

ROAD ETIQUETTES AND POLITENESS

Dhananjay Kumar

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science, Sanatan Dharma College, Ambala Cantt.

ABSTRACT

Right from historic times roads have been an integral part of human beings. The importance of roads has increased with the development of civilization and the increase in the number of vehicles. However, in recent times we find that the number of road accidents is increasing causing severe loss of life and property. Road etiquette and politeness are the foundation of any driving culture. Through this research paper, some etiquette related to the road has been mentioned and the drivers are expected to follow them. So that road accidents can be reduced. In this paper, various rules made by the government related to traffic in India from time to time have been discussed. As well as some rules related to road etiquette and politeness have been highlighted in this research paper.

Keywords: Road Etiquettes, traffic rules, Politeness, Accidents.

INTRODUCTION:-

Driving Etiquette Refers to the Common Etiquette Rules that Communities Expect Drivers to follow. Today it is a big burning issue that how to prevent Road Accidents from happening day by day in India, and today's youth need to be provided information Related to Road Safety. So that Road Accidents happening Every day in India can be stopped. Recently if we talk about a report published by the World Bank in 2021. Then through that Report, it has been found that India has only one percent of the world's vehicles. But India Accounts for II percent of the world's deaths due to vehicles Accidents on the Roads. In this Recently published WORLD BANK REPORT it has been

found that 4.5 lakh road accidents take place in India Every year. In which more than 1.5 lakh people Die. 53 Road Accidents are happening in our country every hour. And every 4 minutes one person matters of great concern for all of us today. And forces us to make efforts to prevent Road Accidents from happenings in India, and as a youth, we must provide awareness about road safety to the citizen of our country. Motivate us to follow the rules related to traffic, so that we can make our India road accident free. Various efforts are being made by the government of India from time to time to make India free from road accidents, if we talk about steps taken by the government of India, then the Rules of Road Regulation Act – 1989 was brought by the government of India which going to July 1989 that was Implemented, if I talk to all of you about the Rules of Road Regulation Act – 1989, then many things were talked about in it.

Rules of Road Regulation Act- 1989 – Traffic rules are officially listed in the 1989 “Rules of Road Regulation”. They are as follows:-

- Keep to your left if Driving on a two-way street or Road so that Vehicles coming in the opposite Direction can pass using the Right lane smoothly.
- If you want to turn left ahead, you must stay on the left side before taking a turn.
- If you want to turn Right ahead, you must be at the center of the road and then gradually take a board Right turn.
- When you are coming towards a road intersection, Road junction, or pedestrian crossing, you must slow down your vehicles.
- If being overtaken by a vehicle, you must not increase the speed of your vehicles or, in any way, present the vehicle that is attempting to overtake from passing.
- Overtaking is prohibited in the following cases: 1. If passing would, in any way, be dangerous for other travelers on the road. 2. If passing is near a bend, hill, corner, or point as it may lead to a critical accident without a clear sign of the road in front. 3. If the driver upfront has not signed the Drivers behind that the former may

be overtaken. 4. When trying to overtake a vehicle that's already being passed by the third vehicle due to lack of space.

- For these Driving two-wheelers, you and your pillion must wear a Helmet.
- Parking is not permitted on the top of a hill, footpath, near traffic lights, near a crossing on the road, on the road for pedestrians, near the entrance of a building, or if it covers a fire hydrant.
- Your temporary or permanent vehicles Registration number (VRN) must always be displayed on the front and back of your vehicle.
- Only one pillar is allowed per two-wheeler.
- Drivers must make way for any cyclist on the road.
- Never obstruct your vehicle's head or tail – light.
- Driving in the opposite direction on a one-way road is punished by law.
- While overtaking any other vehicle should not go beyond the yellow line.
- One must respect the stop sign on the roads and should not stop beyond the sign.
- Harming should be done only if necessary.
- Your vehicle should be on the right side of the road when driving on a mountain or hill.
- No one can load the vehicle with certain items like Inflammable and explosive material.
- Overtaking should be done from the right side only.

I have described above about all these things which have been said in our rules of road regulation Act- 1989, But with the passage, the same step has been taken by the government in 2019. By introducing the New Motor Vehicle Act – 2019 and this new motor vehicle Amendment Act was Implemented in the whole of India in September 2019, in general, the

penalty for violating almost all types of traffic Rules has been increased. It has been provided in the amendment act that if a person drives under the influence of Alcohol, Drives without a license, Drives at over speed, he will be punished with the heavy penalty and also in this New Motor Vehicle Act of 2019. It has been arranged that penalty will be increased by 10% every 1st April.

➤ Next, I have been described some updated traffic Rules in Different cities of India.

1. If we talk about Uttarakhand, a rule has been made there that if a person uses a phone while driving, then he will have to pay the penalty as well as his phone can also be confiscated by the police. And at the same time, he can also be kept in police custody for 24 hours.
2. About the other state of Rajasthan, a rule has been made there that if a person violates any of the rules, then the police can confiscate his Driving license and it will be Rejected.
3. In different cities of India like – Bangalore, Pune, Delhi loud silencers have been banned in Bikes. Because it caused a lot of Noise pollution.

SOME RULES RELATED TO ROAD ETIQUETTES AND POLITENESS-

- **No feet on the dashboard-** In which the first thing comes that never put four feet on the dashboard of the car, doing so can prove to be dangerous for us.
- **Passengers should not touch the climate controls-** This Etiquette rule has our office divided. Half of us agree that the passengers should let the drivers set the temperature while the other half think the passengers should have a say maybe drive it safe and ask the first Drivers if they are part of the second group. If you are in a car with dual-zone climate control all of our editors agree that your zone is fair game.
- **Use the zipper Merge Method** – it is not just polite; Research has provided that it is more efficient and safer. Instead of queuing in one

lane because the adjacent lane is closed a mile down the road, continue to use the open lane and merge at the last minute, joining the two-lane in a Zipper – left – Right left-right fashion.

- **Don't Eat or Smoke in the Car without the Driver's Permission** – Please wait until you Reach your Destination before tearing off your Crunchwrap or popping the lid and moving on to your beef 10 main. Pieces and debris can fall into inaccessible places between the seat and console, and food adores can be difficult to eradicate. Don't even make us start smoking cigarettes.
- **Only use fog Lamps when there's Fog:-** Extra lighting from leaving your fog lamps on can distract drivers from oncoming cars. Not to mention, if you are in a tall truck or SUV those lights can shine directly into the Rear window of lower cars. Fog lamps are intended for use only in foggy conditions, where low light especially on the ground would help Improve visibility for the Driver.
- **Don't Hold up traffic by very slowly Passing other Vehicles:-** we all get furious when we see this happening, in a semi-truck a driver is passing so slowly by another semi-truck which is slowly only at 0.002 mph. It takes forever and lasts for miles. Please stop this madness. Pass only when you have enough momentum to do so quickly. And it's not just the big trucks that are to blame; A lot of passenger-car drivers do this too.
- **Use your turn signal-** Telling other drivers that you intend to merge or turn is not only a polite act but is also safe. So always use your turn signal.
- **Stay in the Right Lane Except When Passing-** No one likes to be stuck on the highway because another driver is Camped in the left lane and obeyed the speed limit. Go to the right or middle lane and let the fast traffic pass.
- **Pay attention when sitting at a stoplight** – we are all tempted to stare at our phones for a few moments while waiting at a stoplight, but please resist. If you are distracted and don't see that the light has

turned green or that the traffic ahead of you has moved on, you will catch up with other motorists who have a place to stay. Some cars, such as subareas with i-sight driver-assistance features have an audible Reminder if you are to blame.

- **Thank Helpful Drivers in traffic with a Wave-** If someone makes room for you to merge during heavy traffic, give them a heads up or a wave. Such Recognition shows goodwill and may encourage, them to be more humble in the future. At least, it will brighten their day.
- **Use Headlamps in Rainy or Low – Visibility Situations-** Sometimes it rains or snows during the day when the automatic Headlamps don't turn on by themselves. So turn them on manually. This increases the chance that other drivers will see you and help prevent accidents.
- **Make room for cyclists-** Persons who are cycling on the road should be given a paper place so that they can be saved from road accidents.
- **Don't distract the drivers –** That funny meme you just got on snap chat can wait until later. Don't try to show the Drivers something on your phone while he or she is Driving. It's just as Dangerous as if they were texting and driving, which is likely something you'd chastise them for likewise minimizing other Distracting Behaviors while riding shotgun.
- **Dim your headlights for oncoming traffic-** If you are driving at night with your High – Beams on, Be aware that oncoming traffic can be completely blinded by them. Just because you can look great doesn't mean they can dim your light and stop seeing your retinas.

CONCLUSION- Therefore in conclusion it can be said that the day-to-day problems of road accidents in India, which are increasing day by day, attention should be drawn to them, so that road accidents can be prevented, although the time taken by the government. The efforts that have been made to reduce road accidents in time have been described above, out today the need is that the administration should strictly follow their rules and the road etiquettes mentioned above have been told. They should also be followed so that road accidents can be reduced.

REFERENCES-

1. Road Traffic Accidents, National Health Portal. Available from: <https://www.nhp.gov.in/road-traffic-accidents>. (visited on 09, march,2022).
2. Peden M, Scurfield R, Sleet D, Mohan D, Hyder AA, Jarawan E, world Report on Road Traffic injury prevention. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2010.
3. Link https://www.bajajfinservmarkets.in/insurance/motor-insurance/traffic-rules-signs-and-violations.html#aoh=16463236328982&referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com&_tf=From%20%251%24s&_share=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.bajajfinservmarkets.in%2Finsurance%2Fmotor-insurance%2Ftraffic-rules-signs-and-violations.html (visited on 10, march, 2022)
4. Link <https://www.caranddriver.com/features/g27915336/driving-etiquette-rules/> (visited on 11, march, 2022)
5. Link <https://www.drishtiiias.com/hindi/daily-news-analysis/report-on-road-accidents-world-bank> (visited on 12, march, 2022)
6. Link <https://www.latestlaws.com/bare-acts/central-acts-rules/air-traffic-laws/rules-road-regulations1989> (visited on 13, march, 2022)