

SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON ROAD SAFETY

Chairman: Justice K.S. Radhakrishnan

Members: S. Sundar

Dr. Nishi Mittal

Secretary: S.D. Banga Tel. No.: +91-11-23060597

Email: roadsafetysc@gmail.com

No.29/CoRS/2014 Dated: 27th February, 2017

To

The Principal Secretary (Transport)
Government of Uttarakhand,
Kulhan, Shatradhara Road,
Dehradun
(Shri S. Ramaswamy)
(Email- secy-trpt-ua@nic.in; transportdeptuk@gmail.com)

Sub:

Committee on Road Safety – Follow up action on Committee's directions dated 30th November, 2016- Furnishing of compliance report - regarding.

Sir,

Kindly refer to the letter dated 31st January, 2017 from the office of Transport Commissioner, Government of Uttarakhand, furnishing the compliance report relating to the directions of the Committee on Road Safety sought by the Committee vide its letter dated 30th November, 2016.

- 2. The measures taken by you have been examined by the Committee in detail. The Committee has following observations:
- i) Noted. The Committee directs that the State should collect/compile data on fatalities in road accidents in the State on quarterly basis; assess the rate of increase/decrease every quarter and take focused action in districts where an increase in accidents and fatalities is noticed.
- ii) The Committee is disappointed that the State has not yet scientifically analyzed the data of the last three or four years as directed vide letter No. 10/16/CoRS dated 12th April, 2016. The Committee accedes to the State Government's request and grants time **up to 30th April**,, **2017** to the State for undertaking the analysis. The State should identify current accident prone

locations, causes of accidents, degree of vulnerability of different categories of road users specific to those identified locations and based on such analysis, fix priorities for counter measures for the current year by 30th April,, 2017.

- a) The Committee observes that the State's explanation for the huge variation in the data on fatalities on account of drunk driving for 2014 is less than convincing and desires that the data collection and compilation should be done more carefully.
 - b) The State has not furnished any reason for the variation in the data on fatalities on account of over speeding between 2013 and 2015 and hit and run cases from 2009 to 2011. The Committee desires that, as directed vide its directions dated 30.11.2016, the State should look into the correctness of the published data particularly fatalities data in respect of the years 2013 to 2016 and submit a report to the Committee.
- iv) Noted. The Committee directs the State to hold the next meeting of the Council before 30th June, 2017 and to place the action taken report on the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 19.12.2016 before the Council in its next meeting.
- v) The Committee accedes to the State's request for grant of time and directs the State to constitute, by 30th June, 2017, Road Safety Fund as directed vide Committee's letter No. 16/2016/ CoRS dated 24th November, 2016, (Copy enclosed at Annexure I).
- vi) The Committee directs that the State should confirm that the Lead Agency set up by the State meets the requirements stipulated in the Committee's letter No. 16/2016/ CoRS dated 24th November, 2016 (Copy enclosed at Annexure I).

vii.(a),(b)&(c):

The Committee accedes to the State's request for grant of time and directs the State to provide the requisite information regarding preparation of Protocol for Black Spots, working out specific strategies for reduction of fatalities on 103 black spots locations where 23% fatalities took place and jurisdiction wise report on number of Black Spots identified on National Highways, State Highways, MDRs and Ors.

viii) a) PWD's letter dated 19.11.2016 does not provide that the construction of road projects costing more than Rs. 10/- crores should begin only after the recommendations of the design stage auditor are implemented. The Lead Agency should ensure that PWD issues appropriate orders in this regard and send a copy the order to the Committee.

- b) The Committee notes that the road owning/managing agencies other than PWD have not taken note of the Committee's direction dated 30.11.2016 regarding road safety audit and directs that all road owning/managing agencies should implement the Committee's direction.
- c) The Committee directs that the Lead Agency should, in consultation with the all road owning agencies in the State, prepare separate year wise calendars for PWD, NHAI and other road owning/managing agency(ies) in the State, in consultation with them, for training of adequate number of highway engineers belonging to these agencies in the years 2017-18 and 2018-19. Copy of the Calendar may be sent to the Committee.
- ix) a) The Committee noted that its directions dated 18.08.2016 and 17.11.2016 are not being strictly implemented. The report for the quarter ending December, 2016 sent by the State indicated that enforcement in some districts is nearly non existent. In other districts, very few licenses have been suspended. The Committee desires that the State should strictly enforce its directions dated 18.08.2016 and 17.11.2016 and continue to send the quarterly implementation reports in the proforma prescribed vide Committees' letter dated 24th October, 2016(Copy enclosed at Annexure II).
 - b) Noted. The Committee observes that the State should devise effective enforcement strategies without waiting for the drafting/finalization of the Road Safety Action Plan keeping in view the Committee's directions in para vii (b) of its letter dated 30.11.2016.
- x) Noted. The Committee directs that the Lead Agency should verify and confirm that appropriate speed calming measures at all required places have been taken by the State and send a report to the Committee by 30th June, 2017.
- a) The Committee noted that the Committee's direction to draw timelines for shifting of hoardings and objects (which obstruct or distract drivers) beyond 100 meters of NHs and SHs has not been complied with by the State. The Committee directs that the State should, as directed earlier, draw the timelines for completion of the action in 5 districts where the State reported no progress at all and in 3 districts where the State reported partial or negligible progress vide its letter dated 27.10.2016. The timelines should be intimated to the Committee.

Secondly, the Committee observes that the State has furnished information regarding hoardings and objects (which obstruct or distract drivers) in respect of only 26 out of 89 Local Bodies and directs the State to collect and send complete information to the Committee.

b) The Committee noted that the State has not undertaken audit of all road side hoardings on NHs, SHs, MDRs and Other Roads to identify dangerous hoardings as directed vide Committees' letter dated 24th May, 2016. The Committee directs that the State should undertake the audit and submit a report to the Committee.

- xii) (a) The Committee noted that the State has furnished information regarding action taken under the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood & Regulation of Street Vending) Act 2014 in respect of only 26 out of 89 Local Bodies and directs the State to collect and send complete information relating to all Local Bodies in the State to the Committee.
 - (b) The State has not furnished a reply to para x (b) of the Committee's letter dated 30.11.2016. The State should submit a reply to the Committee.
- xiii) The Committee is disappointed to note that the State has not undertaken analysis of data as directed vide Committee's letter dated 30.11.2016. The Committee accedes to the State Government's request for grant of time and directs the State to conduct the analysis and based on such analysis, fix priorities and revise the Action Plan. The revised Action Plan should conform to the directions given by the Committee vide para 2 (vii) of its letter dated 10.08.2016 and should reflect the strategy and the interventions based on the outcome of the analysis to be conducted by the State as directed vide Committee's letter dated 30.11.2016. The State should submit the revised Action Plan directly to MoRTH and endorse a copy to the Committee.
- xiv) Noted. The Lead Agency has not complied with the Committee's directions. The Committee reiterates that the Lead Agency should verify that Cinema Halls in all districts in the State have actually begun showing a short film/clip on road safety and send a confirmation thereof to the Committee.
- xv) Noted. The State should confirm, by 30th June, 2017, that the State has fully complied with the recent Judgement and orders of the Hon'ble Court regarding shifting of liquor vends etc beyond 500 meter of NHs/SHs.
- xvi) Noted. The Committee directs that the State should fix timeline for increasing the band width and resolve the connectivity issues of all RTOs in the State and shifteach RTO and DTO/ Asstt. DTO to 'SAARATHI 4.O' and intimate the Committee.

Other Issues

- xvii) The meetings of each District Road Safety Committees should be convened every month.
- As indicated in the Committee's letter number 56/2015/CoRS dated 27th December, 2016 (Copy enclosed at Annexure III), the State should periodically carry out campaigns to check the vehicles to see whether the vehicle owners have 3rd party insurance cover. In case they are not covered by 3rd party insurance, the vehicle should be detained till such time the valid Insurance Certificate is produced by the vehicle owner. The State should also compare the State digitized registration data with IRDA data to identify vehicles which are not insured and take action to bring them under the insurance cover.

->

xix. Initiate action to construct sensor based driving tracks in each district for testing driving skills for issue of permanent Driving Licenses.

xx. Good Samaritan guidelines should be widely publicized. These guidelines

should also be pasted in the police stations and hospitals.

The Lead Agency should place all the directions in para (i) to (xxi) above before the State Road Safety Council in its next meeting and intimate/report the decisions taken by the Council on each direction to the Committee in a tabular/annotated form.

2. You are requested to kindly take action as advised above and forward a comprehensive compliance report to the Committee in respect of all the directions by 30th April, 2017 or the specified date.

Yours faithfully,

(S.D. Banga)

Copy for information and necessary action to:

- 1. The Chief Secretary, Government of Uttarakhand, Dehradun Email: csuttranchal@nic.in
- 2. Ms. Sunita Singh, Addl. Transport. Commissioner, Dehradun, Uttarakhand

Email: transportdeptuk@gmail.com

(S.D. Banga) Secretary to the Committee.