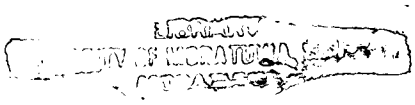
IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY BY IMPROVED MANAGEMENT OF ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE



MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION IN INFRASTRUCTURE

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IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY BY IMPROVED MANAGEMENT OF ROAD INFRASTRUCTURE

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This dissertation was submitted to the Department of Civil Engineering of the University of Moratuwa in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Business Administration in Infrastructure

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December 2005

DECLARATION

"I certify that this thesis does not incorporate without acknowledgement any material previously submitted for a degree or diploma in any University to the best of my knowledge and belief it does not contain any material previously published, written or orally communicated by another person or myself except where due reference is made in the text. I also hereby give consent for my dissertation, if accepted, to be made available for photocopying and for interlibrary loans, and for the title and summary to be made available to outside organizations"

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Abstract

Road accidents put a heavy burden on the economy as well as on the society. It is also said to be responsible for critical social problems, such as disease, injuries, and loss of income. Economic and social costs of accidents are enormous so that a concerted effort to reduce the number of accidents is needed very urgently.

The number and severity of accidents could be brought down by proper management process and by identifying the causes and taking proactive and remedial measures. This requires a road safety management system within the infrastructure organizations.

Road environment is one of the major factors that contribute to road accidents. The intrinsic safety of the road system can be improved by engineering safety measures and improved management of the infrastructure. The engineering counter measures will be effective only when an organized management approach is pursued for road safety.

This study focuses to improve the road safety by improving the management of the road infrastructure. It has been revealed by this study that the current management practices of road infrastructure organizations have many deficiencies in the areas related to institution and operation. Many areas and elements of management, such as strategy, policies, standards and guidelines, technology, funding, management capability, have been identified below performing level. Suggestions have been made to improve these elements by various measures, such as strengthening institutional issues and means for procuring additional resources.

It is expected that the out come of this study will be helpful to the future researchers to study further into specific areas to improve effectiveness and efficiency of the management of the infrastructure.

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