

International Road Federation – India Chapter

7th Lecture: IRF-IC Lecture Series_2.0

Something must Change for Better Road Safety Management in India – It is going from Bad to Worse !

Venue: India International Centre Annexe (Room 1-2-3)
25 October 2024



India Chapter

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மதுரை

NEWS 18

தமிழ்நாடு

10 APRIL 2024



News18Tamil.com

**மதுரை திருமங்கலம் அருகே ஓ விலர் மீது
கார் மோதி 5 பேர் பலியான சம்பவம் -
திடுக்கிடும் சிசிடிவி காட்சி வெளியானது**

நியூஸ் 18 தமிழ்நாடு

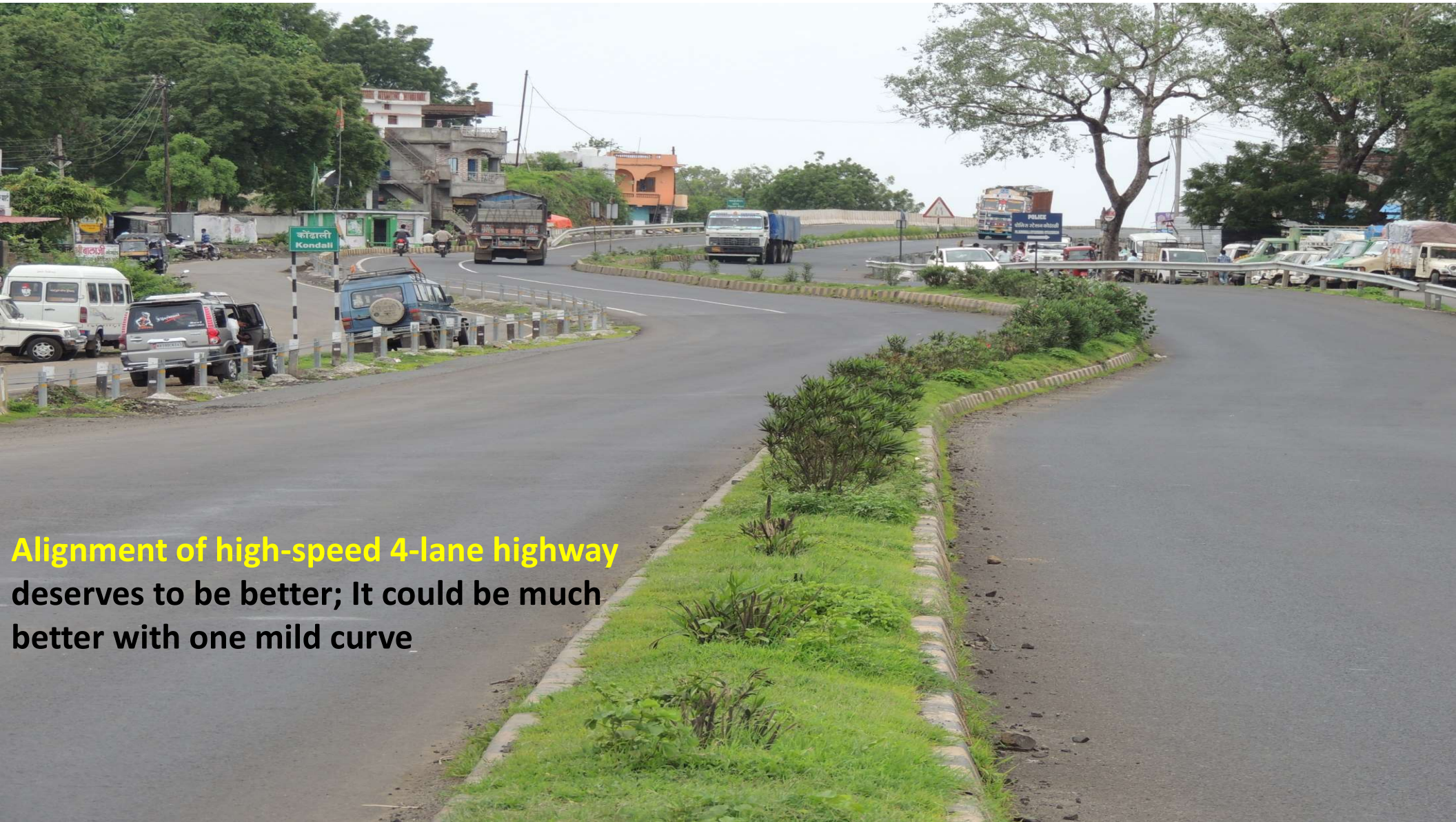
NEWS18 TAMILNADU

Beautiful, but with serious safety issues





A Road Upgraded



Alignment of high-speed 4-lane highway
deserves to be better; It could be much
better with one mild curve

Pedestrians required to cross wide roads



Unsafe Pedestrian Crosswalk



**As a result of these problems
in Infrastructure Development,
Implementation & Operations,
India loses heavily**

Highways (NH, SH and Expressways) account for **2/3rd** of all accidents and fatalities in India

There is serious **equity issue** in relation to road safety, as **more than 3/4th** of all casualties from road crashes are to the vulnerable road users

WHO says “**Life & Health cannot be exchanged with any other benefits**” – **even with better accessibility & mobility**

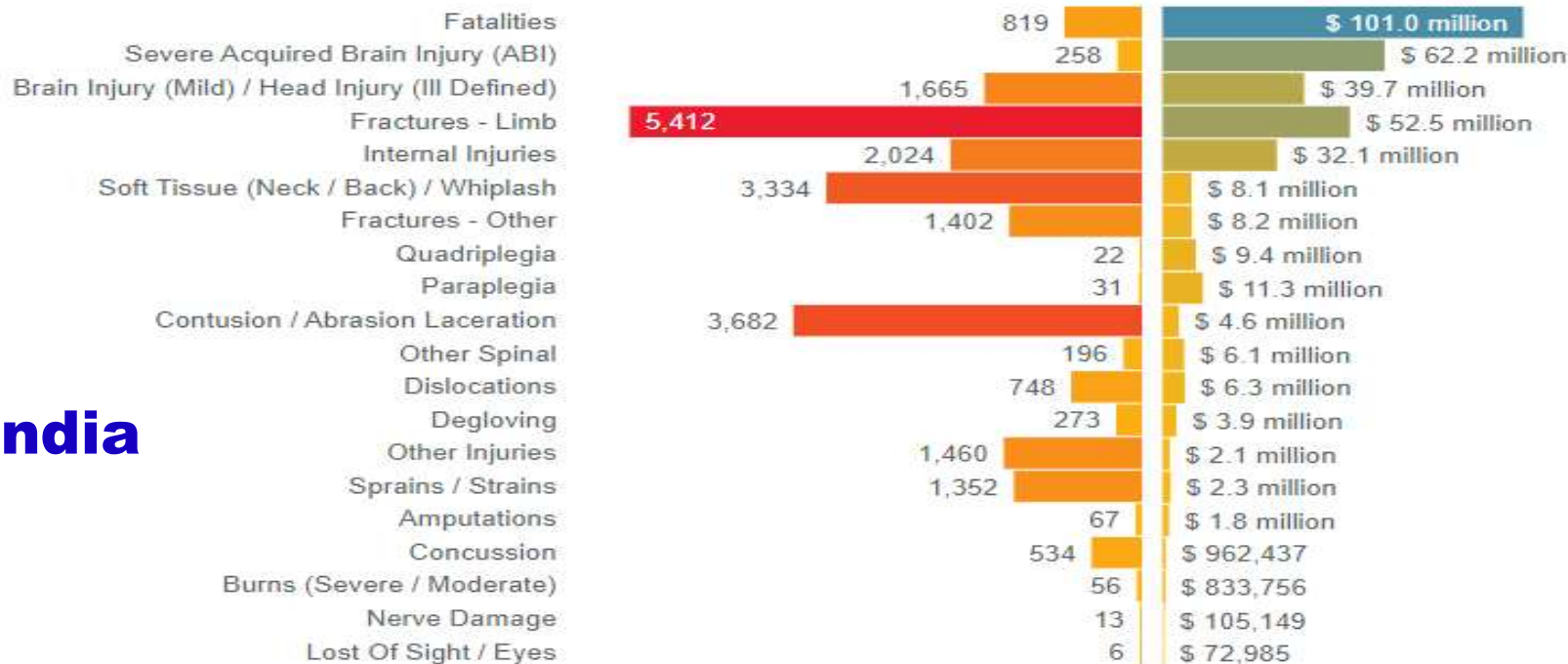
For systematically improving road safety a ‘**Safe Systems Approach**’ is required

Infrastructure Safety Insights Explorer by iRAP

- Annual
- Daily

Estimated road crash casualties

Estimated cost (USD)



Total casualties: 23,354

Total cost (USD): \$ 353.7 million

INR 2,900 Crore/Day

For India

Annual Cost of Accidents in India
INR 10,58,000 Crores/year

Loss is >3% of GDP



Source: <https://irap.org/safety-insights-explorer/>

Global Road Safety Facility (GRSF) (Bloomberg Philanthropies) stated....

Money is going to be spent whether the roads are built safe or not.....

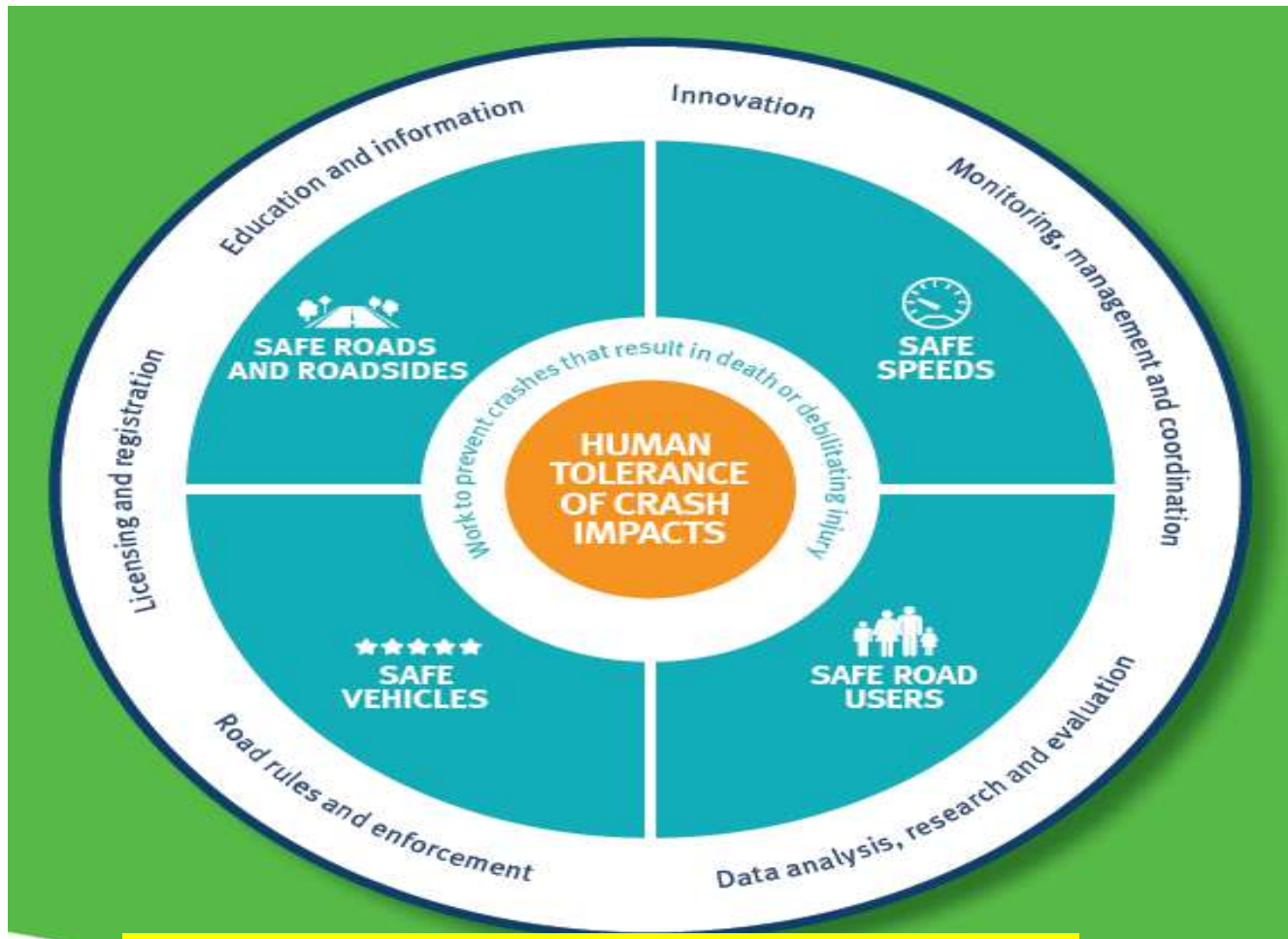
India loses more than INR 10 lakh crores* every year through road crashes (i.e. road safety failures)

Many development programmes are deprived due to this loss

It is always desirable that

Build only safe & forgiving roads !!!!

*Source: <http://vaccinesforroads.org>



The Safe System Approach to Road Safety

Source: Safer roads, safety Queensland. Queensland's road safety strategy 2015-21. Department of Transport and Main Roads, Queensland Government, Australia, 2015.

Safe Systems Approach

Source: EU

Road Safety Management Capacity



5 Es of Road Safety

(To better manage road safety in any country)

Provide all elements of safe systems approach for road safety while developing/upgrading/operating the road

Five Pillars of Traffic System (Safe System)

- **E**ngineering of roads
- **E**ngineering of vehicles
- **E**ducation & Campaign
- **E**nforcement (24x7 enforcement)
- **E**mergency care

Together they provide results of Safe System of Traffic

Why Road Safety is not improving in India ?

- A Road Safety Board was recommended by Sunder Committee in 2007-08; It is not implemented till date; Cabinet has already approved it; It should be like a separate Ministry implementing Road Safety Programmes in the framework of Safe System, with independent budget line
- Everything for Road Safety is in different compartments (Ministries), who enjoy their freedom and independence
- There is no coordination of programmes in any manner among different Ministries (handling specific aspect of the 5 Es)
- There is no result oriented programme – Never questioned for the results/outcomes (these are only money spending programmes)
- All the money spent for Road Safety are going waste, without making any difference

Elderly couple dies, son hurt as SUV slams into parked truck on e-way

Times of India News: 24 Oct. 2024

Deepak.Lavania
@timesofindia.com

Agra: An elderly couple from Gurgaon died, and their son was critically injured in a car crash on the Yamuna Expressway in Mathura early Wednesday

The accident occurred near milestone 75 under the jurisdiction of Naujheel police station when the sports utility vehicle (SUV) with the couple's 45-year-old son at the wheel, rammed into the back of a stationary truck.

The family, residents of Palam Vihar in Gurgaon, were travelling to Lucknow to attend a relative's funeral. The incident took place around 7 am when Ashish Malhotra, who ran a property-related busi-

ness, allegedly fell asleep at the wheel causing the speeding vehicle to collide with the parked truck. The impact killed his parents, Gopinath Malhotra (75) and Pramila Malhotra (70), on the spot, said police.

The car was heavily damaged, and Ashish sustained serious injuries. He was rescued after 40 minutes when emergency responders cut through the mangled remains of the car. Police said that Ashish survived as the airbag on the steering wheel opened at the right time.

Naujheel SHO Shailendra Singh said, "We have seized the truck, and the bodies have been sent for postmortem. Further action will be taken after a formal complaint is filed."

Hundreds of such accidents occurred all over the country day after day; Nothing has changed till date.

Exemplary punishment is required for the offender.

2 killed and 1 Seriously Injured

- There is no Road Safety Management Capacity in the Government Ministries for planning, managing and implementing Road Safety Action Plan.
- It is unfortunate that Government has not made Road Safety as a PRIORITY in the country.
- IRF-India Chapter has prepared a detailed **Road Safety Action Plan** for the country based on the persisting problems; but the Government is not interested in it – as it appears
- Ministries are spending huge amount of money every year in Road Safety, in their own way, without any result

Road Safety Action Plan picture

Recommendations for Achieving Better Road Safety in a Coordinated Way....

Desperate need of three things:

1. Road Safety Management Capacity

Recommendations for Achieving Better Road Safety in a Coordinated Way....

Desperate need of three things:

1. Road Safety Management Capacity

**2. Road Safety Management
Capacity**

Recommendations for Achieving Better Road Safety in a Coordinated Way....

Desperate need of three things:

1. Road Safety Management Capacity

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**3. Road Safety Management
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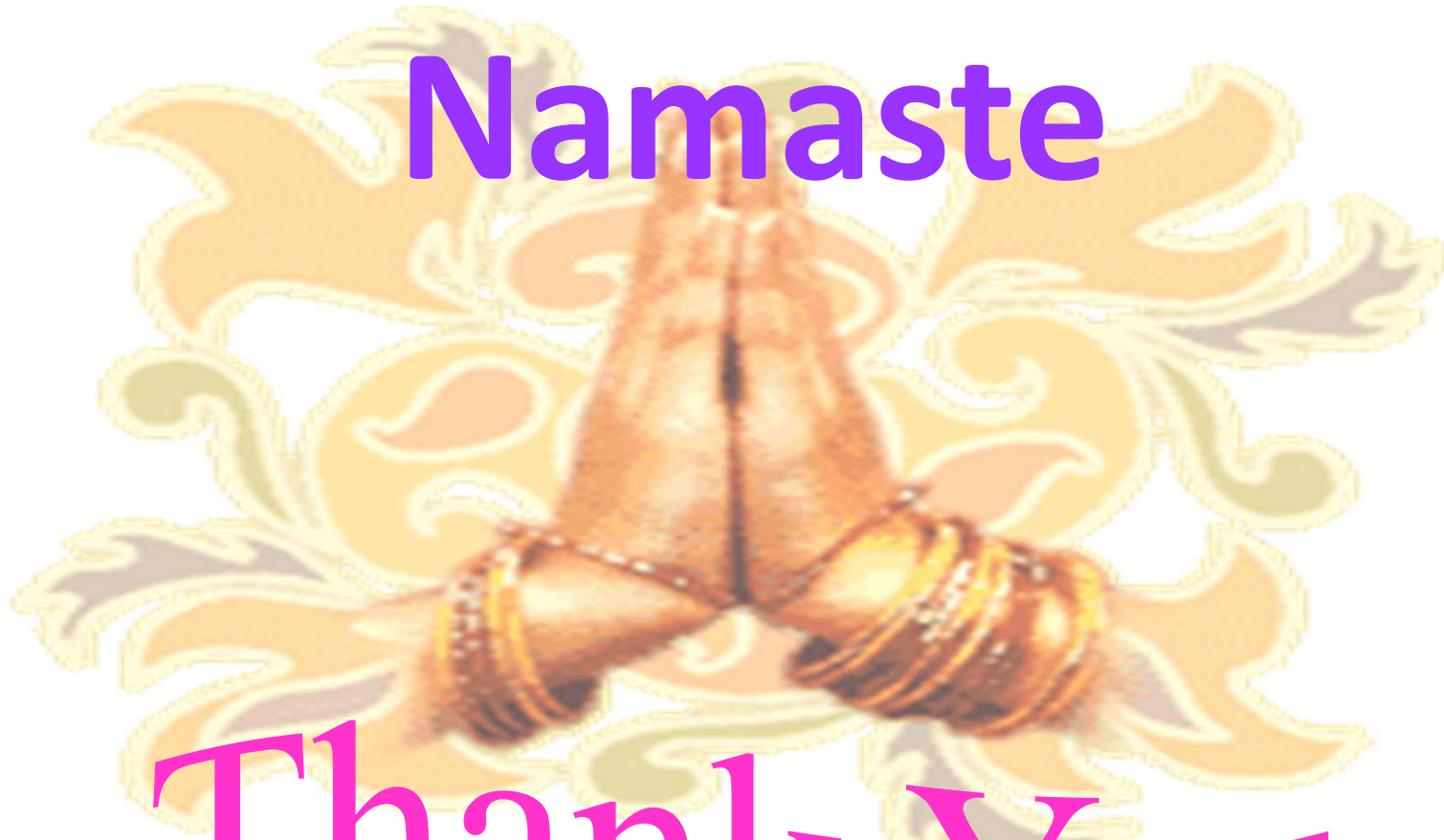
Road safety is extremely poor in most LMICs.

Why WHO has limited success so far?

This is due to.....

- (i) lack of political wills and serious attentions;
- (ii) inadequate funds;
- (iii) huge shortages of genuinely and formally qualified professionals and engineers, exclusively and explicitly working on road safety

Namaste



Thank You

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