

# Documentation on Awareness Programme for Children on Traffic Rules



**School Student Helpline, OSEPA  
School & Mass Education Department  
Govt of Odisha**

## **Introduction:**

Rules are framed to have a disciplined society. If there is no rule and everyone wants to do whatever he/she wishes to do then there will be a chaos all around. There are some rules which are very informal such as rules at home, school etc. Breaking of these rules may not invite any legal complicity and punishments. But there are some important rules which are **codified** and applicable to everyone in a society such as traffic rules, construction rules etc. These rules are known as laws and breaking of these rules can have more serious consequences such as imprisonment, monetary **fine etc.** Violation of traffic rules leads to accident with human loss.

## **Objective:**

Every day road accident cases come to our notice through electronic as well as print media. The School Student Helpline has received some such accident cases through toll free no. It is observed that lack of knowledge about traffic rule is one of the major reasons behind such accidents. In order to create awareness among the children on traffic rules, a one day awareness programme has been organized in all schools during the month of October 2018. The said programme was organized in all Primary, Upper Primary and High schools throughout the State. A detail discussion was made on the following points: Why accidents Occur, General traffic rules, how to be safe on bicycle and basic traffic symbols.

## **Why Accidents Occurs**

- Children are fickle by nature and they don't know what they will do in crowd or on the road.
- While moving on the road they can not able to judge the distance and speed of the vehicle.

- Because of their small height while crossing sometimes it puzzles the driver.
- They cross the road wherever they like as they don't have any idea about the traffic rule.
- Sometimes out of fear they don't understand what they should do when any vehicle approaches them

## General Traffic Rules

- Signal post has three colours: Green, Red and Yellow

- Green light : go
- Red light : stop
- Yellow light: to slow down/watch



- Cross the road only on the ear marked line when the signal turns green. Ensure that there is no Vehicle, both on the left and right side of the road.



- While crossing the road in any other place other than the traffic post, first check the right side then to the left side of the road for the incoming vehicles. If you notice a vehicle is approaching, wait for the vehicle to pass and then cross the road safely.

- “Walking man” signal at intersections are constructed for the pedestrians.



- While going on the road one should not distract by talking in mobile, listening songs etc.

- Never attempt to cross the road, if the signboard signifies “Don’t walk” message or a hand symbol or walking symbol turns red.



- Always remember to pass or overtake the vehicle in front of you from its right side.
- Never cross the road between two stopped vehicles
- The children are to be extra vigilant while they cross the road at the turns. In deep turnings it is difficult to know whether a vehicle is coming or not. Ordinarily, vehicles blow horns at turning as well as at unmanned intersections to provide a warning to other road users. If a horn is heard, stop and cross only after ensuring that no vehicle approaches you from left or right side of the road

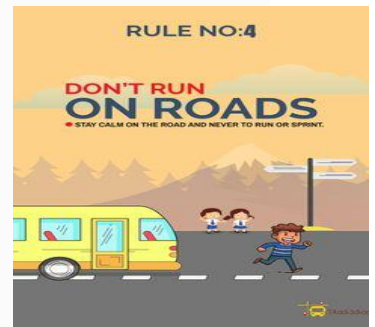


Khuard UPS, Balasore

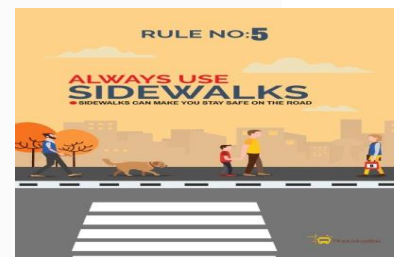
- One should keenly hear the vehicle/engine sounds and assess if the sound is faint, it is far away and if the sound is loud it is nearer.

- Children have no patience and have a tendency to run across the road to reach the other side.

In addition, they become absent-minded when they are having fun with friends along the road which leads to accident. Therefore the children should remain calm while they are near the road.



- Children should avail the service of sidewalk /footpath whenever they walk on the road though it is not a busy street.



- While going by four wheelers out of excitement kids have the habit of placing their hands or lay their head outside the vehicle. Due to this they may be injured by vehicles coming from the opposite direction.



## How to be safe on a bicycle

While using bicycle to reach the school, one has to follow the following rules to avoid any untoward incident:

- Suggest them to wear a helmet while riding a bicycle.
- Working condition of bicycle such as brakes, light, handle etc. are to be checked very often.
- Utilize the bicycle lane. If such lane does not exist, ride the bicycle either on the extreme left or move along with the traffic. While

cycling, have a consideration for bulky vehicles, let other vehicles in the opposite direction to pass on the right hand side.

- Children out of fun sometimes ride cycle by holding hands each other which is very dangerous and is to be avoided.
- While taking right turn, one should first come to the centre of the road carefully and then turn right keeping the vehicle close to the left side of the road. While taking left turn one has to stay close to the left side and then, turn left then continues to stay to the left side of the road.
- It is better to keep a safe distance (average 3 feet) from the vehicle in as there is a chance for the vehicle to stop suddenly. If you keep sufficient distance unnecessary hazards can be avoided.



MV -36 P. S, Malkangiri

- Overtaking is prohibited in a curve as one may not have a clear view of the road ahead which may lead to serious accident.

- It is not wise to overtake or pass if one sees the other vehicle's driver is already starting to overtake your vehicle
- One should not overtake without getting the clearance from the driver of the vehicle ahead.
- One should not try to increase the speed or do anything that prevents the other vehicle to pass or overtake
- As a road user, it is one's responsibility to give way to fire service vehicles and ambulances
- Before taking U turn one has to give proper indication to other vehicle either by hand signals or vehicle indicators.

- U turns can only be taken where there is no warning sign nearby.



- Level crossing is dangerous point especially when there are no gates, booms or flashing lights. When approaching a level crossing, care should be taken to see or listen the trainsound. The speed of the vehicle/cycle is to be slowed down which helps one to stop quickly. Besides the above mentioned guidelines some of the basic traffic symbols are given below:



Panchayt H.S, Dhenkanal

## Basic Traffic Symbols



Traffic signal



Zebra Crossing



Pedestrian walk



Stop



No entry



One Way



Right Turn Prohibited



Left Turn Prohibited



U-Turn Prohibited



Overtaking



Horn



Parking



Speed



Go straight



Blow Horn





**Bridge ahead.**



**Narrow Bridge**



**Right Turn**



**Left Turn**



**ZigZag Road**



**School**



**Humps**



**Unmanned railway gate**



**Manned railway gate**



**Narayanpur UGUP, Rayagada**