

## Did you know?

- Vulnerable road users like pedestrians, cyclists and two wheeler riders account for around 54% of deaths due to road accidents.
- Pedestrians accounted for 15% of the road users killed in 2018.
- Over speeding of the vehicles causes highest number of pedestrian deaths.
- There is around 11% rise in pedestrian deaths in 2018.

(According to Road Accidents in India - 2018, MORTH)

### Globally, pedestrians are considered as the most vulnerable road users and their protection must get highest priority.

According to a study by IIHS, nearly 80% of people travel on foot in India. Yet a clear conventional wisdom around pedestrians' rights and best practices for the design of pedestrian systems (footpaths, street crossings, etc.) has not fully emerged in our cities.

STEP is aimed towards working on these issues of pedestrians by involving them in it for making cities pedestrian friendly.

Raise your voice, ask for your rights.  
Come and Join the movement.

Become a STEP Wayfinder.



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## Steps Toward Empowering Pedestrians

At STEP, we bring pedestrians together to fight for their rights in the form of a sustained, organized campaign. While there are a lot of policies, guidelines and even court judgments that recognize the rights and the primacy of pedestrians, the ground reality is the exact opposite.

We believe that this is because pedestrians are not vocal about their demands. This needs to change. We ask for our city to be walkable, both in terms of infrastructure as well as a culture of respecting pedestrians.



Having good roads, footpaths is a fundamental right. No city can become a smart city unless it has roads and footpaths in a reasonable good condition”

- Bombay High Court

(pil -71.13)

(High Court on Its own Motion vs State of Maharashtra and Ors)

## Concern

The issue of pedestrian safety is of grave concern as it is the pedestrian who faces the brunt of erratic and reckless driving. Pedestrians are often treated as unwanted obstacles by motorists, showing no respect for them at all. Even though media outlets and many organizations talk about road safety, the concern of pedestrians is hardly looked upon and mostly neglected while constructing urban street infrastructure.

## Activities

Awareness and Mobilization Campaigns  
Capacity Building of government officials  
Engagement with different stakeholders  
Research and Advocacy

### **We want**

To make cities pedestrian friendly.

### **We will**

Create a platform for pedestrians to work together on the issues related to pedestrians and empower them to fight for their rights, safer and better pedestrian facilities.

### **Our Goals**

- Creating a platform for pedestrians to raise their issues.
- Making pedestrians aware of their rights.
- Creating a strong pressure group by involving pedestrians.
- Raising pedestrians' issues to the concerned authorities.
- Building network and alliance with the stakeholders.
- Promoting walking in the city - as a mode of commute.

### **Why is improving the walking environment important?**

- Pedestrian Safety.
- Health benefits.
- Children and senior citizen friendly.
- Effective first and last mile connectivity.
- No cost option, green option and improved air quality.
- Walk to work.

The most notable public places in our cities and towns are generally those where people gather on foot - the streets, the parks, and the squares. These are democratic places that make our cities and towns livable and vital. Our streets especially have a significant responsibility to be accessible to all, and to be functional, safe, convenient, and attractive places to walk.

However, despite its ubiquitous nature, walking itself is not something people think or talk about very often. Discussions of urban mobility are dominated by traffic reports, congestion relief, parking problems, etc.

