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Perspective

Total Pedestrian Deaths in Major cities of INDIA (2021) Policy for Pedestrians-Complete Streets

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India has a well-knit and coordinated system of transportation, services and movement of people. It is one of the key indicators in assessment of socio-economic development of the country. The data collected by National Crime Record Bureau (NCRB) forms the basis to devise appropriate preventive strategies. Total Accidental Deaths in India is estimated to be 3,97,530. In which Percentage Change in Accidental Deaths over the Previous Year is 6.2%, rate of accidental deaths is 29.1, percentage change in rate of accidental deaths over the previous year is 5.1%. There has been an increase in number of traffic accidents deaths during 2021 (1,73,860 deaths) over during 2020 (1,46,354 deaths). The term 'Mega City' refers to a city which has a population of 10 lakhs or more. As per the Population Census 2011, the status of mega city has been accorded to 53 cities. A total of 53,497 accidental deaths were reported in 53 mega cities during 2021. Maximum numbers of accidental deaths (6,905 deaths) were reported in Mumbai accounting for 12.9% of total deaths, followed by Bengaluru (3,613), Delhi City (3,074), Pune (2,900), Surat (2,288) and Jaipur (2,117). Rate of accidental deaths in these 53 mega cities was higher (33.3) than all India rate of accidental deaths (29.1) The rate of accidental deaths was highest in Rajkot (92.9), followed by Faridabad (90.9), Raipur (89.0), Asansol (86.7), Ludhiana (77.2) and Nagpur (76.6) as compared to average rate for the cities (33.3). Out of 53,497 accidental deaths in 53 mega cities; 533 and 52,964 deaths were due to 'Forces of Nature' and 'Other Causes' respectively during 2021. An increase of 71.4% was observed in deaths due to forces of nature and an increase of 5.5% was witnessed in deaths due to 'Other Causes' during 2021 over 2020 respectively. Kolkata, the third largest city in terms of population (8.8% of the total population of all mega cities) among 53 cities, reported the low share of deaths in cities accounting for 0.6% of total accidental deaths in 53 mega cities during 2021. A total of 95,362 cases of 'Other' accidents were reported in 53 mega cities which caused injuries to 48,220 persons and 52,964 deaths during 2021. The cause-wise analysis of deaths due to other causes revealed that 27.8%, 26.3%, and 7.5%

deaths in 53 cities were due to "Traffic Accidents' (14,714), Sudden deaths' (13,955), and 'Falls' (3,964) respectively. Among 53 cities, Mumbai city (6,716) accounted for 12.7% of total deaths reported under 'Other' accidents followed by Bengaluru (3,613) and Delhi city (3,074) which accounted for 6.8% and 5.8% respectively during 2021.Pedestrian accounted for 1 in 10 traffic fatalities in which 60,000 pedestrian injuries and nearly 29,200 fatalities recorded in 2021surpassing the combined road fatalities of the entire European Union and Japan.

Hence the novel policy of complete roads as been suggested as preventive strategy. The Complete Road strategy suggests entire right-of-way to enable safe access for all users. "Enabling policies for complete streets include the following: Funding policies, Planning policies, Engineering and design policies, Maintenance policies Supporting policies address elements that are not directly related to street facilities or road improvements, but nonetheless are critical for improving pedestrian and bicyclist safety and mobility. Supporting policies include the following: Motor vehicle parking policies, Motor vehicle restrictions, Traffic calming, End of-trip facilities, Integration with transit, Education policies, Encouragement policies, Enforcement policies, System evaluation as we are aware of prevention is better than cure, both pedestrians and Government should work together for better outcome. The prevention of mortality and morbidity can be brought down by appropriate policy in place and the pedestrians, motor vehicle drivers and other stakeholders following the rules properly. Automatic Emergency Breaking (AEB) in vehicles is one of the preventive measures to protect the Vulnerable Road users. The Euro NCP AEB Pedestrian is a innovative programme where radar sensor, positioned on the front grille, bumper or air vents of the car sense the incoming pedestrian and apply autonomous breaking system which is developing by BOSCH in India. Talking over the Mobile, Alcohol consumption, negligence by the pedestrian should also be avoided. Whenever possible use zebra crossing for safe cross over the congested road.