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## WHO releases Global Status Report on Road Safety, 2015

***According to WHO, more than 1.25 million people die each year as a result of road traffic crashes. The report suggests that India accounts for more than 2 lakh of those deaths. Shockingly, this is 46% more than what the national statistics released by the NCRB in 2014 reveal.***

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Tamilnadu October 27, 2015: According to the Global Status Report on Road Safety, 2015, released by World Health Organization (WHO), more than 1.25 million people die each year as a result of road traffic crashes. The report suggests that India accounts for more than 2 lakh of those deaths. Shockingly, this is 46% more than what the national statistics released by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) in 2014 reveal.

Piyush Tewari, Founder and CEO, SaveLIFE Foundation, said "The report should be an eye-opener for our law makers, as it categorically states that the Indian road safety laws do not meet the best practice requirements for 4 out of 5 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 4 out 10. With

respect to vehicle safety, India meets only 2 out of the 7 vehicle safety standards."

"Mr. Gadkari has repeatedly promised safer roads to all citizens. The government must act swiftly to fulfill the commitment made to its citizens by introducing a strong road safety bill in the upcoming winter session of the Parliament that addresses all the risk factors", appealed Mr. Tewari.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) include a target of 50% reduction in road traffic deaths and injuries globally. With highest number of road crash deaths in the world, India will need to play a decisive role in meeting this goal as well.

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