



Global Record in Road Deaths: The RTO Crisis

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Subject Reference: GS Paper III (Infrastructure) | GS Paper II (Governance)

- **The News (2025 Report):** India recorded **1.72 lakh deaths** in 2023. Over 68% were due to over-speeding. The report identifies the "RTO-Broker-Driving School" nexus as a structural failure.
- **Apt Topic: "The 4Es of Road Safety vs. Institutional Corruption"**
- **The RTO Failure:** Discuss the "unskilled driver" problem. Many licenses are issued without rigorous automated testing, leading to the **66% fatality rate among young adults (18–45)**.
- **Policy Solutions:** Mention the **Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act 2019** and the need for **Electronic Enforcement** (speed cameras) to remove human discretion (and thus corruption) from traffic policing.