Pune regions recorded the highest number of road accident deaths whereas Mumbai saw a decrease from 288 deaths in 2020 to 277 deaths last year. In 2021, 862 deaths were recorded in Nashik rural, 798 in Pune rural, and 706 in Ahmednagar. According to the police, speeding remains the leading cause of death in crashes, especially on highways. Most of the fatalities in 2021 involved two-wheeler riders or pillions. More people have died on straight roads across the State compared to curved roads as per our observation. Moreover, in small cities drivers do not follow traffic rules leading to head-on collisions.

Under the evidence-based programme, known as the Demonstration Safe Corridor Project, we are working on the 7 worst affected road section of 100 to 150 Kms each from the 7 worst affected States of Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh. As part of our 5E programme, the State of Maharashtra has been identified among the worst affected roads in case of road accidents and road fatalities. Under the program, a 157 km road stretch from Nagpur to Amravati was identified as the project stretch for IRF-IC interventions.

### **The Coordinator for the project from IRF-IC is :**

- Mr. D.O Tawade, (Advisor to the hon'ble Minister of Road Transport and Highways)

## Status of the 5E Interventions:

**1<sup>st</sup> E of Engineering of Roads:** The objective of this intervention is to study the road stretch through an extensive audit and identify areas of improvement through design corrections, enhancing traffic signages, markings, etc. The first Road safety Audit was undertaken by the team of Ashoka Buildcon and followed by a validation Audit by the IRF-IC team comprising of Mr. Jacob George (Road Safety Expert).



Cat-eyes not fixed near pedestrian crossing & median opening at ch 19+215 RHS



Damaged shoulder at Ch 18+050 LHS

A comprehensive audit report has been prepared giving details of proposed corrections at the Junctions, recommendations on Traffic Signage and Markings along with a detailed BoQ submitted to NHAI. The next step is the implementation of the corrections by NHAI to make the stretch Safer.

**2<sup>nd</sup> E of Engineering of Vehicles and Policy Interventions:** The objective of this intervention is to promote and propagate various mandatory safety features in motorized and non-motorized vehicles as well as supporting policies. It is often observed that though many provisions related to safer mobility is in existence, there is a lack in their enforcement and compliance in the various States of India. We have identified certain key vehicular safety measures such as fitment of Side Under-run Protection Devices, Rear Under-run Protection Devices, Front Under-run Protection Devices, Conspicuity of vehicles, retro fitment of Anti Brake System, etc., and policies such as Good Samaritan Rule, Linkage of Driving Licenses with Aadhar Cards, etc., for pursuing with the State Government for their propagation, enforcement and ensuring compliance.

**3<sup>rd</sup> E of Education and Mass Awareness:** We will impart Road Safety Education in around 452 schools on the stretch with the help of Prabhaav Foundation as the Delivery Partner. The children in the age group of 11 to 17 years are being imparted the education. So far, we have completed this in around 85 schools and this activity will be completed by the mid-week of August 2022.

Besides this, we are promoting our Road Safety Anthem in 23 Indian languages towards creating mass awareness. IRF has produced a few short films of 1 to 5 minutes duration with the support of Corporate India. We are making efforts with the concerned department in the Governments at the Centre and the State to make it mandatory to show these short films in Cinemas before the screening of any commercial films. This is similar to the anti-cancer campaign of the Government which has successfully created massive awareness to the cause.



INDIA CHAPTER



Road safety program in school in Nagpur



Road safety program in school in Nagpur

**4<sup>th</sup> E of Enforcement and Traffic Management:** The objective of this intervention is to strengthen the Traffic Management and Accident Data Collection capacities of the Police Personnel through imparting short duration Training. For this purpose, 10 Police Stations on the project stretch was identified and a brief survey was undertaken to understand the infrastructure availability at each of the Police Stations. This was followed by a 3-day training programme on Traffic Management, Enforcement and Accident Data Collection for a group of 26 police personnel of different ranks drawn from each of the 10 Police Stations. The training took place during 23<sup>rd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> May, 2022 at the Campus of College of Traffic Management, Faridabad. The training was delivered by Dr. Rohit Baluja and his team, the guest faculty and Prof. P. K. Sikdar.



**Capacity Building in " Traffic Management & Enforcement "**

For the Officers from Maharashtra Police  
23rd to 25th May, 2022



INDIA CHAPTER



Standing : L to R : Raju Sonpitre, Pankaj Masram, Papin Ramteke, Ram S Dhage, Nitin Chulpar, Sandip K Madavi, Vishant Nandgaye, Amit Bakatwar.

Sitting : L to R : Pawan Bhamburkar, Manoj Surwade, Ganesh Kashinath More, Prashant Annachatre, Gaurav Gupta, Gajanan Giri, Sugat Pundge, Ulhas Rathod, Santosh Tokalwad.





INDIA CHAPTER

**5<sup>th</sup> E of Emergency Care:** The objective of this intervention is three pronged. First, Survey of the Hospitals at District Level, offering more than 100 Beds and having provision for 24-hour emergency, to understand their current available Infrastructure and Skilled Capacities. A total of 30 hospitals were surveyed. This will be followed by a feasibility exercise aiming to enhance 5-6 of these hospitals to Level 1/Level 2/Level 3 Trauma Care Centres.

Second, to undertake training of able-bodied Bystanders to act as First Responders during pre-hospital care and A team of Pre-hospital Trauma Care Technicians impart hands on training on First Aid Trauma Care to the Bystanders drawn from road side establishments, communities, institutions, etc. The curriculum covered in the training programme include Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Splinting, Injuries Management, Management of Animal Bites, Safe Transportation of the victims, etc. On the Project Stretch, 8 Training Programmes were imparted to Schools, Colleges and Panchayat Samiti, etc. A total of 448 Bystanders were trained in these 8 programmes.

Third is with regard to Rehabilitation of Accident Victims. We are presently working on this concept and shall update this space as and when ample progress is recorded.



Data enumeration at LM Hospital Nagpur



Hands-on CPR training provided to bystander



Student learning how to apply support for a fractured arm (Amravati)