Road Safety Situation in Nepal

Sanjaya Kumar Shrestha
Senior Divisional Engineer
Department of Roads, Nepal
Strategic Road Network of Nepal
A Brief Introduction of Nepal

• Average length: 885 Km
• Breadth: varying from 133 to 255 Km
• Total Land Area: 1,47,181 sq. Km
• Total Population: 26.4 million
• North border: China
• Rest: India
Geography of Nepal

- Nepal is broadly classified into (South to North):
  - Flat terrain: Terai
  - Mid Hills and valleys
  - Steep Mountains

- Construction of Roads is challenging and difficult in the hills and steep mountains
Introduction of the DoR, Nepal

Department of Roads is responsible for:

- Managing roads for national integration and socio-economic development
- Construction and maintenance of Roads and Bridges of SRN
- Roads under SRN are:
  - Highways: 5257 Km
  - Feeder roads: 9231 Km
  - Total: 14488 Km
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal year</th>
<th>Road Accidents</th>
<th>Vehicle involved</th>
<th>Injured</th>
<th>Seriously injured</th>
<th>Deaths</th>
<th>No. of Regd. vehicles</th>
<th>Death Rate (per 10000 regd. Vehicles)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>4637</td>
<td>6821</td>
<td>524</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>1131</td>
<td>710914</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>5519</td>
<td>8353</td>
<td>645</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>1356</td>
<td>813484</td>
<td>16.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>7438</td>
<td>11747</td>
<td>738</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>1734</td>
<td>101527</td>
<td>17.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>8803</td>
<td>14013</td>
<td>850</td>
<td>470</td>
<td>1689</td>
<td>117891</td>
<td>14.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>8892</td>
<td>14287</td>
<td>781</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>1837</td>
<td>134899</td>
<td>13.62</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Accidents: Overview

- Out of the total registered vehicles in Nepal, about 50% ply inside Kathmandu valley.
- About 50% of the road traffic accidents occur in Kathmandu.
- Death Rate is higher outside Kathmandu in case of traffic accidents.
- Motorcycles are mostly involved inside Kathmandu.
- Heavy vehicles like bus, truck, etc. are involved outside Kathmandu.
- About 0.8% of the GNP is lost due to accidents.
Causes of Accidents

- Overspeeding
- Drunk driving
- Mechanical failure
- Road conditions
- Fatigue
- Weather conditions
- Others (pedestrians, cattle, etc.)
- Arrogant drivers that don’t blow horns while negotiating blind curves.
Challenges

- Raising sustainable fund for road safety and accident prevention
- Increasing and Prioritizing Investment
- Promoting coordinated effort among all stakeholders of road safety
- Capacity building, Research and Development
- Development of National Road Safety Policy and Action Plan
- Effective and sustainable accident database management
Measures to Minimize Accidents

- Education
- Engineering
- Enforcement
- Encouragement
- Evaluation/Adjustment