

Session 1(i)

Implementing Pedestrian Safety Interventions: Improving visibility and assessing risk factors of pedestrians

29th February, 1000 hrs to 1100 hrs

Speakers

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Convener, Pedestrians First

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Background

India's constitution guarantees every citizen a fundamental right to move freely throughout the country. Today, this right is violated in most cities, as pedestrian infrastructure has taken a backseat in the planning of Indian cities. Traditional Indian cities with compact development, mixed-use areas, and walkable streets are being dismantled and redeveloped to make way for sprawling cities and unending roads that cater to private automobiles. Policy recommendations and design directives borrowed from automobile dependent, developed nations are changing the form, structure, and context of modern Indian cities. Pedestrians are losing space on roads and on-street parking often takes precedence over pedestrian infrastructure like paved sidewalks.

This has put pedestrian's safety at risk and significant improvement to pedestrian safety requires a balanced approach that includes both perspectives- engineering measures and behaviour-change measures.

Objective

The session will broadly focus on the following:

1. What are the several risk factors for pedestrian safety?
2. What are the ways in which engineering and behavioural measures can be implemented in a more effective way?
3. What are the different sites through which pedestrian safety interventions can be made (Ex- policy, law, research-based studies, public intervention)?
4. What role can initiatives like STEP and citizen groups can play for pedestrian safety intervention?

Session:

Broadly, the session is divided into two parts:

Conversation with panelists: 45 minutes (approx. 15 minutes per speaker)

Q&A with audience and presentations: 15 minutes