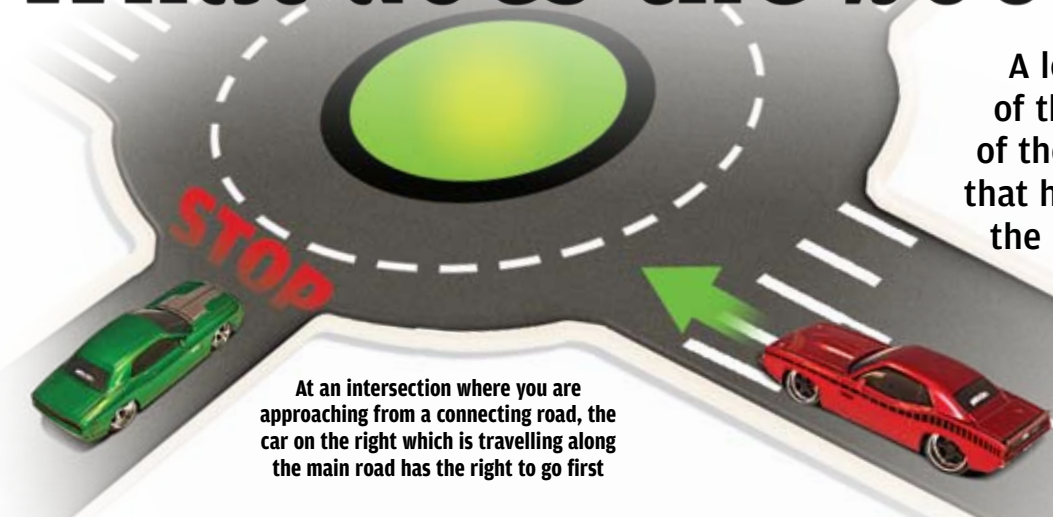


What does the book say?

A lot of people say a lot of things about the rules of the road. But what is it that has been laid down in the book. Here's the first of a series



At an intersection where you are approaching from a connecting road, the car on the right which is travelling along the main road has the right to go first

In India, getting a driving licence is amongst the simplest of chores. In most cases the applicant sits at home, while his trusted tout does the paperwork and other formalities and delivers the licence to him at the end of the day. In this kind of a format, most of the applicants are not aware of even the basic rules and regulations and this ignorance results in rowdy traffic.

In the following few episodes, we shall make an attempt at enlightening you about all such rules and regulations, including traffic signals and hand signals, that you maybe unaware of. For this time it is the rules for 'Right of way' and 'Overtaking'.

Slow down first when approaching an intersection, a road junction, pedestrian crossing or a road corner, and don't enter any such intersection, junction or crossing until you ensure that you may do so without endangering the safety of other road users. At an intersection at which traffic is not being regulated, if you are

entering from a connecting road, give way to the vehicles proceeding along the main road, and in any other case give way to all traffic approaching to intersection from your right hand side.

We in India follow the Right Hand Drive format and this means we keep to the left of the road and overtake from the right of the vehicle in front of us. However there are exceptions



As you can see in the picture, the Honda Civic in grey is overtaking the white one from the wrong side. But if you go by the books, it is not truly an offence. But the criterion is that the car you are overtaking should give you a signal that he is turning or has let you pass from the left deliberately

allowed in the rule book. The driver of a motor vehicle may pass to the left of a vehicle if the driver has indicated an intention to turn to the right or has drawn to the centre of the road. You may pass on either side of a tram car or other vehicles running on fixed rails irrespective of whether they're travelling in the same direction or otherwise. You are however not allowed to overtake if you are at a point, a bend or corner or a hill or other obstruction of any kind that leaves the road ahead not clearly visible to you. It is also an offence if you obstruct an overtaking manoeuvre by the car behind if he has already shown an intention of doing so. So don't speed up in case you are being overtaken. Another common phenomenon is switching on indicators as a signal to pass by. But let's make it very clear that these habits are purely zonal. This means, it might be a known thing in Mumbai but may not be so in Delhi.

Rahul Ghosh

When you connect with the road, you should be able to hold on to it.

 APOLLO TYRES
Safe drive
CHECK . SET . GO