

Fortis Hospital, Vashi, in association with Navi Mumbai Police organizes 'Road Safety Awareness Rally'

~ Enthusiastic participation by over 200 bikers and 1000 responsible citizens ~

Navi Mumbai, 17th January 2016: Fortis Hospital, Vashi in association with Navi Mumbai Police organized 'Road Safety Awareness Rally' today. The aim behind the rally was to spread awareness on road safety measures for motorists and pedestrians. The rally drew enthusiastic participation with over 200 bikers and 1000 responsible citizens of Navi Mumbai. The initiative was supported by Mr. Arvind Salve, Deputy Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Navi Mumbai, Mr. Suresh Megade, Deputy Commissioner of Police Special Branch, Navi Mumbai and Dr Vinod Vij, Cosmetic Surgeon, Fortis Hospital, Vashi.

The 'Road Safety Awareness Rally' covered over 50 Kms on a predefined route. The cavalcade started off from Centre One, Vashi and then travelled through Turbhe, Nerul, Belapur before it reached back to Vashi. The rally engaged with motorists and pedestrians and appealed to observe road discipline. Road safety messages like – "**Wear Your Helmet**" – "**Fasten Your Seat Belt**" – "**Don't Drink & Drive**" – "**Don't Use Mobile Phones While Driving**" were displayed. The representatives of Navi Mumbai Police and Fortis Hospital, Vashi also participated in the rally.

Flagging off the Bikers' Rally, **Arvind Salve, Deputy Commissioner Police (Traffic), Navi Mumbai** said, "*Owning and driving a vehicle is either luxury or necessity. However, it has its own set of risks. With rising number of vehicles getting on roads, the number of accidents has also been rising steadily in Navi Mumbai. The accidents can be fatal if safety measures are not observed. This initiative will raise awareness about importance of observing traffic rules.*"

He further spoke about basics of safe driving:

Seat belts - Seatbelts should be worn at all times to help protect your body in the event of an accident.

Over speeding – It is important to drive within the permissible speed limits at all times, within and outside of the city. This ensures safe driving and leaves gap for negotiating the vehicle within time.

Lane jumping – Lane discipline is of utmost importance; it helps traffic move in an effective way and eliminates certain amount of lane-cutting related incidents.

Awareness - It is important to remain aware of your surroundings at all times. Your reaction time could make the difference of avoiding or being involved in an accident.

Blind spots - It is important to look in all of your mirrors especially while changing lanes, especially will negotiating curves.

Driving tired or under the influence: Drunken driving and driving tired makes one prone to mistakes as it slows down your reflexes.

Night Driving - Driving in the night can be hazardous due to visibility, it is important that you are aware and alert for any dangers and are conscious of your speed at all times.

Mr. Suresh Megade, Deputy Commissioner of Police Special Branch, Navi Mumbai at the event, said, "*This initiative will create awareness among youth to follow road safety measures. This will make roads much safer. – The helmets, seatbelts and adherence to lane discipline are important tools to ensure*



safety of our drivers. Drunken driving is a sure shot ticket to fatality; it should be avoided at all times. Please keep your mobiles away while driving."

Dr Vinod Vij, Cosmetic Surgeon, Fortis Hospital, Vashi, said, *"Most of the road traffic accidents can be avoided if we simply follow and observe road discipline while driving. Undesirable actions like not wearing a helmet or seatbelt, talking on the mobile, signal jumping can increase the chances of accidents and fatalities. We are proud to associate with Navi Mumbai Traffic Police's Road Safety campaign. The two-week long initiative will help enhance road safety measures in the minds of the citizens."*

Navi Mumbai's Road Safety Campaign was launched with an objective of spreading awareness on importance of observing safety on roads and to engage people of the city in its campaign for safe driving. Fortis Hospital, Vashi, is the Health Partner of the Navi Mumbai Traffic Police for its two-week campaign, which runs from 10th January to 23rd January, 2016.

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