

## **Seminar on “Road Safety During Dark Hours”**

**13<sup>th</sup> September 2014 at New Delhi**

The Seminar on “Road Safety During Dark Hours” was inaugurated by Shri Vijay Chhibber, Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH), addressed by Shri Sanjay Bandopadhyaya, Jt. Secretary, MoRTH and Shri K. K. Kapila, Chairman, IRF Geneva Programme Centre. Mr. Balraj Bhanot, Chairman TEDC (BIS), Mrs. Debashree Mukherjee, CMD-DTC, Mr. Anil Shukla, Jt. Commissioner of Police Traffic, Mr. Harish Banwari, Director, 3M Traffic Division, Prof P. K. Sikdar, Advisor IRF IC and Dr. Amit Banerjee, Maulana Azad Medical College were the Speakers during the Technical Session at the Seminar. The important recommendations arising out of the Seminar are as follows :

### **Policy and Institutional Issues**

1. Road Safety audits at night time to be made mandatory on highways, arterial roads, accident prone roads, etc. and suggestions arising therefrom be implemented on top priority.
2. Adequacy of street lighting be ensured in urban areas, especially for highways, arterial roads, accident prone roads.
3. All new commercial vehicles manufactured and launched into the market to have Front Underrun Protection Device (FUPD), Rear Underrun Protection Device (RUPD) and Side Underrun Protection Device (SUPD). Commercial vehicles already on road to be Retro fitted within a stipulated time and in any case before the annual inspection of the vehicle.
4. Adaptive Front Lighting System (AFS) to be fitted in the commercial vehicles so as to adjust the headlight beam according to the light conditions.
5. Smart Head lights should be designed so as to do more than just reduce headlight glare. They can block the rays of light that reflect off snowflakes and raindrops to enhance a motorist's vision when driving at moderate speed at night in snow or rain. They can also boost light output as needed to fully illuminate road signs and potential obstacles.
6. Use of white helmets to be promoted, as it was found to reduce visibility related motorcycle collisions by 45%.
7. Road Safety Cell to be created in all Public Works Department, across the country.
8. Assured Ambulance Service for rapid transportation of accident victims, needs to be provided.

9. Staggered times to be adopted in schools, particularly for those in close proximity to each other to combat traffic congestion and potential accident zones, during school hours.
10. Road Safety awards to be instituted for drivers with impeccable safety records.

### **Enforcement Issues**

11. Retro-reflective tape colour specifications mandatory under Rule 62 of CMVR, to be fitted on all commercial vehicles – white in front, yellow on sides and red at the rear.
12. Installation of Fog Lamps on all vehicles, should be made mandatory.
13. All commercial vehicles to be mandatorily fitted with frontal bonnet mirror and side mirrors.
14. Annual Medical eye tests to be made mandatory for all drivers.
15. Monthly review of challans should be undertaken and habitual/repeat defaulters to be punished more stringently.
16. Installation of GPS, CCTV Camera, Speed Governors in buses to monitor the driver as well as the road conditions.
17. Fixing of Alcolock on four wheelers to check drunken driving to be installed. Their installation to be made mandatory in trucks and buses.
18. Containers moving on Indian roads must be anchored on trailers and they must have adequate reflectivity with reflective tapes affixed on all sides – white in front, yellow on sides and red at the rear.
19. Provisioning of Unique High Security Number Plates should be speeded up.
20. Installation of Videos in the front dash board should be banned.

### **Road Safety Engineering Measures**

21. Segregation of cycles and pedestrians through dedicated lanes
22. Ensure properly placed delineators, road studs, nose protection, chevron panels appropriately at all required locations.
23. Accident analysis to identify the common cause should be undertaken regularly.
24. Bus shelters should be free of encroachments.
25. High visibility road markings to be promoted, especially on speed breakers.
26. Educate and Promote use of Safety Air Triangle provided as a part of the kit to isolate and mark the accident or break down site.