



# Sadak Suraksha Mitra Initiative

## Why in News?

The **Uttar Pradesh Transport Department** launched the **Sadak Suraksha Mitra (SSM)** programme, initiated by the **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH)**, to **engage youth** in road safety measures and reduce accidents and fatalities.

## Key Points

- **About:** The initiative is launched in partnership with the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports** and seeks to train and deploy volunteers through the **MYBharat platform**.
- **Target:** The program targets youth aged 18 to 28 with no pending traffic challans, with the first phase set to **cover 100 districts nationwide**.
- **Training Programs:**
  - **General Volunteers:** A **one-week training program** will be provided, which includes basic first aid and road safety awareness.
  - **Civil Engineering Graduates:** A **15-day training program** focused on road safety audits, black spot identification, awareness initiatives, and field surveys.
- **Recognition:** **Outstanding volunteers will be recognized for their contributions with certificates and 'Good Samaritan' awards.**
- **Implementation:** The initiative will be implemented in 28 districts across Uttar Pradesh, including Kanpur Nagar, Bulandshahr, Prayagraj, and Agra, among others.
- **Program Oversight:** The District Road Safety Committees (DRSC) will ensure the implementation, including volunteer onboarding, training, and monthly performance reviews, following MoRTH's 12-step roadmap.
- **Outcome:** The expected outcomes include a **reduction in road crashes and injuries**, improved emergency responses, increased youth engagement in road safety, and strengthened **district-level road safety systems** through structured training, field studies, and data-driven reporting.