

# Awareness Around Vulnerable Road Users: Biggest Lever for Enhancing Road Safety

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## Role of Local and Central Governments



NATIONAL HIGHWAYS AUTHORITY OF INDIA  
*(Ministry of Road Transport and Highways)*



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# Who are “Vulnerable Road Users-VRUs”?

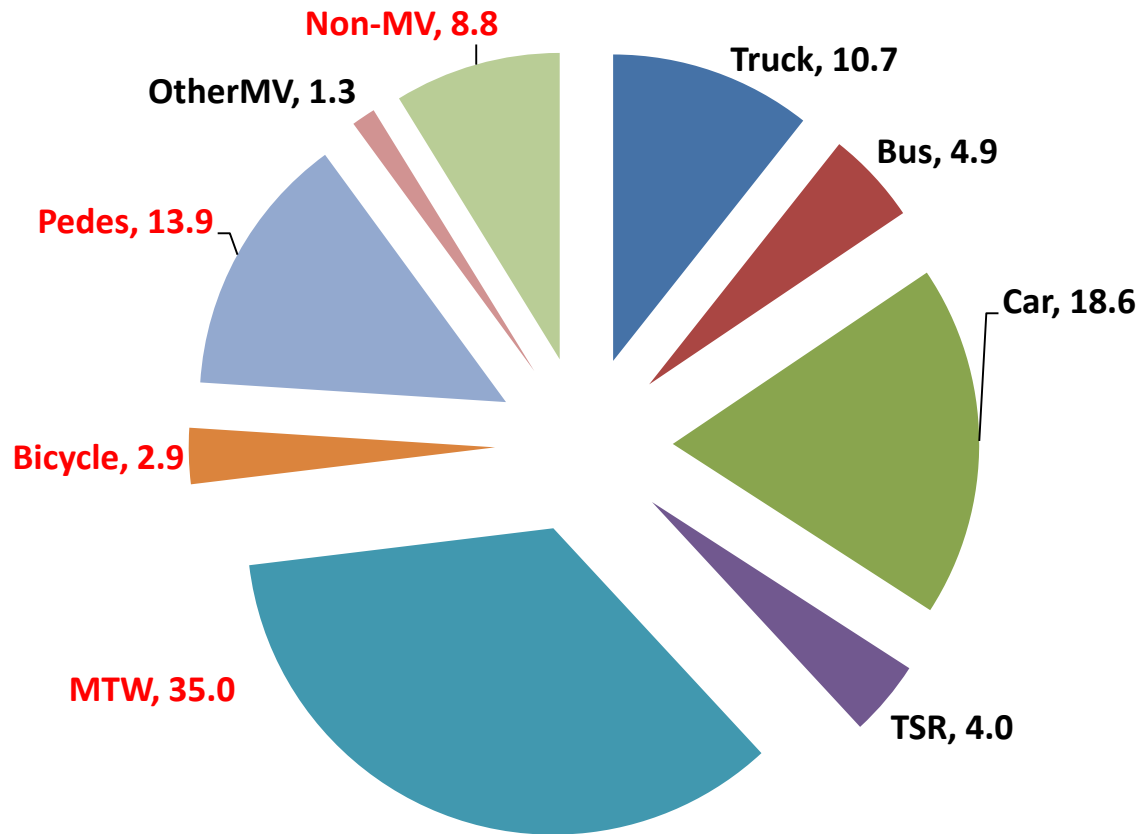


- VRUs is a term applied to those most at risk in traffic {Source: OECD report}.
- VRUs are mainly those unprotected by outside shield, namely
  - Pedestrians
  - Bicylists
  - Cycle-rickshaw/animal-driven/hand-cart users
  - Motor-cyclists

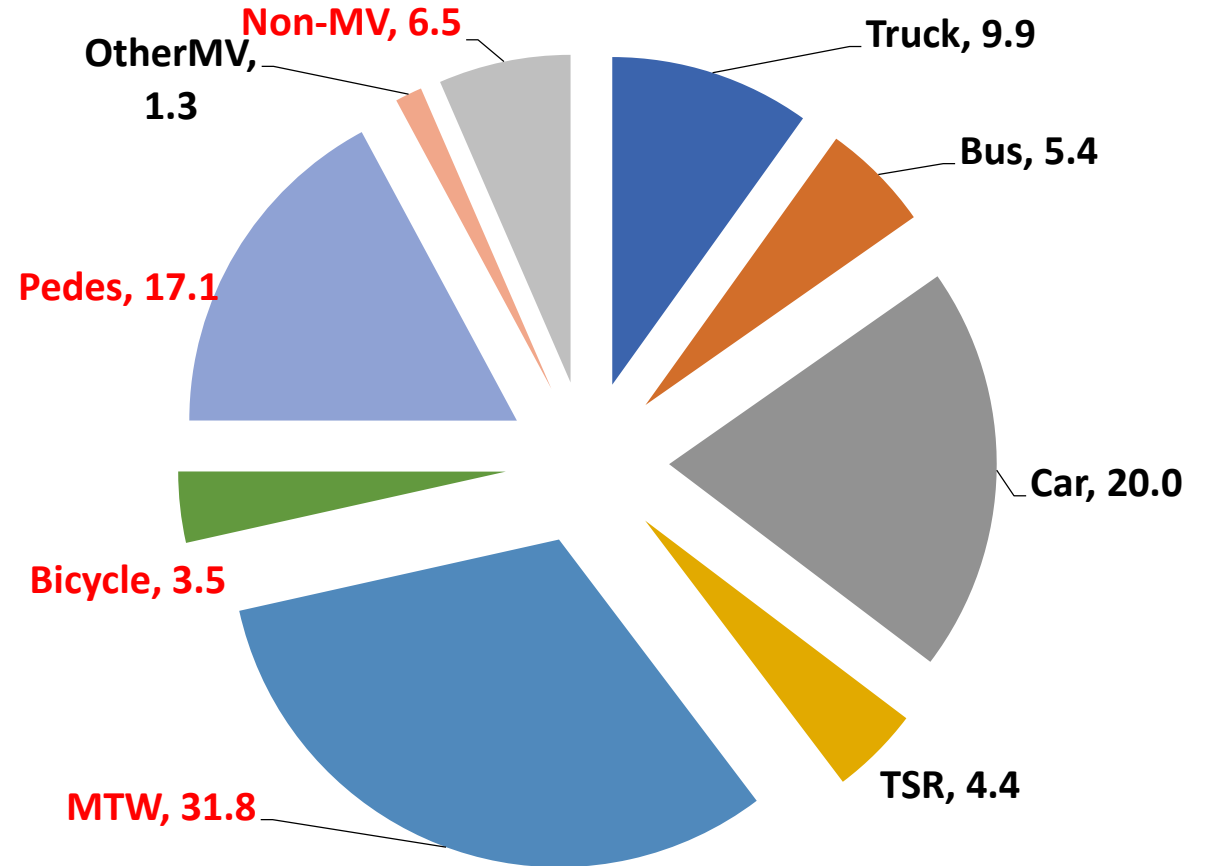
# Safety Issues on NHs (NHAI) Distribution of fatal crashes by Modes



**2019: VRUs share 60.6%**



**2020: VRUs share 59%**



**VRUs -> Pedestrians + bicyclists + other NMV + motorcyclists**

Source: Road accidents in India, MoRTH

# Safe System (Road Transport) Approach



- Forms the basis for the UN Decades for Actions for Safety

- Ensure safer road infrastructure
  - Take measures to review standards pertaining to safety of **all road users** in the design of rural and urban roads.
    - Indian Roads Congress (IRC) and other organisations review standards
      - IRC 103-2022 Guidelines for pedestrian facilities
  
- NHA has delegated powers to ROs
  - Blackspots rectification
  - Construct Pedestrian Under Passes
  - FoBs with escalators
  - Street lights at urban/inhabited sections

- Take into account the needs of **non-motorized transport** and the **vulnerable** and **physically challenged** in an appropriate manner.
  - Design and construction, including usage of ITS based solutions (ATMS)
  - Carry out pilot projects to demonstrate best practices
  - To disseminate ‘best practices’ in this regard to town planners, architects, and highway professional, traffic engineers and other stakeholders.

- Take measures to assist various state and other governments to **strengthen and improve the quality of enforcement** in order to ensure effective and uniform implementation of safety laws.
- Emergency medical services for accident victims
  - To ensure that **all persons** involved in road accidents benefit from speedy and effective trauma care and management.
    - Helpline no. 1033 (NHAI) and 108 (State Govt.)
    - Sukhad Yatra app (android/i-phone)
    - NHAI-Incident management vehicles (patrol/tow-away crane/ambulance)
    - ATMS is included in all new NH projects (VIDS, PTZ camera, ATCC, etc.)

- Research for road safety with focus on VRUs
  - encourage increased activity in programmes of road safety research on VRUs safety,
  - funding research in those areas and
  - establishing centres of excellence in research and academic institutions
    - MoRTH has signed an MoU with IIT Chennai
  
- Education
  - School curriculum on road safety
  
- NGOs





**Thank you!**

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