

Press Note

Mumbai-Pune Expressway sees biggest drop in fatalities in last 12 years

Zero Fatality Corridor project delivers 43% reduction in deaths

January 27th 2020, Mumbai: As per data released by the Zero Fatality Corridor project, a joint initiative of MSRDC, Maharashtra Highway Police, Mahindra & Mahindra, and SaveLIFE Foundation, to reduce deaths on the Mumbai Pune Expressway, the number of fatalities on MPEW have now seen an overall reduction of 43% since the project began in 2016. The MPEW suffered 151 deaths in 2016 and 86 in 2019. The severity of crashes, which is defined as number of deaths per hundred crashes, has also come down from 53.5% to 24.8%.

A combination of well-coordinated interventions under the project such as crash data analysis, fixing of engineering issues, smart patrolling to prevent collisions with parked vehicles, and improvements in ambulance response contributed to the reduction in fatalities.

Commenting on the feat, Mr RL Mopalwar, Vice Chairman & MD of MSRDC stated that, “Every death on the expressway is a matter of grave concern for us. We will not rest till we get to zero preventable deaths on this crucial link between Mumbai and Pune”.

Mr Vinay Kargaonkar, Additional Director General of Police, Traffic noted, “Intensified patrolling and our zero tolerance policy towards violators has shown results. Going forward, we will intensify the same. We appeal to the commuters who use the expressway to cooperate with us in this initiative and drive responsibly”.

The project, conceptualised and managed by SaveLIFE Foundation is supported by auto-major Mahindra & Mahindra through its CSR funds. M&M is also supporting the project through employee volunteers and support with driver research.

Commenting on the impact of the project, Mr. Vijay Nair, Vice President – Admin & CSR (AFS), M&M said, “It’s a matter of great satisfaction that the efforts are showing positive results and fatalities have reduced by over 40% since we started in 2016. We are confident that fatalities will come down to near zero by 2021.”

Commenting on the partnership, Piyush Tewari, Founder and CEO of SaveLIFE Foundation stated that, “The partnership-based approach to road safety is the only way to save lives on roads in India. We still have some way to go to achieve zero preventable fatalities but our strong partnership with various Maharashtra Government agencies, MSRDC and M&M gives us the confidence to carry on till we get there.”

The Mumbai-Pune Expressway was opened to commuters in 2002 and is said to be the country’s first expressway.

Detailed data-sheet and analysis enclosed.

About Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation Ltd. (MSRDC)

MSRDC is a corporation established and fully owned by the Government of Maharashtra. MSRDC strives to deliver exceptional, strategic and integrated infrastructure services to the State of Maharashtra. MSRDC constructed India's first Expressway, the Mumbai-Pune Expressway (MPEW) which redefined the values of traffic and commuter needs and put MSRDC on India's map of transport infra companies. The Bandra Worli Sea Link (BWSL), has become Mumbai's new landmark and adds a feather in the cap of India's infrastructural growth story. Record time construction of 55 flyover project in the city of Greater Mumbai, NSGM connecting Mumbai and Nagpur through inner parts of Marathwada and Vidarbha are other projects which gives credentials to the MSRDC.

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About SaveLIFE Foundation

SaveLIFE Foundation (SLF) is an award winning non-governmental organization focused on improving road safety and emergency medical care across India. SLF combines innovative on-ground interventions with advocacy for stronger national level policies to establish a sustainable framework for road safety and emergency medical care. In the recent past, SLF has secured protection for Good Samaritans who come forward to help injured people in road accidents through the landmark judgement of the Supreme Court of India in W.P. No. 235/2012, SaveLIFE Foundation v. Union of India. Presently, SLF is advocating for a comprehensive and all-inclusive national road safety law for India.

Visit us at www.savelifefoundation.org

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