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For 59%, helmets do not matter at all

Study By IIHMR University Shows Gross Negligence Of Traffic Safety Norms In Rajasthan

Jaipur: Every year, at least 40,000 people are admitted to Sawai Man Singh Hospital alone in the city with injuries sustained from traffic accidents. But no lesson seems to have been learnt from the rising number of fatalities and injuries caused by accidents.

A recent study conducted in the state shows that 59% of people riding two-wheelers do not wear helmets at all, while only 39% wore them correctly. Meanwhile, only 34% wore seat belts correctly in the state.

A total of 1.17 lakh two-wheeler riders and 57,504 pillion riders from all seven divisions of the state — Jaipur, Kota, Ajmer, Bharatpur, Udaipur, Jodhpur, and Bikaner — were surveyed for the study, said to be the first-of-its-kind in the country.

To some extent, the Jaipur division fared better in following traffic rules for safety compared to the other six divisions of the state.

But, in Jaipur division too, a huge chunk of people do not follow traffic rules.

Though helmets are compulsory for riding pillion in the city, only 41.5% pillion riders were found wearing them in Jaipur division.

While 70% four-wheeler drivers were found wearing seat belts in Jaipur, 54% reported using them overall in Rajasthan. The people of Bharatpur division followed traffic norms the least in comparison to other divisions.

While only 15% two-wheeler riders wore helmets correctly, a measley 1.7% pillion riders wore them correctly, with 8.4% four-wheel drivers wearing seat belts and 4.4% co-passengers doing the same in Bharatpur.

— The study further shows that a mere 0.1% pillion riders wore helmets in Kota.

On the action front, the study shows 19% four-wheel drivers were stopped by the police in the past three months, with one-third of them left with a warning.

The Center for Injury Research, IIHMR University, conducted this baseline study to help the Centre for Road Safety, Sardar Patel University of Police (SPUP) Security and Criminal Justice, to implement a project to improve road safety in the state. The data was gathered between February 2015 and March 2015.

The overall goal of the baseline study was to assess the current status of helmet and seat belt use in the state,

Jaipur.

“In terms of findings on pillion riders, a little less than 12% wore helmets correctly, about 86% had not worn helmets at all. Jaipur had the highest percentage compliance, with 41.5% pillion riders wearing helmets correctly followed by Jodhpur (13.8%), Udaipur (15.8%), Bikaner (1.9%), Bharatpur (1.7%), Ajmer (0.3%) and Kota (0.1%) at the very bottom.”

The self-reported use of helmets by motorcycle riders in urban areas was 69.8%, rural 41% and highways 66.2%.

Two-thirds of the respondents who were surveyed said that helmets saved lives, a little less than 50% said it was required by law, one-third of them said they were one to prevent fines, less than one-fourth reported they wore helmets to protect themselves from weather and about 2% said they were forced to do so by family members.
40% wear helmets, 30% use seatbelts: Survey

HT Correspondent

JAIPUR: Only 41% people in the state wear helmets and out of them only 2% wear helmets correctly, says a recent survey conducted by Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) University.

A total of 1,37,651 two-wheeler riders and 57,504 pillon riders were observed for the study.

The study was conducted by IIHMR’s Centre for Injury Research to facilitate the Center for Road Safety, Sardar Patel University of Police, Security and Criminal Justice to improve road safety in Rajasthan.

The study was conducted in all seven divisions of the state. The Centre will also assist Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) of the project to improve road safety.

Among the seven divisions, the highest percentage of drivers (not pillon riders) wearing helmets correctly was seen in Jaipur (62.7%), while Bharatpur was observed to have the lowest (15%). Nearly 88% pillon riders did not wear helmets at all.

When it comes to seatbelt usage, only a third of drivers wore seatbelts while it was worn by only a fourth of the front seat passengers.

The highest percentage of drivers wearing seatbelts was seen in Jaipur (68.5%) while the lowest was seen in Bharatpur (31.4%). The percentage of front seat passengers wearing seatbelt was highest in Jaipur (60.7%) while the lowest was in Bhanwar (1.1%). For the survey on seatbelt usage, 71,209 drivers and 56,876 front seat passengers were observed.

The overall goal of the baseline study was to assess current status of helmet and seat belt use and to know about knowledge, attitude and practice of helmet use and seat belt use by the drivers and co-passengers in Rajasthan.

This baseline will inform and help future interventions in Rajasthan.

Alok Mathur, associate professor, coordinator of Center for Injury Research, IIHMR, Jaipur said, “The objective of the baseline study on road safety was to measure the usage of helmet and seatbelt in rural, urban and highways in all seven divisions of Rajasthan and measure the knowledge, attitude and practices related to helmet and seatbelt.”

“There is a dire necessity to start awareness generation campaigns or mass media campaigns to highlight the benefits of seatbelts and helmets. Spreading a word with school children giving away an emotional message may change the practice and the whole scenario,” he added.

A total of 10,540 people died in Rajasthan due to road accidents in 2015, as per a report by the Union ministry of road transport and highways.

In the country, two wheelers have accounted for maximum fatal road accidents, contributing 31.5% of total road accidental deaths.
Low percentage of people taking safety measures on roads: study

A new study on drivers and passengers taking safety measures on roads in Rajasthan has revealed a low percentage of people wearing helmets on two-wheelers and seatbelts in cars and other four-wheelers. Only 39 per cent of road users wear helmets and 34 per cent wear seat-belts correctly in the State.

The study, undertaken by the Centre for Injury Research in the Indian Institute of Health Management Research (IIHMR) University, was the first of its kind covering the urban and rural areas and the highways in all the seven administrative divisions of the State through a baseline survey.

Only 15 per cent of motorcycle riders wear helmets correctly in Bharatpur and a mere 0.1 per cent of pillion riders wear helmets in Kota, said the Centre for Injury Research coordinator Alok Mathur here on Thursday. Two-third of the riders pay fines for not wearing a helmet, according to the study.

Seat-belts

The number of four-wheeler drivers wearing seat-belt varies from 70 per cent in Jaipur to a mere eight per cent in Bharatpur. Dr. Mathur said the self-reported use of helmets by motorcycle riders in urban areas was 60.8 per cent, while it was 41 per cent in the rural areas and 56.2 per cent on the highways.

Among the drivers using seat-belts, it was reported by two-third of them that seat-belts save lives, while more than two-fifth reported that it was required by law. Another two-fifth reported that they wear seatbelts because of the fear of fine by the police and four per cent wear seat-belts as the car indicates it with a beep.

Awareness campaigns

Making recommendations for improving road safety on the basis of the study's findings, Dr. Mathur said there was an urgent need to launch awareness campaigns through mass media across the State for highlighting the benefits of seat-belts and helmets.

Dr. Mathur pointed out that since the awareness on wearing of helmets for pillion riders was low, spreading a word with the school children giving away an emotional message may change the practice and the whole scenario.

Awareness campaign

“As the State government has taken action for compulsive usage of helmets and seat-belts, a massive awareness campaign can also be launched with an intelligent use of information and communication technology in order to ensure a behavioural change,” he said.

The IIHMR University will hand over the study's findings to the Sardar Patel University of Police, Security and Criminal Justice, Jodhpur, to facilitate implementation of the latter's project to improve road safety in the State.
रोड सेफ्टी में पीछे जयपुराइडस

भारत के दक्षिण-पश्चिम में जयपुर शहर के रोड सेफ्टी में निरीक्षण के दौरान वाहन चालकों की जांच का आयोजन किया गया है।

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अभी तक 1,57,553 लोगों ने अपने वाहन के साथ योजना का हिस्सा बनाया है।

कार में बैठने वालों की सीधी जांच

मोटर वेल में यात्रा करने वालों के लिए इस प्रकार की जांच की जा सकती है।

बाहरी और अंतर्गत की जांच

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