

Workshop on Road Safety Audit

(8th November, 2005)

Road Traffic Accidents in the country are increasing. As of now more than 400,000 accidents occur annually with about 100,000 people losing their life in these accidents. Besides fatalities, nearly 400,000 people suffer injuries in road accidents which leads to lifelong misery for the victim and family. Road Safety Audit is a proven methodology, which can ensure that various safety deficiencies in road are reviewed so that these can be taken care at appropriate stage of road design or operation in a cost-effective way. In an effort to minimize the growth of accidents on Indian roads, Road Safety Audit (RSA) is being pursued in a big way on the existing as well proposed new roads. As a part of this effort National Highways Authority of India has commenced road safety audit project of National Highways Development Projects (NHDP) covering a length of about 3000 kms. Since the road safety audit has proved to be an important tool to improve highway traffic operations and management it was considered necessary by this Institute to share the knowledge relating to Road Safety Audit process and prospects through the discussions of case studies. Accordingly a workshop was organized to discuss the aspects relating to RSA on 8.11.2005 from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm in CRRI. The Workshop was moderated by Mr.D.P.Gupta, past Director-General of Road Development, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. In this workshop presentations were made by Mr.David Williamson & Mr.Maurice Burley, VICROADS International, Australia; Dr. T.S.Reddy of Central Road Research Institute and Prof.B.P.Chandrasekhar, National Rural Road Development Agency. Presentations included the description of the RSA process and finer aspects of safety auditing and results of the RSA conducted on Jaipur-Kishangarh Expressway, Mumbai-Pune Expressway and the RSA issues of rural roads in India. About 40 scientists and practicing engineers participated in the Workshop. The practicing engineers included officials from Ministry of Road Transport and Highways and Central Public Works Department. The Workshop covered the discussions on basic concepts and process of conducting road safety audit with the help of case studies relating to National Highway-8 and Mumbai-Pune Expressway. Participants to the Workshop were welcomed by Dr.P.K.Nanda, Director, CRRI. After lively and lengthy discussions on finer aspects of topic Dr.T.S.Reddy proposed a vote of thanks at the end of the workshop.