

## Seat belts compulsory for all car passengers in Mumbai from tomorrow

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- **In its notification, the Mumbai Police said that whoever drives a motor vehicle without wearing a safety belt or carries passengers not wearing seat belts shall be punishable.**

All passengers travelling in a car need to wear seat belts compulsory from tomorrow i.e. from 1 November 2022. On 14 October, the Mumbai Police had issued a notification saying that it will be mandatory for driver and co-passengers to wear seat belts from 1 November 2022.

In its notification, the Mumbai Police said that whoever drives a motor vehicle without wearing a safety belt or carries passengers not wearing seat belts shall be punishable.

The Mumbai Police had also stated that motor vehicle which do not have seat belts facility have to install the seat belts for all the commuters. The due date for this was also set at November 1, 2022.

"All motor vehicle drivers and all commuters in vehicles, whoever travels on the road of Mumbai City are hereby informed that, it will be mandatory for drivers and all passengers to wear seat belts while traveling from 01/11/2022. Otherwise, action will be taken under section 194(B)(1) of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act 2019," read the notification.

In September, in a bid to intensify road safety rules, the Delhi Traffic Police had launched a special drive to encourage people to use rear seat belts, failing which they will face a penalty of ₹1,000.

The Union Ministry of Road, Transport and Highway had issued draft rules making it mandatory for car makers to install seat belt alarms in all seats of the cars. Earlier in September, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said that from now on wearing seat belts would be mandatory for all passengers in a car, including those on rear seats, and flouting the rule will attract penalty.

He also informed that the safety alarms that typically beep when those on the front seats don't wear the seat belts, will now be do the same for rear seat passengers as well. The Union minister clarified that the new rule will be applicable to all kinds of cars - small and big.

"It will now be mandatory for all the people sitting in the car to wear a seat belt," tweeted had Union Minister Nitin Gadkari. He had also highlighted that the safety beeps will be present for rear seats along with the front seats which will buzz if one doesn't put on a seat belt.

His remarks came after well-known industrialist and former Tata Sons chairman Cyrus Mistry died in a road accident. Reports of him not wearing the rear seat belt soon made rounds after the accident. According to Palghar Police, Mistry was travelling from Ahmedabad to Mumbai when his car hit the divider. There were four people in the car. Two died on the spot, including Mistry, while the other two were shifted to hospital.

Cyrus Mistry and others had left Udvada at 1:25 pm on Sunday and the accident happened around 2:28 pm. So they covered a distance of about 60 to 65 kilometres in 1 hour and 2 minutes. Apart from Mistry, another deceased has been identified as Jahangir Dinsha Pandole. The injured Anayata

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Pandole and Darius Pandole were injured. The driver of the car in which Cyrus Mistry was travelling lost control due to overspeeding and rammed into the divider.