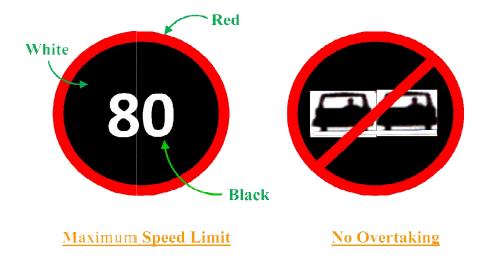
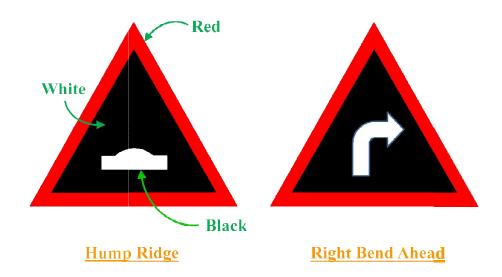
Traffic Signs

- Traffic signs are "any object or device (whether fixed or portable) for conveying to traffic on road, warnings, information, requirements, restrictions or prohibitions of any description specified by regulations".
- Clear and efficient signing is a key element of traffic engineering.
- Road users rely upon signs for information and guidance, whilst highway authorities depend upon them for efficient working / enforcement of traffic regulations, for traffic management, and for promotion of road safety.
- In order to obtain the greatest efficiency of usage from highway signs in general, and roadside signs in particular, the following principles should always be borne in mind:
 - Signs must be designed for foreseeable traffic volume and speeds on the roads on which they are to be used.
 - They should be conspicuous, so that they will attract the attention of drivers at a sufficient distance.
 - Signs should contain only essential information and their significance should be clear at a glance so that the driver's attention is not distracted from driving.
 - Sign-lettering should be legible from sufficiently far away distance. Signs should be placed so that they are obscured as little as possible by vehicles/objects.
 - They should be designed and sited so that, after reading the sign, the driver is left with sufficient time to undertake any necessary action(s) with safety.
 - Signs should be effective by day and night.
- There are three functional classes of traffic signs, namely
 - Regulatory,
 - Warning and
 - Guide / Informatory Signs.
- Regulatory signs give motorists notice of traffic laws or regulations. Such signs designate right-of-way, indicate speed controls, control movements, regulate parking and control/manage traffic in various other ways. They are circular in shape, have a red border with a black legend placed on a white background.



- Warning signs direct attention to conditions on highway which are potentially hazardous to traffic operations.
- Such signs require motorists to exercise caution, reduce speed, or make some maneuvers in the interest of their own safety or that of other motorists or pedestrians.
- These are generally provided near dangerous bends, schools, pedestrian crossings, converging lanes etc.
- Warning signs are distinguished by an equilateral triangle with a red border encompassing a black symbol - usually a pictogram of the potential hazard - superimposed on a white background.



- **Guide / Informatory signs** indicate route designations, directions, distances, points of interest etc.; in short, they help the user along the way.
- Unlike most other types, information signs do not lose effectiveness by over-use and should be erected wherever there is any doubt.
- Generally, these types of signs are provided on blue, orthogonal steel plates with a white border.
- The black informatory symbol is placed on a white background for emphasizing the message.

