The World Resources Institute, in association with the Government of Maharashtra, presents India Vision Zero, its second annual road safety conference, on 5th-6th June 2017 in Worli, Mumbai.

India Vision Zero is meant to facilitate the exchange of ideas and experiences for improving road safety, and to promote a shared vision towards zero road accident deaths in the country. The speakers and participants will include representatives from across the country, spanning the governments at the centre, states and cities, across transport departments, transport authorities, road authorities, municipal corporations and traffic police. The speakers will also include both national and international road safety experts in the areas of institutional management, road design, data management, enforcement and road safety communication.

With close to 150,000 road traffic deaths annually, Indian roads rank as the most dangerous in the world. Over the past decade, several attempts have been made to update road safety legislation in the country. Earlier this year, Lok Sabha finally cleared a landmark Amendment Bill to the near three-decade old Motor Vehicle Act of 1988, which seeks to strengthen institutional mechanisms as well as tighten safety regulations. This Bill has to be passed by the Rajya Sabha before it becomes law. India Vision Zero aims to enhance understanding and consensus on the Motor Vehicle (Amendment), especially with the State governments.

Vision Zero is based on the principle that saving human life must take priority over all other transport challenges, such as traffic congestion, speed and road capacity. It departs from conventional thinking by advocating a joint responsibility for safety between road users and transport system providers and authorities. It accepts that, to some extent, human error is unavoidable, and transportation systems need to be designed to ensure that such errors do not result in fatalities or serious injuries. It stresses on the absolute importance of a coordinated action plan across all relevant arms of government, with interconnected goals, linked targets and effective feedback mechanisms.

The first India Vision Zero conference was held in 2016 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, in partnership with Bhubaneswar Development Authority. The event was attended by 150+ practitioners from across the country. India Vision Zero is supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies.