



SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON ROAD SAFETY

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Members : Sanjay Mitra
Dr. Nishi Mittal

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By Speed Post
F.No. 05/CoRS/2022
Dated:-29th March, 2022

To,

The Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
Government of India and
The Chief Secretaries/Chief Administrators,
All State /UTs.

Sub:-Directions of Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety (SCCoRS) regarding District Road Safety Committees for each district in the State, in accordance with Section 215 of The Motor Vehicle Act, 1988- reg

Sir/Madam,

I am directed to say that the combined efforts of the Central and State Governments have improved road connectivity in the country considerably. However, Road Safety is still a major cause of concern; last year, there were 1.5 lakhs deaths due to road accidents and many more have suffered debilitating injuries. This has caused immense economic & financial hardship and emotional trauma to the affected families. There is an urgent need to make our roads safer because the loss of lives and limbs cannot be accepted as an inevitable consequence of mobility.

2. The Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety is deeply concerned about the growth in the number of road accidents, injuries, and fatalities in recent years. It recognizes that road accidents have now become a major public health issue, and the victims are mainly the poor and vulnerable road users.

3. The SCCoRS also recognizes that as road accidents involve roads, motor vehicles, and also human beings, thus, road safety needs to be addressed on a holistic basis. It also recognizes that regardless of jurisdiction/s, the Central Government and State Governments have a joint responsibility in reducing the incidence of road accidents, injuries, and fatalities.

4. The SCCoRS attaches the highest importance to road safety and urges State Governments to strictly comply with the powers conferred upon them Under Section 215 sub-section (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. Whereby, every State Government should constitute District Road Safety Committees for each district in their State to monitor and improve the standard of road safety. Needless to mention that a long term, sustainable, and successful road safety policy can only be made with the support of grass root level reporting

and monitoring. Accordingly, the role of the District Road Safety Committees is vital in this endeavour.

5. To strengthen the road safety laws, Motor Vehicles Act has been amended and Good Samaritan Rules have been notified. In addition to various initiatives being taken by the various stakeholders, there is a dire need of strict compliance of the provisions under Section 215 sub-section (3) of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988. It has been observed that different States have different composition of the District Road Safety Committee. In order to comply with the provisions under Section 215 sub-section (3) of the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Act, 2019, to constitute District Road Safety Committees, the following regulatory structure is directed for compliance by all the States/UTs, to maintain a uniform structure as far as feasible.

5.1. Composition of District Road Safety Committee(s):

- | | | |
|-------|--|--------------------|
| i. | District Magistrate and Collector (Ex-Officio) | - Chairman |
| ii. | Deputy Commissioner of Police/ Superintendent of Police (Ex-Officio) | - Member |
| iii. | Chief Medical Officer of Health (Ex-Officio) | - Member |
| iv. | Executive Engineer, PWD (Roads) | - Member |
| v. | Representative of Regional Office, MoRT&H | - Member |
| vi. | Project Director, NHAI | - Member |
| vii. | Executive Officer of Municipalities/ Urban Bodies/Notified Authorities | - Member |
| viii. | At least one Civil Society Organisation (CSO) or any other Non Government Organisation (NGO) working on improving road safety in the State | - Member(s) |
| ix. | Regional Transport Officer | - Member |
| x. | *Highway Administrator of State Highways & Major District Roads (MDRs) | - Member secretary |

Note 1. **States/UTs are directed to appoint concerned Superintendent Engineer/Executive Engineer, PWD as District Administrator of State Highways and Major District Roads in each district.*

Note 2. **State/UTs are free to induct /co opt in addition to the above structure any other stakeholder deemed fit, on the above committee. However no substitutions shall be made.*

5.2. The following Terms of reference and functions of the District Road Safety Committee(s) are directed:

- I. Periodic review of the road accidents in the district.
- II. Monitor the implementation of State Road Safety policy and the targets set under it.
- III. Implement directions of the SCCoRS, Government of India and the State Government as may be issued from time to time on matters of road safety
- IV. Implementation of decisions of the State Road Safety Council in the district
- V. Regularly track and update State Road Safety Council on details of Road crashes that took place in the district, which shall include:
 - a. Details of the vehicle
 - b. Cause of crash
 - c. Details of spot investigation, evidence if any
 - d. Details of offender/s (if any)
 - e. Details of Victim/s and victims latest condition

- f. Types of injury caused
 - g. FIR registered if any
- VI. Publish road accident data on monthly basis on public domain on:
- (i) The district website portal (to be widely publicised)
 - (ii) The MoRTH Portal (<http://morth-roadsafety.nic.in/edisha/index.aspx>)
- VII. Develop a district road safety plan
- VIII. Ensure forensic crash investigation u/s 135A of the MVA for all mass fatality crashes in the district.
- IX. Ensure optimal placements of ambulances to help improve response time and handover time to hospitals
- X. Ensure adequate availability of different ambulance types as per historic caseload in the district.
- XI. Prepare an Emergency Medical Plan for mass fatality accidents in the district.
- XII. Ensure linkage between hospitals and ambulances through setting up a prior notification system. Ensure linkages between hospitals to find out the availability of beds in case of emergency.
- XIII. Act as the nodal body for placing, requirement/s, and disbursal of road safety funds and interact with State Road Safety Council as and when required
- XIV. Provide regular inputs to the State Road Safety Council/Lead Agency of State and recommend road safety measures especially with regard to identification of major accident-prone areas/ Black spots etc. and also in parts regarding the important of **4Es** viz Engineering, Education, Enforcement & Emergency.
- XV. Promote Good Samaritans to assist the road accident victims
- XVI. Provide suggestion/s to State Government as and when requested to formulate or amend:
- a. Rules U/s 107, U/s 138, U/s 176, U/s 210D, U/s. 215D of the MV(A)Act, 2019
 - b. Schemes U/s 135 of the MV(A)Act, 2019

5.3 Place and frequency of meeting of The District Road Safety Committee (DRSC):

The DRSC shall hold its meeting at least fortnightly on a virtual platform and meet physically at least once a month at a venue prescribed by the Chairman. The minutes of the meeting shall be made public on the district website within 48 hours of the meeting, and also be uploaded to the web portal of MoRTH as given in VI (ii) above and in the format designed and approved by MoRTH.

6. All State Governments are also directed to provide the DSRCs with adequate and qualified support staff latest by 30th April, 2022.

7. Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (MoRTH) is directed to appoint a nodal officer (not below the rank of a Joint Secretary to Govt. of India) to centrally monitor the activities of all District Road Safety Committee and send a consolidated summary report of defaulters to SCCoRS on Quarterly basis. The name and contact details of the nodal officer should be sent to Chief Secretary, of all State Govts/UTs and SCCoRS by 30th April, 2022 positively.

8. This issues with the prior approval of the Chairman, Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety.

Yours faithfully,



(Sanjay Mital)

Secretary to the Committee

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(संजय मिटल) / (Sanjay Mital)
सचिव / Secretary
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Copy to:

- Gaurav Aggarwal (Advocate), Supreme Court of India
- Director, NIC, MoRT&H for uploading on the portal of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.