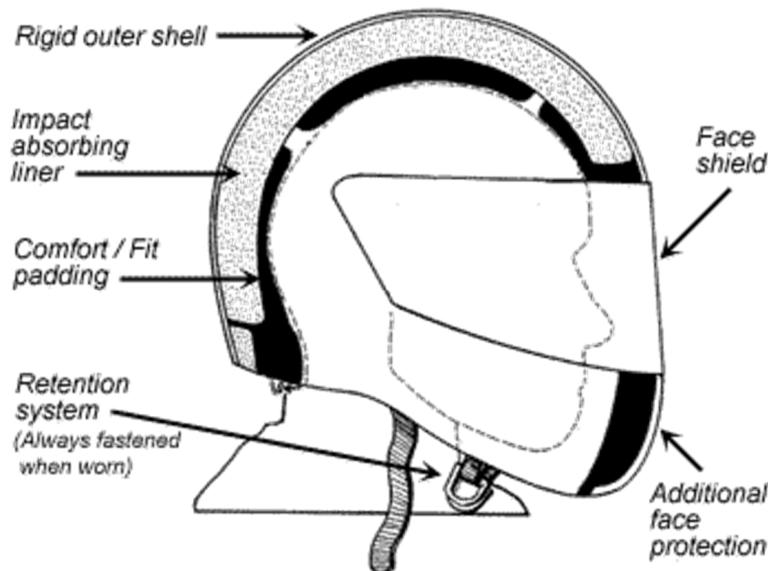


HELMET FACTSHEET



It absorbs energy in an impact: the shell bends when the helmet is impacted and the underlying foam deforms. At moderate speeds the shell can take one-third of the impact energy.

It distributes local forces from an impact: rigid objects like stone or a projecting beam can cause a skull fracture at low forces, the shell acts to distribute the force of such impact eliminating the risk of penetration.

It allows sliding on road surfaces: the shell being rigid and having a convex shape allows the helmet to slide along a road surface without there being an excessive force.

It protects the face and temples: full-face helmet is beneficial in protecting the face and jaw. The chin bar of such helmets contain rigid foam to absorb energy for direct blows on the chin, prevent facial bone fractures and prevent the lower part of the forehead and temple being struck.

- ❖ **Less than 20%** two-wheeler riders and pillioners wear a helmet.
- ❖ Research shows (WHO) that wearing a motorcycle **helmet** correctly can **reduce** the risk of **death** by almost 40% and the risk of severe **injury** by over 70%.
- ❖ Nationally more than **52,000 two-wheeler riders are killed** (35% of all those killed) every year in road crashes.
- ❖ Almost half the road crash deaths that happen in Pune are those of two-wheelers
- ❖ **Enforcement** is seen as an effective way to increase compliance
 - Enforcement is relatively easy - no special equipment is needed to identify violations
- ❖ The law requires a helmet to be worn, courts have insisted that the law be effectively implemented.

The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988

129. Wearing of protective headgear.

Every person driving or riding on a motor cycle shall, while in a public place, wear protective headgear conforming to the standards of **Bureau of Indian Standards**

Explanation. – “Protective headgear” means a helmet which, -

(a) by virtue of its shape, material and construction, could reasonably be expected to afford to the person driving or riding on a motor cycle a degree of protection from injury in the event of an accident; and

(b) **is securely fastened** to the head of the wearer by means of straps or other fastenings provided on the headgear.

Current fine:

Rs 100 for first offence, Rs 300 for subsequent offence

Proposed amendment to the law (passed by Lok Sabha, pending passage in the Rajya Sabha)

Fine Rs 1000 and disqualified from holding a licence for 3 months