

Is road safety really important?

Yes indeed it is.

"You can't get home unless you are safe" I read this somewhere and this anonymous saying is completely appropriate. Safety and security are the two basic elements that every human being wants in his life. Safety is desired everywhere whether it is workplace, institution or even at home. Everyone is concerned about well being of the family and friends but one place with his concern over safety rises to the maximum level in India is on our roads. Our country faces the issue of unsafe roads and high number of on road accidents and crashes which leads to many casualties. Today being on road has become risky for pedestrians as well as drivers and the problem is ever growing. The data regarding the Indian roads is scary with 19 deaths every hour on road that is one death in every 3 minutes. It sounds horrible and shows how hazardous our roads have become and shows by road safety has become a necessity now.

Safer roads imply to having roads which are riskless and secure for the commuters whether they are pedestrians on people driving. Road safety has become a major concern for our country in the past few years. With the ever growing rate of new vehicles coming on road, our roads are becoming crowded everyday. According to a recent data of Times of India approximately 53700 new vehicles are registered everyday in our country. This alone speaks for the amount of pressure that our Indian roads are undergoing with each passing day. To combat this pressure we need to frame new rules and to have new guidelines and stricter implementation. We need to find new ideas in order to make our roads more friendly to user and reduce the number of accidents and injuries that are caused.

One of the best way to find the solution to the problems that our country is facing is to learn from the other countries that have successfully reduced the rates of the death on road and and looking into the policies that they implemented for achieving this target. Sweden is considered to be the safest road in the world with only lowest of 237 deaths in a year. Countries like Switzerland, Singapore, United Kingdom too have very safe roads and learning from these countries can be of great help. Moreover we can develop new technology and raise awareness through different programs and tell people about the guidelines and the rules they must follow.

The major cause of deaths are drink and drive or rash driving. The maximum number of people who get into accidents are the teenagers and the people who are drunk. The legal age for permanent driving licence in our country is 18 but it is not followed. Rules are mocked at and forged driving licences can be created very easily. People get away by breaking rules by giving some money to the traffic police. There are major flaws in our system that need to be corrected and the existing rules must be implemented properly.

There are many other solutions that can be implemented to achieve safer roads live creating Low urban speed limit zones, separate pedestrians zones, proper speed bumpers on the road covering our potholes.

Technology can play a very vast role in helping make our roads better. New innovations can be made in our cars and vehicles such as we can have breathalyzers in a car that do not allow our driver to start the car if he is drunk ,we can also install systems that can make the driving speed to not go more than a define limit ,we can set alarms in our system if the car is over speeding and many such other changes can be made in our vehicles.

The people should be made aware that their lives are precious and over speeding and breaking the rules will do no good to the society as well as to themselves ,it will barely result in loss of a life. Safety over speed should be preached and there should be many campaigns lead in our schools so that the teenagers and young generation can learn to respect rules and learn to value their lives.

Our government should also play its part by making our roads well equipped with street lights better traffic lights, better road signals and covering up the potholes that are major cause seen in many accidents. In hilly areas there should be proper barricading around the roads that may prevent the vehicles from sliding into the ravines. There should be a separate road ambulance service for emergency cases so that the number of casualties decrease.

As it is said that , It is always better to be safe than sorry. And in case of road accidents that sorry is fatal. So it is always better to not risk our lives in first place and regret it forever. I have a strong feeling that with all the proper steps taken for making our roads safe will surely result in sweet fruits that will lead to decrease in the number of our road casualties and our roads will become safer.

With that note I would like to conclude by saying that life of every person is precious and no one should lose his life on road. We must create a system that helps us achieve our goal and this can only be done if everyone cooperates and think rationally not only about themselves but also for other people. As a nation we have achieved many things and can also overcome this issue if we are determined and we should start from the day today itself and spread the message to the other people as safer roads will surely help create a safer tomorrow.