

1. **News article [for State of Karnataka], namely, “City cops to name, shame drunk drivers on website” published on 28.03.2016 in Deccan Herald**

“City cops to name, shame drunk drivers on website

Jagadish Angadi, Bangalore, DHNS:



The website of the Bangalore City Traffic Police will soon have a virtual “hall of shame” that gives names and details of people booked for drunk driving.

The police have decided to implement a similar model followed by their Australian counterparts to curb the increasing number of drunk driving cases. “We will soon follow the Australian model to make road users stay away from liquor before driving,” Additional Commissioner of Police (Traffic and Security) B Dayananda told Deccan Herald.

“The Australian police send the names and pictures of those involved in drunk driving cases to local newspapers. We will publish names and details of offenders on the website (www.bangaloretrafficpolice.gov.in) so that everybody would know them. We believe such a step would create some sort of fear among road users so that they will not dare repeat the offence,” he added.

He said the City has been seeing a rise in drunk driving cases despite special drives and frequent checks. "The liberal provisions of the Motor Vehicle Act are also partly responsible for it. The traffic police have studied legal provisions in different countries and recommended the government for stringent punishment," he added.

According to a list prepared by the Bangalore Police, drunk driving in El Salvador is punishable with execution by firing squad, whereas second conviction for the offence leads to execution in Bulgaria. Poland has jail, fine and attending political lectures! Malaya jails the offender. If married, the spouse is also jailed.

Turkey takes the offender 10 miles out of town and makes them walk back under escort. South Africa has 10-year imprisonment or fine up to \$ 10,000. In Norway, the offender is jailed for three weeks with hard labour, whereas loss of driving licence attracts one-year jail. Second offence ensures revoking of licence for life.

In India, a case is booked under Section 185 of the MV Act. It has a provision for imprisonment of up to six months or fine up to Rs.2,000 for the first offence. The second offence attracts imprisonment up to two years and fine up to Rs.3,000. Judiciary decides the quantum of punishment."

2. News article [for State of Maharashtra], namely, “Shame: Maharashtra’s new weapon against drunken driving” published on 27.03.2016 in Times of India

“Shame: Maharashtra’s new weapon against drunken driving



While more than 1,000 such offenders are caught every day across Maharashtra, the public shaming campaign seems to be making a difference where the initiative has already been launched. (Thinkstock photos/Getty Images)

If you are caught driving under the influence of alcohol in Maharashtra, the state traffic police has said that it will publicly shame the offenders by publishing their name on its website, Maharashtra director general of police Pravin Dixit on Saturday. "At present, the traffic police's top priority is to penalize drunk drivers," he said.

"Drunk drivers need to be publicly shamed to make them realize the gravity of their actions," Dixit said, pointing to the danger posed to other road users by an inebriated driver.

Speaking to TOI, Dixit expressed hope that the initiative would bring down the cases of drunk driving.

"Nobody wants to be on such a list. We hope that the fear of their names being listed on a public platform for committing a crime would put pressure on at least some and they would desist from driving under the influence of alcohol. While drinking is permissible, driving afterwards is not, as it puts at risk not only the driver but also other road users," he said.

Every year, drunk driving accounts for more than half the fatalities due to road accidents, making it one of the most serious road safety concerns across the country. Unrelated and innocent people lose their lives to a blunder committed by someone who chose to drive under the influence of alcohol, say officials.



*While more than 1,000 such offenders are caught every day across Maharashtra, the public shaming campaign seems to be making a difference where the initiative has already been launched. "We are seeing results in some cities like Nagpur, where the number of offenders has declined after names of those caught appeared in newspapers and other publications. Bikers, car drivers and even those driving trucks — everyone is subjected to breath analysers and penalised accordingly. Nabbing drunk drivers is a priority for the traffic division of the state, followed by **wrong-side driving**," Dixit said.*

The public shaming initiative has also got a thumbs-up from activists. Prince Singhal, founder of Community Against Drunk Driving, said, "While the onus on enforcement agencies is prime when it comes to catching those who mix drinking with driving, their scope is limited. Publicly shaming offenders by publishing their names would definitely be a strong deterrent.

Besides uploading the offenders' names on traffic portals, the police can post their details with pictures on on social networking platforms and posters too. Nobody wants their children or friends and family to see their names on such a list, and just the thought of the ensuing shame should stop many from drinking and driving."

The data published on the traffic police's website reveals alarming trends—not only in terms of the blood alcohol content of offenders, which goes up to as much as 487l (legal limit in India is 30 l), but also age bracket. Most of those caught are in 21–45 age group."
