

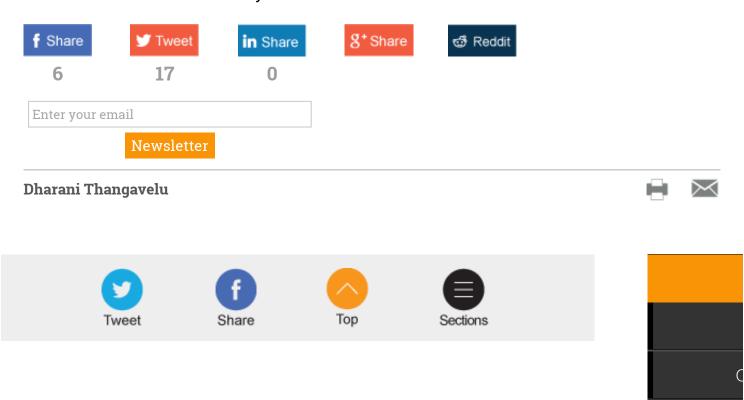


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Road accidents in India kill more than 2 lakh people: WHO

WHO estimates are 46% more than the national statistics released by the National Crime Records Bureau in July





Some 1.25 million people die each year globally as a result of road traffic crashes, accord WHO's report, despite improvements in road safety. Photo: Raj K. Raj/HT

Chennai: India accounts for more than 200,000 deaths because of road accider according to the Global Road Safety Report, 2015 released on Monday by the W Health Organisation (WHO).

This is 46% more than the national statistics released by the National Crime ReBureau (NCRB) in July.

While the total deaths estimated by WHO for 2014 are 207,551, the deaths reportunder Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India (ADSI) by National Crime Records Bureau of India (NCRB) for the year 2014 are 141,526. In India, there has been a continuous increase in road crash deaths since 2007, with a brief annual reduction in 2012.

"The report states that the Indian road safety laws do not meet the best practice requirements for four out of five risk factors: enforcing speed limits, prevention of drunk driving, safety of children and use of helmets. Even for seat-belts, where the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, is in consonance with the WHO standards, the enforcement is poor and India has a pathetic score of four out 10. With respect to vehicle safety,

India meets only two out of the seven vehicle safety standards," said Piyush Tewari, Founder and CEO of SaveLIFE Foundation.

Some 1.25 million people die each year globally as a result of road traffic crashes, according to the WHO's report, despite improvements in road safety.

"Road traffic fatalities take an unacceptable toll – particularly on poor people in poor countries," said Margaret Chan, Director-General of WHO. A big gap still separates high-income countries from low- and middle- income ones where 90% of road traffic deaths occur in spite of having just 54% of the world's vehicles.



Dharani Thangavelu

TOPICS: ROAD ACCIDENTS WHO INDIA NCRB ROAD SAFETY

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