

engagements



■ **Wooden Mural Workshop**
 Workshop for crafting wood
When: Dec 23- Dec 28, 5pm - 6pm
Where: Abhivyakti, Shridham, Sanghi Farm House
Contact: 9829700607

■ **Food fest**
 Punjabi food festival
When: Till Dec 29, 7.30 pm to 11.45 pm
Where: Jaies Group of Hotels
Contact: 9414065102

■ **Learn and express**
 Special workshop for music, dance and painting
When: Dec 1-Jan 31, 4 pm to 7 pm
Where: Abhivyakti, Shridham, Sanghi Farm House
Contact: 9829700607

■ **Khadi exhibition**
When: Begins Dec 5, from 10 am
Where: Ramtila Maidan
Contact: 2706969

■ **"Motley motifs of yore"**
 Art show by Rameshwar Singh
When: Till Dec 31, 11 am to 7 pm
Where: Samanval Art Gallery
Contact: 5114400

■ **Painting exhibition**
 Exhibition of paintings by Nil Varma
When: Till Dec 30, 11 am to 7 pm
Where: Sudarshan, Jawahar Kala Kendra
Contact: 2712101, 2712104

■ **Painting exhibition**
 Exhibition of paintings by 'Shunya' a group of artist
When: Till Dec 30, 11 am to 7 pm
Where: Sudarshan, Jawahar Kala Kendra
Contact: 2712101-2712104

■ **Paper Quilling Workshop**
 Workshop for making creative items using paper
When: Dec 23- Dec 28, 1pm - 2pm
Where: Abhivyakti, Shridham, Sanghi Farm House
Contact: 9829700607

■ **Marble Miniature workshop**
 Workshop for creating unique motifs and design on Marble
When: Dec 23- Dec 28, 4pm - 5pm
Where: Abhivyakti, Shridham, Sanghi Farm House
Contact: 9829700607

■ **Crystal resin Art workshop**
 Workshop for creating art pieces of pty, ceramic etc
When: Dec 23- Dec 28, 3pm - 4pm
Where: Abhivyakti, Shridham, Sanghi Farm House
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Send in your listings one day in advance with photographs to DNA, Fifth floor, Sunny Paradise, Gopalpura Mod, Tonk Road, Jaipur- phone 0141-3988888 Or mail it to: engagejpr@dnaindia.net

Better implementation of laws required

I do not think we need to change our laws. They are sufficient to combat the situation. All that we need to do is better implementation. We have started a focussed drive to check drunken driving and over speeding in the city. As a part of this, we have now 22 breath analysers and six interceptors in the city. We have seized the licences and the vehicles that have violated the laws. The effect of this stringent drive can be seen in the number of the accident cases. Last year, in spite of the rising number of vehicles and population, we have managed to bring down accident deaths this year.

—Smita Shrivastava, Jaipur SP(traffic)



Sec 304(A) should be made non-bailable

I feel the laws are sufficient but if there is a little scope for amendment it can be done to Section 304(A) of the IPC. This refers to death caused due to negligence. It is a bailable offence as of now. I want that it should be made a non-bailable offence. This way we can check the incidents of accidents due to drunken driving. I feel that adding Section 304 to the Vijit Singh case is not a right move and can be challenged in the court because a person can not be negligent and intentional at the same time. It is better to make the existing law more stringent.

—Pranod Shandilya, lawyer

Social policing needed

Laws can never bring in change. If we really want to have an effective system we will have to change the lifestyle of the people. We should start some kind of moral education where people are told to respect life. With growing modernisation, I feel people have lost the sensitivity and compassion. I feel that they have almost forgotten to be human. So, we should have social policing where people are not levied fines or are sent to prison but are made to work for the benefit of the society. If such steps are initiated by the government, I think we can really help in building a just and peaceful society.

—Uma Chandra, lecturer, Subodh College



Is everyone equal in the eyes of the law?

I think most of the laws are very apt in theory but they lack the practical approach. It is because of this that we are still unable to book the people who are responsible for crimes as they always manage to get a loophole and go scot-free. The need of the hour is to have a law that is foolproof or at least same for all. The biased way the enforcement agencies are working in the country is the reason for the rising crimes. For the same crime, while a person is jailed, another goes scot-free. Till we do not make it evident that everyone is the same in the eyes of law, we will not be able to make a major breakthrough.

—Satish Chaturvedi, faculty, Rajasthan University

We have to be more responsible

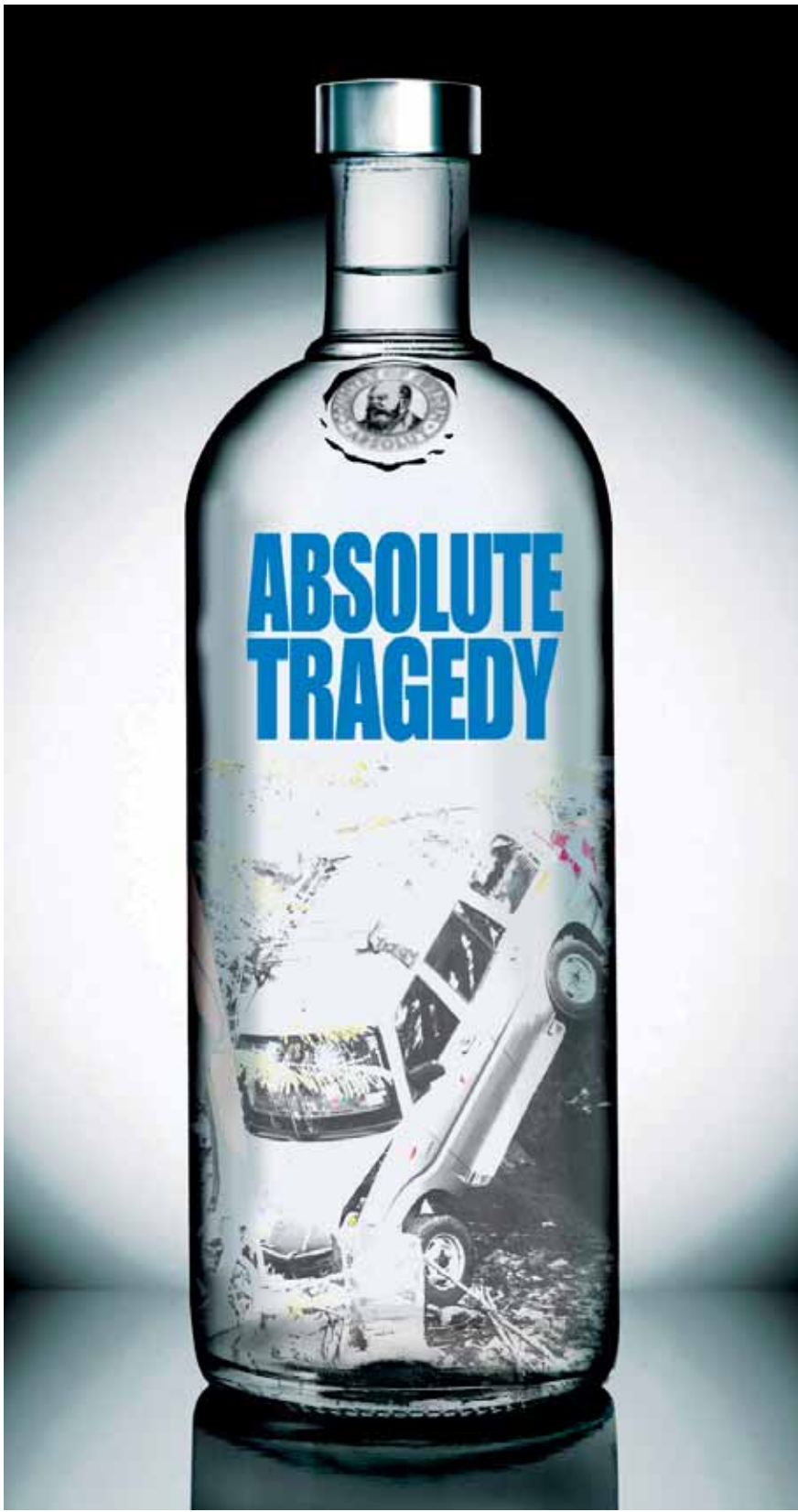
Alcohol affects the central nervous system of the driver. Even with a level of 0.05% alcohol in blood, the sense of judgement is impaired and the ability to control the steering is affected. It is an established fact that abuse of alcohol results in increased incidence of traumatic vehicular injuries and deaths. So, we can very well understand that drinking and driving cannot be mixed. I think we as the citizen should understand that we have a responsibility towards the society. So, we should make a choice, either to drink or to drive this can really help reduce the number of the accidents.

—Ritu Upadhyay, teacher



DRUNK AND DRIVING?

A whopping 90,000 deaths occur on Indian roads every year due to accidents. Nearly 40% of them are caused by drunken driving. This means drunken driving accounts for nearly 36,000 lives every year. DNA tries to find out from Jaipurites whether the current laws are adequate or there is a need for more stringent laws to check drunken driving...



Avoid driving when drunk



I feel that we cannot change the habits overnight. Although as a doctor I know the bad effects of alcohol, suddenly changing a habit is difficult. So I feel the best option is to tell these people to at least avoid driving when you are under the influence of alcohol. The driver's task on the road is very tough. During the journey, he has to overtake many slow vehicles, allow faster vehicles to overtake, move parallel to other vehicles in the adjacent lanes and cope up with the heterogeneous traffic which crosses the roads at random. A drunken driver cannot perform his task without risk and would endangering traffic safety.

—Suresh Saigal, HoD, emergency department, SMS

Stricter action against violators

One thing that I want the government to do is to check incidents of drunken driving to punish the people who violate the laws. The public should be made aware of the fact that they cannot get away with it just like that. I want that penalty levied should also be very heavy so that a person never ever dares to do the mistake again. I think it is the complacency of the government that is responsible for the people taking this whole thing lightly. These accidents cause deaths and people who cause them should be punished very strictly. Again I feel the wine shops in the city should not be open till late in the night.

—Jaiprakash Verma, accident emergency counter, SMS



Stringent law, stricter action needed



I think the licenses should be revoked of people who are booked for drunken driving. I think the casual manner in which a person can get a driving licence these days is also a major issue. People do not understand the traffic rules and on the top of it they become even more dangerous under the influence of alcohol. I feel that the police and administration wakes up when there is an accident. If we have a regular check we cannot expect a decline in the incidents of such cases. I feel that we need is both a stringent law and proper implementation to check the cases of drunken driving.

—Pankaj Bhati, government employee

Robust implementation of laws needed

There is an advertisement on TV in which a party reveller opts not to drink as he has to drive his friends home. People in the West go for car pooling but we in India are yet to adopt such practices. I feel that this is the best option. At EMRI, we receive 150 cases a day and of these nearly 40-43 are road accidents. Though we do not have a figure to show how many of these are due to drunken driving, I feel that some of these are due to drunken driving. Till the time we do not make a robust implementation system, people will commit the crime and find a way out. So, I want better implementation agencies for this.

—Col V K Narayanan, EMRI



Check corruption to check drunken driving



I feel that the helmet drive going on in the city is a good example. People in general are reluctant to follow the traffic rule but they follow it when they realise that they cannot get away with it. I think if we can have a special force that is active at night to check drunken driving we can expect results. Corruption has to be checked if we want that laws are enforced properly. Families have to be more open over these issues. I have seen youngsters going for booze parties on the outskirts as they are not allowed to do so at home. At least if they drink at home, these people will not risk their own lives or others too.

—Ram Avatar, general physician

DNA capital 'D'



■ Femina Miss India runner-up Simran Kaur Mundi at a promotional function in New Delhi on Tuesday. —AP

Telecom 3G bidders entitled to 2G space

Successful bidders can acquire 2G spectrum space: DoT

New Delhi: Successful bidders for spectrum allocation for third generation (3G) telecom services will also be eligible for second generation (2G) spectrum space, the government said here Tuesday.

"Successful 3G bidders will be eligible for acquiring second generation (2G) spectrum as well," Member (finance) of Telecom Commission R Ashok said at a conference ahead of the 3G auctions. However, 2G-spectrum allocation will be subject to availability and operators will have to wait in queue, he said.

Currently, the 2G spectrum is saturated and the government is waiting for defence to vacate the airwaves. Ashok's statement helped dispel rumours that 3G operators would only be allowed to function in the 3G domain.

At the same conference, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) officials said a mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) policy might come out before the 3G spectrum auctions. "MVNO policy is under consideration and we are hoping to come out with the policy by January 5, 2009, that is the last application date," DoT joint secretary JS Deepak said.

MVNO is a company that provides mobile phone service but does not have its own licensed frequency allocation of radio spectrum, nor does it necessarily have the entire infrastructure required to provide mobile telephone service.

Clearing the air-wave

Successful bidders for spectrum allocation for third generation (3G) telecom services will also be eligible for second generation (2G) spectrum space, the government said here Tuesday.

This will helped dispel rumours that 3G operators would only be allowed to function in the 3G domain.

Britain's Virgin Mobile has already partnered with India's Tata Teleservices in order to enter the Indian market but under a franchise agreement to offer innovative service.

At the recent launch of the state-run operator Mahanagar Telephone Nigam's 3G service, prime minister Manmohan Singh had said the government was considering MVNOs. Also, while talking about the clearance from the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), DoT's Deepak said: "Foreign companies can seek clearance from FIPB before the 3G auctions so as to save time and avoid any hassles after the spectrum allocation."

Regarding vacation of spectrum by the defence, Deepak said discussion was still on with armed forces, and it is not known when the next round of 3G auctions will happen.

—IANS

24-hr online help for Metro commuters

New Delhi: The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) has started a 24-hour online customer care cell to cater to public queries and complaints.

"Commuters can now call on the number 128128 to register their complaints and suggestions. The number has caller ID and recording facilities. The concerned officials are immediately informed about the complaint to ensure that a quick solution is provided," said Anuj Dayal, spokesperson DMRC.

The customer care cell has been opened at Delhi Metro's Shastrri Park depot and can answer calls pertaining to train timings, feeder bus services, security and safety issues and Metro routes. "The service will be of special benefit to the physically-challenged commuters who can call on this number and seek assistance by informing in advance which Metro station they will reach so that they can be helped," Dayal added.

Delhi Metro provides wheelchair facility to old and physically-challenged commuters at all Metro stations. On an average, 149 physically challenged people and 78 blind commuters use the Metro system daily, according to the DMRC.

—IANS

Rs6.8 bn to boost civic amenities in national capital

Roads, parking lots in 13 localities to be upgraded

New Delhi: Civic infrastructure, including roads, storm water drains, street lighting, effluent treatment and parking facilities, in 13 industrial areas of the capital will be upgraded at a cost of Rs6.8 billion (Rs680 crore), city mayor Aarti Mehra said Tuesday.

"The infrastructure available in the industrial areas has been found to be inadequate and therefore there is a need to upgrade the civic infrastructure in these areas, facilitating optimal growth of industrial sector in the capital city," Mehra told reporters. She added that these areas or estates were developed by the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), industries department and Delhi State Industrial Development Corp.

"Subsequently, these were handed over to the Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) for maintenance of services," Mehra said. "The growth of industrial sectors has a crucial role in the economic development of Delhi. The Master Plan of Delhi 2021 lays down a road map for providing better infrastructure to the industrial areas for their growth," the mayor added. There are 1,29,000 industrial units in Delhi, which provide employment to around 1.5 million workers, according to the 2001-02 economic survey. The MCD maintains the civic services in the 13 industrial areas.

"The available infrastructure in the areas is inadequate in terms of roads, storm water drains, street lights, effluent treatment, disposal of industrial waste and lack of parking facility, so we have decided to upgrade," Mehra said.

—IANS

Facelift

The infrastructure available in the industrial areas has been found to be inadequate and therefore there is a need to upgrade them to facilitate optimal growth of industrial sector in the capital city, said city mayor Aarti Mehra.