



1,70,000 deaths due to traffic mishaps in a year in the country: How much concern is visible?

465 deaths on an average every day on the roads, due to traffic mishaps



Road safety must be the top priority in India. It should be taken as one of the **most serious** issues. Awareness & action are needed.

The Asian Tribune

The statistics are horrifying. Every day, hundreds are dying due to road mishaps in the country and the figure goes up to nearly 1,70,000 in a year. The graph has been going upwards every year and yet there is not enough awareness and seriousness, visible regarding this aspect. Around half-a-million traffic mishaps take place in the country and the fatalities are so high that it needs drive on war footing to ensure that people realise how many lives are lost on roads. Apart from deaths, serious injuries affect victims, ruin lives and cause lifelong health issues. Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Madhya

Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Bihar are states that register the largest number of deaths in road accidents. All of them recorded over 10,000 deaths in the last report on accidental deaths that was released by the National Crime Record Bureau. That, each death affects an entire family and the loss of earning member can push entire family into poverty, is such a big humanitarian cost that it needs urgent attention. Road safety is a big issue and one of the major cause of deaths in India. It the biggest killer and destroys innumerable families, but hasn't been taken as seriously as it should have

been. From regulating heavy vehicles to control on over speeding, strict action and penalty on overcrowded buses on highways, overloaded trucks, special focus on use of helmet are steps that are needed to bring down the figure of deaths. If we compare the figures over the years, then, the number of deaths in India, due to road accidents was 84,000 in the year 2002. Five years later, it had crossed 1 lakh in the year 2007 & reached 1,14,000. In 2012, it was 1,38,000. In 2017, it crossed 1,47,000. The peak was in 2022, when the number recorded was 1,71,000. During Coronavirus pandemic, the figure fell but it again went up after 2020. As it takes time to obtain info from cities, towns and districts, before they are compiled and after multiple levels of verification, subsequently the state wise data is sent to Delhi, and final report is prepared. Hence, the report is available later. Clearly, road mishaps and the deaths, injuries due to them, are a major challenge and the policy makers, representatives need to be even more serious about the extent of human loss due to the accidents. This figure is horrific and is among one of the highest in the world. In fact, if the deaths on railway tracks that include those of people crossing and vehicles hit at unmanned crossing are included, then the figure goes

even higher. The sad aspect is that despite the impact and level of severity of the phenomenon, not as much attention is given to protection of lives on the streets. Government and top officials, the ministry and think-tanks have been doing the job but at the local level—in cities, states and regions, there is need for a sustained campaign to create an awareness in this regard.

MULTIPLE FACTORS

The factors are multiple and must be known. Firstly, the accidents occur most in the 6 pm to 9 pm duration.

Secondly, driving under the influence of liquor or any drug, is other major cause. Unfit vehicles, minors driving the two-wheelers or cars, ignoring traffic rules, cattle on roads and weather conditions are also responsible for the mishaps.

Educational institutions, social organizations and local leaders need to consistently talk about the issue and raise awareness level, in order to stop the menace and bring down the number of mishaps, as well as the figure of deaths.

Apex Court asks how the houses can be demolished

BULLDOZER: Controversial practice to raze houses, reaches Apex Court. SC may issue guidelines.

The Asian Tribune

Will the bulldozer finally be stopped? The practice to raze the house of any offender, a suspect or a convict, has finally reached the Supreme Court. The 'bulldozer justice' as it is 'ironically' termed, has been a major issue in the country over the last couple of years. Often, houses have been demolished without the occupants even getting notice.

The Supreme Court today asked how even a man who is an offender, can be given such a punishment. The Justice BR Gavai and Justice K Viswanathan bench has proposed laying nationwide guidelines that need to be followed. Acting as petitioner, the Sr Advocate Dushyant Dave sought Apex court's direction on the bulldozer Action that is taking place



in various states across the country. The Supreme Court said that even if the person is guilty (convicted), how can a house be razed, unless and until it is an unauthorized construction. The point that a family member's involvement in a crime, doesn't justify action that affects entire family, as other family members have no role in the individual's act, also came up.

The petitioners said that in some cases, the houses that were as old as fifty to sixty years, were demolished. The bulldozer action has been taken in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand & Delhi. Solicitor General of India Tushar Mehta said that the petitioners were misinterpreting the entire issue. Next hearing will be on September 17.

Japan promotes 4-day work in a week, but plan is yet to generate enthusiasm

The aim is to reform the work culture and provide more flexibility.

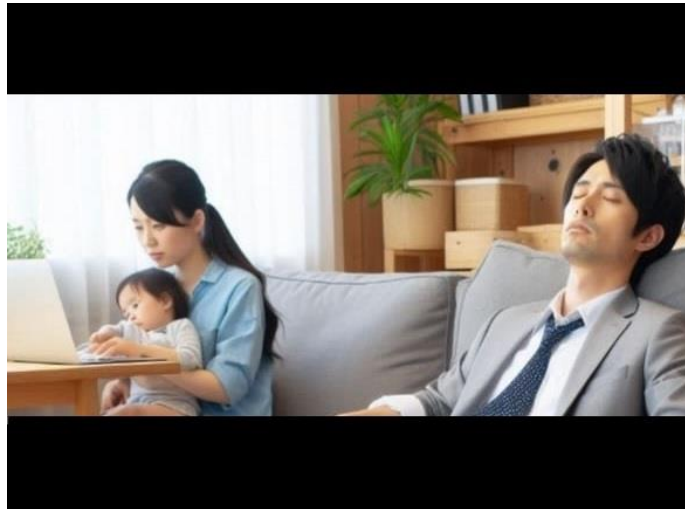
The Asian Tribune

TOKYO: Having three days' leave every week--will it be too much relaxation and comfort for the Japanese.

In a country known for efficiency, work culture and discipline, the government wants companies to adopt the concept of work on even fewer days. Out of seven days in a week, four for work and three for rest or fun.

It is seen as a move to bring flexibility and give comfort to the employees. In fact, government has been going out of the way to approach companies and offering financial support as well as counselling in this regard.

Though it has not yet caused enough excitement as the figures suggest that the four day workweek hasn't been a successful idea yet, the



ministry sees it as a reform process that would help in improving the work culture and the employees would feel more relaxed.

Japanese are known to be workaholics and this reputation is real. In fact, the country saw

unprecedented progress due to the hard work of the people and their focus towards the work. In fact, it's a complex issue.

The country has witnessed major social transformation in recent

years. While birth rate is going down, the pressure and lifestyle makes it tough to balance workplace and home.

Hence, many people get stressed, turn loners or avoid taking responsibility of family. There are fewer marriages and lesser children.

The government hopes to make a change through the flexibility. So that the Japanese can have ample time, the ease in lifestyle that can excite them towards other aspects of life and plan for family and children.

But, the people haven't been much enthusiastic about the four day week. The age-old lifestyle and the unease about coming back to work after three days' off, are among the several other reasons that very few employees are opting for the four day workweek.

Asia

Turkey's proposal to join the BRICS group of nation, is a vital strategic move

The Asian Tribune

Turkey has made a formal move and expressed its intent to join the BRICS, which is a group of nations including Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa amongst others.

The President Recep Tayyip Erdogan has been aiming to expand Turkey's influence and the step seems to be part of the plan to spread the influence of the strategically located country. The country has



been forging ties with several nations over the last few years, even though its old alliance partners were unhappy at times with the country's stance.

Turkey is an Asian country but has its western part [that includes Istanbul], located in the other continent.

In recent times, its links with Russia had irked NATO members.

Despite its closeness with the Western block, Turkey felt that it was getting a raw deal and there was a clear rift within the European Union, as far as Turkey was concerned. BRICS has expanded and included Egypt, Ethiopia, Saudi Arab recently.

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