

PRESENTATION BY

SD BANGA
SECRETARY
**SUPREME COURT COMMITTEE ON ROAD
SAFETY**

Constitution of Committee

- i. Order of the Supreme Court dated 22nd April 2014 in Writ Petition (Civil) No 295 of 2012 (Dr S Rajasekaran vs UOI & Others) constituting the Committee
- ii. Composition of the Committee :
 - (i) Justice KS Radhakrishnan
Former Judge, Supreme Court of India
 - (ii) Sh S Sundar,
Former Secretary, MoRTH
 - (iii) Dr (Mrs) Nishi Mittal
Former Scientist, CRRI

Mandate of the Committee

- 1 To measure and monitor on behalf of the Supreme Court the implementation of various laws relating to road safety in the States and Central Ministries.
- 2 To identify the need for further legislation or changes in the existing laws

Functioning of the Committee

- i. The Committee looked into the institutional arrangements and Es viz. Enforcement, Engineering, Education and Emergency Care for ensuring road safety in the country
- ii. The Committee has so far held **140 meetings** with States and **17** with Central Ministries to identify gaps in implementation of road safety laws and passed directions to improve road safety in the country.
- iii. The Committee also has held **26** meetings with NGOs/experts and practitioners on road safety

Status of Road Safety in States/UTs at the time of constitution of Committee

1/5

1 Institutional Arrangements :

- i. Hardly any State had a Road Safety Policy
- ii. Most of the States had no Road Safety Council.
- iii. None of the States had a lead agency responsible for coordinating actions of concerned departments/agencies of the Government to deal with road safety
- iv. None of the States had non-lapsable road safety fund to ensure continuous availability of adequate funds for performing their road safety activities

Status of Road Safety in States/UTs at the time of constitution of Committee

2/5

2 Engineering :

- i. None of the States had protocol for identifying black spots and taking corrective actions to rectify them
- ii. None of the States conducted road safety audit
- iii. IRC standards were not met and no action taken against those responsible
- iv. None of the States had adequate number of trained vehicle inspectors to examine and certify the road worthiness of transport/commercial vehicles

Status of Road Safety in States/UTs at the time of constitution of Committee

3/5

3. Enforcement :

- i. The procedure for issue of permanent driving license was very lax
- ii. 60-90 licenses were issued by a Licensing Officer on each day
- iii. The number of traffic police in each State was barely one for 10000 vehicles
- iv. Inadequate functional Alco-meters, breath-analysers, speed guns, interceptors etc to monitor traffic violations.
- v. Helmet/Seat belt laws were not enforced vigorously

Status of Road Safety in States/UTs at the time of constitution of Committee

4/5

4. Education :

- i. Awareness programme carried out in a routine manner restricted to Road Safety Week only
- ii. Road Safety Education and awareness restricted to only school children and drivers of heavy commercial vehicles (in some States)
- iii. No evaluation done by any State of the strategy that had the maximum effect

Status of Road Safety in States/UTs at the time of constitution of Committee

5/5

5. Emergency Care

- i. States had inadequate number of fully equipped Trauma Centres and medical personnel
- ii. Ambulances provided by the Government were not equipped with required First Aid facilities and were not manned by trained para-medical staff

Directions issued to States / UTs

1/9

1 Institutional arrangements

- i. Formulate State Road Safety Policy
- ii. Set up a State Road Safety Council and hold its meetings at least twice in a year and forward minutes to the Committee
- iii. Set up a Lead Agency with adequate dedicated and professional staff to deal exclusively with road safety issues
- iv. Establish a non-lapsable Road Safety Fund by apportioning certain percentage of fines collected from traffic violations
- v. Prepare Road Safety Action Plan with annual targets for reducing road accidents and deaths
- vi. Constitute District Road Safety Committees, fix targets for reduction for reducing road accidents and deaths for each district and monitor their performance on a regular basis

Directions issued to States / UTs

2/9

2. Engineering

- i. Set up a protocol for identification, rectification and monitoring of Black Spots and follow it
- ii. Adopt traffic calming measures at locations where accidents occur due to over-speeding
- iii. Carry out road safety audits during design, construction and operation of roads
- iv. No new road beyond Rs.10 crores should be undertaken without undergoing design audit and implementing recommendations of Audit (**changed to 5 km of road**)
- v. Impart training in road safety audit to the engineers and prepare annual calendar for the purpose

Directions issued to States / UTs

3/9

3. Enforcement

- i. Review the norms recommended by MHA for police strength and equipment and draw up a timeline for implementing these norms.
- ii. Patrol roads, especially National Highways and State Highways based on the analysis of the accident data
- iii. Ban sale of alcohol on National and State Highways as directed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
- iv. Remove hoardings and objects that obstruct driving or distract drivers.
- v. Remove encroachment on pedestrian paths
- vi. Suspend driving license for at least 3 months for certain traffic violations like over speeding, red light jumping, over loading, use of mobile phone while driving

Directions issued to States / UTs

4/9

Enforcement

- vii. Provide road safety education and counselling for at least 2 hours before levying of fine or compounding of offence for violation of helmet and seat belt laws
- viii. Prosecute for imprisonment in cases of drunken driving or dangerous driving like driving in the wrong way
- ix. Establish computerized driver testing facilities and vehicle testing and certification centres to ensure reduction in human intervention and corrupt practices
- x. Ensure that the Speed Governors being fitted in the existing transport vehicles are type-approved and are given unique identification number, which should also be uploaded in the VAHAN data along with details of the vehicle

Directions issued to States / UTs

5/9

4. Education

- i. Carry out road safety awareness programmes in a scientific and systematic manner
- ii. Evaluate strategies that have maximum effect
- iii. Undertake programmes to educate all stakeholders
- iv. Add road safety as a subject in the school curriculum
- v. Show road safety films/ Clippings to educate the public in all cinema halls before showing any film, as is done in the case of tobacco use

Directions issued to States / UTs

6/9

5. Emergency Care

- i. Establish adequate number of fully equipped trauma care centres with medical personnel and ambulances equipped with first aid facilities manned by trained para-medical staff
- ii. Establish a Universal Accident Helpline Number

Directions issued to Ministries

7/9

1. MoRTH / NHAI

- i. Establish National Road Safety Board for setting up safety standards
- ii. Prepare protocol for identification, rectification and monitoring of Black Spots in respect of National Highways
- iii. Develop wayside amenities for drivers of commercial vehicles
- iv. Issue Notification on Ambulance Code
- v. Issue Regulations for ATO (Automatic Headlights On)
- vi. Issue Notification on Crash Test for LMVs
- vii. Install Speed Governors in HMVs

Directions issued to Ministries

8/9

MoRTH (Cont...)

- viii Issue Notification on Side and Back Safety Guards in trucks
- ix Issue Notification on Bus/Truck body building code
- x Installation of ABS and Air Bags in the cars

2. MHA

- i. Devise norms for the number of traffic police and also for the equipments for identifying violations of traffic laws

Directions issued to Ministries

9/9

3. Deptt of Industrial Promotion & Policy (DIPP) :

- i. Install 10 no of quality Reflectors on Bicycles to increase their visibility during night

4. IRDA

- i. Set up a regular Protocol for matching VAHAN data with 3rd party insurance data to identify the un-insured vehicles and bring all un-insured vehicles under insurance cover
- ii. Make 3rd Party insurance for 3 years for cars and 5 years for 2 wheelers mandatory at the time of registration of new vehicles.

Important directions to States / UTs

1/2

1. Directions dated 18 August, 2015

- i. Suspend license for 3 months for over speeding, red light jumping, overloading, drunk driving and use of mobile phone
- ii. Prosecute and seeking imprisonment for drunk driving
- iii. Counsel for 2 hours for non wear of helmet and seat belt
- iv. Forward the report to the Committee on quarterly basis.

2. Directions dated 27th December, 2016 & 20th March, 2017

- i. Conduct special drives to check whether the vehicle owners have 3rd party insurance cover. If not, detain the vehicle till the time he obtains a valid insurance cover
- ii. Forward the report to the Committee on quarterly basis.

Important directions to States / UTs

2/2

3. Directions dated 11th April, 2017

- i. Check at the time of fitness of commercial vehicles whether the vehicles have been fitted with type-approved Speed Governors and the details have been uploaded in the VAHAN data
- ii. Forward the report to the Committee on quarterly basis.

Audit By Consultants

- i. To assess the extent of compliance with the road safety laws, DIMTS together with IIT, Delhi and TERI have been appointed as Consultants in respect of 8 States
- ii. Audit Reports for 2 States have been submitted
- iii. Committee has directed the States to fill the gaps identified in the Audit Report
- iv. Process for appointment of Consultants for 8 more States has begun

Present Status of Road Safety in States/UTs

- i. Road Safety Policy : 29 States/UTs have framed Policy
- ii. Road Safety Council : 33 - Council has started meeting and Minutes being sent to Committee
- iii. Lead Agency : 5 States have established Lead Agency and Committee has directed them to provide dedicated and professional staff to discharge the functions
- iv. Road Safety Fund : 9 States have established and in other States it is under process

Hon'ble Supreme Court Order dated 30th November 2017

- i. Perused 12 Reports submitted by the Committee Commended the work done by the Committee
- ii. Directed the defaulting States to set up institutional mechanism viz
 - Road Safety Policy (by 31st January, 2018),
 - Road Safety Council (by 31st January, 2018),
 - Lead Agency (by 31st January, 2018),
 - Road Safety Fund (by 31st March, 2018),
 - Road Safety Action Plan (by 31st March, 2018),
 - District Road Safety Committees (by 31st January, 2018)
- iii Also gave important directions on Engineering, Enforcement, Education and Emergency care
- iv. Committee would monitor implementation of these directions meticulously

To Conclude

- i. The Committee has brought Road Safety on the Agenda of the State Govts and will ensure that the Agenda is implemented
- ii. Data forwarded to the Committee by the States for January - September, 2017 brings out **reduction of 5037 fatalities (4.4%)** against the corresponding period of previous year.

THANK YOU