

Role of Traffic Police Officer in Road Safety Management

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Abstract

The basic purpose of duty of a Police officer is to provide protection for public. A traffic police officer aims to protect public while they are on roads. For this purpose, he (or she) performs his duty in congenial as well as in odd situations. Also, he plays different roles on road while performing his duty. The duty of a traffic police officer is quite different from other public servants. There are multiple individual activities which a traffic police officer has to perform neglecting his personality as well as his family. People are enjoying in rainy days but a traffic police officer is giving service to public using long boots, rain coat and umbrella. When public is enjoying holidays, a traffic police officer is in his (or her) uniform to maintain smooth flow of traffic. This study is to highlight the role of a traffic police officer in road safety management on the road where he is deputed. The basic purpose of this study is to nominate the duties and responsibilities of a traffic police officer regarding road safety. The research question of this study is, how a traffic police officer play role in managing road safety? Descriptive research method has been used for this study.

Keywords: Road Safety, Traffic Management, Protection, Odd Situation.

Traffic Management, an Introduction

In every modern society, immediate mobility is one of the most basic needs. Therefore, people use different vehicles for different transportation. As a result, traffic congestion becomes a major problem. This creates several negative concerns for the environment and society. Which includes the increase in the number of traffic accidents, economic effects, and global environmental pollution, etc.? Whenever I go to foreign countries, I am envious of the orderliness of the traffic system. On open roads, vehicles moving at high speed stop after seeing the traffic signal. People on footpaths on both sides of the road can be seen crossing the road leisurely at the zebra crossing. Sometimes disabled people also cross the road with someone's help while waiting for this signal. As soon as the traffic opens, they take their vehicles to the desired places after seeing the green light. No one is in such a hurry and no one tries to overtake the vehicle going ahead by looking down. "Just as some young people in Pakistan drive their car into the nose of the vehicle behind them and overtake it and shout with joy that we have won the field.

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And do not think that the person who overtakes He may have left due to some compulsion or in a hurry to take a patient to the hospital, but the person staying behind is annoyed by his action and starts racing and does not think that by doing so, any But it is a pity that such young people go out on the streets when they are drunk with pride and wealth There are those who have a limited mind.”¹

Objectives of Traffic Laws

The main purpose of traffic laws is to protect people when a person uses traffic. The main purpose of the traffic officer who is posted at any place is to protect the people who are using the road or to remove such obstacles from the way of the public which hinders the use of the road. For this purpose he performs duty in an unnatural environment to keep the flow of traffic smooth and orderly. Appropriate reprimands are given to people who violate road traffic rules. As traffic officer in the course of his duty facilitates people without discrimination and takes numerous safety measures for them when people move from one place to another. The place is moved on foot or by car. People block the road protesting that by stopping the traffic the whole system is suspended. The performance of organizations depends on better traffic flow. In other words, better traffic flow actually helps in better performance of all organizations.

On the other hand, when these institutions work with good intentions, the positive performance of the traffic police increases. Better flow of traffic on a road is due to the efforts of many institutions, so it is too much to blame the traffic police only when there is a problem. For example, if the traffic is not moving properly due to encroachment, the responsibility should lie with the concerned body and not the traffic police. But on the contrary, expectations of improvement in all roads related matters are attributed only to the traffic police and better performance is demanded from them, even though their auxiliary agencies do not help them or do their part at all. Have zero efficiency. The public should also know the actual duty and responsibility of the traffic police and should also have some knowledge about the factors or institutions that affect the performance of the traffic police so that when necessary these institutions can also be criticized. "Traffic laws play an important role in our daily lives. Observance of them plays an important role in the safety of our roads and animals. And that is their purpose. It is a question of our lives and the safety of others”.²

What is Road Safety?

Reducing accidents and making roads safer for people is called road safety. In developing countries, there is not much emphasis on improving road safety because they have very few resources. In response to the growing concern about road traffic accidents, the World Health Organization (WHO) annually presents its report and makes suggestions for improvement. According to his report, wearing a helmet reduces the chance of death by 40 percent and the chance of serious injury by 70 percent. According to the WHO report, child driving restrictions reduce the risk of fatal accidents in children by 70% and in young children by 80%.92%t of the world's fatalities on the roads occur in low- and middle-income countries, even though these countries have around 60% of the world's vehicles. More than half of all road traffic deaths are among vulnerable road users, including pedestrians, cyclists and

motorcyclists. Road traffic crashes cost most countries 3% of their gross domestic product.³

Similarly, wearing seat belts can reduce fatal injuries by 50 percent for front-seat occupants and 75 percent for rear-seat occupants. India accounts for about 10% of road accident deaths worldwide. Any road accident is an unexpected accident but not inevitable. Road safety involves a very complex unit of many factors such as, technical and physical, even social and cultural. Road safety has been identified as an integral component that should be integrated into the road management system. Road safety refers to reducing a person's risk of an accident. Road safety provides a safe environment for all road users. The government organizes various programs regarding road safety such as driver safety programs, pedestrian safety programs, and child and adolescent safety programs. Road safety considers the risk factors related to the road and its environment, the road user, the vehicle and the emergency services. If a vehicle is not likely to cause an accident, the driver is capable enough not to pose a danger to the public on the road and the road is constructed keeping in view the principles of road safety, then the road is a safe one for the public. There is a location. "Road safety can be characterized by the ability of a person to travel freely without injury or death."⁴

Therefore, there is a need to make the road as safe as possible. For this purpose, many departments are associated with road safety. One's job is to construct the road structure in such a way that it conforms to the principles of road safety and that no accident occurs due to the road structure. Further after the road is constructed for this purpose, it is decorated with various signboards, signals and glittering materials. Similarly, training of drivers, awareness of people to use the road and fitness of vehicles which reduce accidents on the road. Traffic police has an important role in running this system directly. Traffic officers control the traffic at various places, instill order in it and reprimand those who misbehave on the road, but the aim is the same to make the road safe. Accidents should be reduced and there should be no loss of life or property.

Road Safety and Traffic Police

The main purpose of setting up traffic police in any country or society is to manage and control all traffic related matters, enforce laws and highlight the aspects that lead to accidents. Thus, the performance of these aspects, but also every function that they perform during their duty, the main objective is to protect people on the road, make the road safer and reduce accidents. Thus, in part, wherever a traffic police officer is posted and doing something, his every activity makes the road safer and creates convenience for the public. In some places, the presence of a traffic police officer is a cause of safety and convenience for the public. To know more about this let's take a closer look at the role of a traffic police officer on the road and the measures taken to keep the road safe. Traffic control officers play a vital role in maintaining public safety and ensuring the efficient flow of traffic, especially during events that attract large crowds or in areas under construction. These professionals are entrusted with a number of important responsibilities that significantly affect the safety and convenience of the public.

Public Safety

Behind every activity of the traffic police is the safety of the public on the road. Officers are appointed individually to achieve this objective. Where one official or officer is required, one, where two are required, two officers, and where many officers are

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required, more officers are assigned duty. The duty of all of them is to protect the lives of the people and their property. The main purpose of the traffic officer who is posted at any place is to protect the people who are using the road or to remove such obstacles from the way of the public which hinders the use of the road. During the duty, every officer removes the obstacles in the way of the public. Traffic Police makes the road safe by making the road clear and accident-free for the people. He not only keeps the traffic flowing by physically participating but also uses his mental capacity according to his chessboard to make the best planning for establishing road safety.

According to the Police Act 2002 in Pakistan, the duties of the police include:

- To protect the freedom, property and life of the citizens.
- To maintain peace and order at the public level.
- To take care of the rights and facilities of a person who is in police custody according to law.”⁵

Traffic Control

Basically, a traffic police officer is only supposed to drive traffic or issue fines to those who do not obey traffic rules, although there are many other aspects or activities that a traffic police officer does. During the duty, but partly this responsibility of traffic police officer also causes the safety of people's life and property. Especially at the junction, intersection or intersection where vehicles pass in large quantity, electric signals are installed so that the vehicles move in an orderly manner, but sometimes or in a few cases, the traffic police officer has to direct the traffic by himself. If officer does not do this, where there are no electric signals or the traffic is beyond the control of the signals, a traffic police officer directs the traffic with his mind and hands." Traffic police (English: Traffic police) or Road safety police (English: Road safety police) is the name of the police force of any country that monitors the traffic on the road. Police forces have several duties that are necessary for public safety the first is that only vehicles that are allowed to drive on the road." For the convenience and safety of the public, a police officer stands on the road where the common man hesitates and fears that he might be harmed by a motorist.

Implementation of Traffic Laws

Another important responsibility of the traffic police or traffic officers or their role on the road is to reprimand those people or drivers who violate or ignore the rules designed to establish road safety. Traffic rules are basically to follow some things and to prohibit some things. Both aspects are aimed at preventing accidents on the road. If one is told to follow the signals while driving, it means not to cause an accident because ignoring the signals is inviting accidents. Similarly, if according to the law it is said not to use a mobile phone while driving, then the purpose behind it is that the driver causes negligence by doing so, which endangers the life and property of others. . Therefore, traffic officers play an important role in punishing such people. And if they perform this role impartially and attentively, many precious lives are saved, but if it is neglected, blood flows on the road. "Law enforcement is best done where no one is above the law." Only the rule of law prevails. In this regard, "Chelan" is an excellent form of compliance with traffic laws. The role of traffic police or traffic officer can also be clearly seen

from the picture below. The purpose of traffic chalan is also to reprimand those people or drivers who do not obey the traffic rules on the road so that they do not cause accidents on the road. This chalan should not only be for the drivers, but those who use the road on foot and ignore the laws that apply to them should also be fined or some kind of psychological and physical punishment because a large number and the main reason is the pedestrian road users whose careless behavior leads to major accidents. As shown in the World Health Organization report. "More than half of all road traffic deaths are among vulnerable road users: pedestrians, cyclists, and motorcyclists."⁶

First Responder on an Accident

If any kind of unpleasant incident happens on the road, the first department or officer who takes action or reacts to it is the traffic police or traffic officer. In case of any fatal accident, the traffic officer reaches before the rescue team and provides first aid. If someone asks for help or at least guides them. If a vehicle catches fire, the traffic officer first tries to extinguish the fire by using mud before the fire brigade vehicle, with the help of bystanders and clearing the way for more rescue vehicles to reach the spot in time. No rescue vehicle is possible in the rush of traffic on the road without the help or effort of the traffic police. He is engaged in the service of the people by risking his life even knowing and realizing all kinds of dangers.

Apart from an accident, a traffic police officer is the first to respond to any untoward incident that occurs on the road. Our traffic control officers go through rigorous training programs that exceed industry standards, ensuring they are well-versed in the latest traffic control techniques and safety protocols. This training is enhanced by their extensive experience in law enforcement and emergency response, giving them a deep understanding of "How to effectively manage both routine and complex traffic situations. His expertise includes incident management, crowd control, emergency response coordination, and strategic traffic management plans tailored to specific events and scenarios." This comprehensive skill set enables our officers to adapt quickly to changing conditions, ensuring the safety and efficiency of traffic flow at all times."⁷

First Responder Protective Services is distinguished in the field of traffic management, bringing a unique combination of specialized training, experience and commitment to the provision of effective and efficient police officer traffic services. The backbone of our agency is its cadre of traffic control officers, comprised exclusively of off-duty police officers and firefighters, who bring a wealth of prior knowledge and expertise to each assignment. First Responder Protective Services Traffic is committed to providing management solutions that are customized to meet the unique needs of each event or situation. Whether it's a large-scale public gathering, a high-profile sporting event, a construction project, or an emergency road closure, our officers are equipped to handle the challenges posed by diverse scenarios. We work with our clients to develop and implement traffic plans that minimize disruption, prevent congestion, and ensure the safety of all participants and the public. Our proactive approach to planning and communication ensures that all stakeholders are informed and prepared for any traffic-related emergency.

Indication of Dangerous Points for Driving

Along with this, the work of a traffic police officer is also reporting. A good police officer while on duty or patrolling identifies those elements, points or places which cause trouble to the public and which mainly lead to accidents. The agencies responsible for its rectification shall send a written notice to them that this place or thing is causing nuisance to the public on the road, so it should be corrected or removed. Report any kind of defect due to the road to the road construction agency, report the defect of the manhole cover on the road to the concerned agency, and report the correction of signboards or signs on the road to their respective agencies, on the road. About trees to his concerned agencies, road incident reports to himself and police station officials. Such reporting improves road traffic management and makes the public feel safer on the road. "Where environmental pollution problems arise in the society due to mismanagement of the traffic system, minutes travel into hours due to unruly traffic. Due to the influx of tourists, non-availability of car parking facilities, lack of traffic awareness among the public, non-permanent approval of a separate traffic police unit and the deployment of limited personnel from the district police as traffic police in Pakistan. Traffic problems in other areas are increasing day by day." To prevent these problems or to identify the reasons that lead to these problems, a traffic police officer writes to various agencies. Behind this matter is to make the road safe for the public. As a result of its reporting, the performance of the concerned agencies depends on it. If this happens, the performance of the traffic police will also be adversely affected.

Public Guide

A traffic police officer is an excellent leader, guide and public friend. Along with other conveniences for road users, people who are ignorant of the route do not know any government office; have to go to a private institution, for guidance to a hospital, even for drivers and pedestrians. So he guides them in a good way. Because only a traffic officer knows the best, easiest and safest route which no one else does, it is emphasized in every society of the world that every traffic officer should be equipped with modern equipment. It has access to monitor multiple locations. His communication should be not only audio but also visual so that his information reaches the public in a timely manner and people continue to benefit from it. "Digital monitoring cells should be set up at every square for traffic wardens to sit and watch all the traffic in their circle on TV screens, besides having a guide team to inform the disabled citizens about the routes. Yes, there should be an online facility for driving license renewal and learning license; the warden should be empowered to cancel the license for three consecutive signal violations while driving."⁸

One of the primary duties of traffic control officers is to manage vehicular and pedestrian traffic around construction sites, accident scenes and special events. They are experts in creating temporary traffic patterns, implementing routes, and using signs and signals to safely guide drivers and pedestrians through hazards or congested areas. Their presence and expertise are critical in preventing accidents and reducing the likelihood of traffic-related injuries. In addition to directing traffic, traffic control officers plan and implement traffic management plans for incidents of all sizes. This includes estimating expected traffic volumes, determining the need for road closures or

restrictions, and coordinating with event organizers and other public safety agencies to ensure a coordinated and comprehensive approach to traffic control. The ability to anticipate and mitigate traffic problems before they arise is essential to the smooth operation of any event, reducing delays and enhancing the overall experience of attendees. Skilled professionals for traffic control. The need for hiring individuals cannot be overstated. These officers have specialized training in traffic management and safety protocols, enabling them to respond effectively to dynamic traffic situations and make informed decisions on the spot. Their expertise helps reduce the risks associated with heavy traffic flow and ensures that emergency vehicles can move through congested areas quickly and safely.

Concluding Points

- * If the above points are studied in depth, the following results emerge.
- * The duties of traffic police or traffic officers are different from all other institutions.
- * Every traffic police officer concentrates all his energies mentally, physically and psychologically on his work.
- * The duty of every traffic police officer is aimed at the betterment, protection and convenience of the public.
- * Every traffic police officer is not only doing his proposed duty but also doing good work by clearing the way for people.
- * Every traffic police officer is officially representing his government on the road and all its policies.

Recommendations

- * For the improvement and motivation of the traffic police or traffic officer at the government level, the following reforms should be implemented immediately.
- * Life, property and health of every traffic officer must be insured.
- * Every traffic officer must be equipped with modern equipment.
- * Committees should be formed to solve the basic problems of each traffic officer.
- * In order to improve the performance of every traffic officer, he must be given all kinds of legal, human, ideological and financial support by the government.
- * The traffic police is the face of Police department, so the main and more resources should be spent on it so that the face is beautiful and attractive to the rest of the nation.



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