

Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of Gujarat Road Safety Authority (Date: 31.07.2021)

The Meeting of the Executive Committee of Gujarat Road Safety Authority was held under the Chairmanship of Shri M.K. Das, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Port and Transport Department at 02.30 hours on July 31, 2021, in the Committee Hall of Transport Department. The list of members who participated in the meeting is attached as Annexure-A.

At the outset, Shri L.P. Padalia, IAS(Retd.), Road Safety Commissioner, welcomed the Chairperson and all the members of the Executive Committee present in the meeting.

Agenda 1: Approval of the minutes of the meeting dated 04/02/2021

- As there was no suggestion by the members, the minutes of the last meeting of the Executive Committee held on 04.02.2021 was approved.

Agenda 2: IRAD (Integrated Road Accident Database)

- The Road Safety Commissioner informed the Committee members about the implementation of the IRAD project soon in Gujarat. It would facilitate to collect the data from the spot of the accidents in handheld devices which will be helpful in analysis, better identification and prioritisation of the black spots.
- Initially, 8 districts viz. Ahmedabad, Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, Banaskantha, Bhavnagar, Bharuch and Kutch will be taken for project implementation in the first phase. Thereafter, it will be implemented in the entire State.
- The Chair instructed all the stake holder departments to be active in the implementation of the project and co-ordinate with the Authority effectively.

Agenda 3: Development of Website of Road Safety Authority

- The Road Safety Commissioner informed the Committee about the pending proposal of Authority's website development, purchase of authorised version of Microsoft software, laptops, colour printer etc. The Chair instructed the Deputy Secretary (Transport) to look into the matter expeditiously and arrange for necessary approval as it was also the Supreme Court Committee's direction to do so.

Agenda 4: Review of Expenditure done by Gujarat Road Safety Authority in 2020-21 and Audit Report

- The Road Safety Commissioner put up the statement of expenditure of the Authority as under:
 - Grant: Rs. 1,20,000,00/-
 - Expenditure: Rs. 74,29,410.5/-
 - Surrender: Rs. 46,76,207.5/-
- The Chair reviewed the expenditure and instructed the Authority to utilise the grant in such a way that awareness activities can reach out to the people of the State so as to ensure road safety. Road Safety Commissioner clarified that it was a Covid-19 pandemic situation due to which the grant could not be utilized fully. The Committee approved the Audit Report of the Authority.

Agenda 5: RFP for Road Safety Consultant

- The Road Safety Commissioner informed the Committee that it was very necessary to hire an expert Road Safety Consultant to carry out the goals and functions laid down in the State Road Safety Policy 2016 and Gujarat Road Safety Act, 2018. An RFP was presented before the Committee for the purpose.
- The Committee agreed to the proposal and as such, the Chair instructed to submit the RFP to the Government for approval.

Agenda 6: Hiring of an Agency for Documentation, Creative communication and related services

- The Road Safety Commissioner informed the Committee that a tender was floated on the nProcure platform for hiring an agency for "Documentation, Creative communication and related services" after getting necessary approval from the Government.
- The selection was to be made through the **Quality cum Cost Based Selection (QCBS)** process given in the Manual for Procurement of Consultancy and other services 2017 of the Ministry of Finance.
- Three bidders had sent their offers, which were found eligible for the Technical and Financial evaluation, namely- (1) Kamnath Mudranalaya, (2) The Brand Aid Pvt Ltd. and (3) The Last Word.
- The Commissioner further informed the Committee that DPC had unanimously decided and recommended to give a work order to the Agency, The Last Word, which was found eligible.
- As the final tender cost was below Rs 75 lakh, the Chair instructed the Authority to finalise the eligible Agency and intimate the Government accordingly.

Agenda 7: Setting up Regional Offices for the Authority

- The Road Safety Commissioner informed the Committee that Government had given administrative sanction to three more Regional Offices viz. Mehsana, Vadodara, Kutch.
- The Commissioner further mentioned that the proposal for vehicles for a total of six Regional Offices and one for the Joint Road Safety Commissioner was not approved. As each Regional Officer will have at least 5 to 6 districts under one's jurisdiction, the important tasks such as field survey, enforcement, monitoring, coordination with DRSCs/CRSCs will not be possible without the sanction of vehicles. Keeping this in view, vehicles procurement was a matter of priority for the functioning of the Regional Offices. The Chair agreed with this and instructed the Deputy Secretary (Transport) to take up the issue and check if any other arrangement can be made.

Agenda 8: Delegation of Financial Powers to the Authority

- The Commissioner informed the Committee that the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety has directed to delegate appropriate financial powers for expenditure to the Authority for discharging of functions as laid down in the Gujarat Road Safety Authority Act, 2018.
- He further informed that a proposal for the same had already been sent to the Government, which was under consideration. The Chair agreed to the proposal in principle and instructed to put up the matter in the ensuing meeting of the Gujarat Road Safety Authority. He instructed the Deputy Secretary (Transport) to ensure the compliance of SCoRS direction in accordance with the rules pertaining to the independent Authorities/Boards expeditiously.

Agenda 9: Project with SVNIT

- The Commissioner informed the Committee that Authority had received the proposals for research/projects relating to road safety from SVNIT, Surat.
- The Chair observed that it was one of the functions of the Authority to enter into an agreement with reputed Universities and Educational Institutions for research in the field of road safety, as per GRSA Act, 2018. SVNIT being a reputed and Central Government funded Institution, it is in the larger public interest to entrust the research works regarding such black spots whereat more than 15 accidents had occurred as well as the development of training content, imparting training to the drivers of public transport etc. As such, the Chair gave a nod to finalize the process soon.

Instructions given by the Chair

- The Commissioner presented data of Black Spots identified and finalised at the district level. There were as many as 194, 83, 22 and 33 Black Spots on roads owned by NHAI, R&B, GSRDC and UDD respectively. The Chair asked the concerned departments to complete short term measures on every black spot immediately and to present black spot wise rectification report in the next meeting. He also instructed the concerned departments to prepare proposals for long term measures with estimates and put up to the Government for approval soon.
- The Commissioner mentioned that all the districts except Tapi, Aravalli, Mehsana and Anand have witnessed a reduction in the number of accidents, fatalities, grievous injuries in the year 2020. The Chairman instructed all the stake holder departments to be proactive and strategise to ensure road safety in the current year so as to reach the goal of reduction in fatalities by 50% by the year 2025. The Chair wished that NHAI has a very important role to play as the highest number of black spots, 194, have been located on their highways. The Committee observed that the Nodal Officer of NHAI was absent in the meeting. As such, the Chair expressed displeasure at NHAI Official not remaining present in the meeting even after being intimated by Email, letter and telephone call. He observed that NHAI Official has not cared to be present in as many as the last three Executive Committee meetings and the last five Nodal Officers meetings held at Gujarat Road Safety Authority's office. The Chair noted that this could be seen as a gross irresponsible attitude towards road safety by NHAI and instructed the Chief General Manager (NHAI) telephonically to ensure that the member remains present in future meetings without fail.
- The Commissioner informed the Committee about additional space allocation to the Authority by General Administrative Department on the same floor. Considering the recent deputation of several officials to the Authority, it was necessary to provide the required infrastructure for working to the staff. The Chair instructed to get the infrastructure/furniture from GRIMCO from the balance fund given for Authority's infrastructure earlier.

The meeting then ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair and the members.



(M. K. Das)

Chairman, E.C. &
Additional Chief Secretary
Ports and Transport Department
Gujarat State

ANNEXURE-A**Members Present in Executive Committee meeting, dt. 31/07/2021**

Name	Designation	Department
Shri L P Padalia, IAS (Rt)	Commissioner	Road Safety Authority
Shri Rajesh Manjhu, IAS	Vice Chairman & Commissioner	Commissioner of Transport
Shri Mayanksinh Chavda, IPS	JCP Traffic	Police
Shri R.K. Mehta, IAS	Dy. Municipal Commissioner, Ahmedabad	A.M.C.
Shri K.F. Baloliya, IPS	S.P.	State Traffic Branch
Shri N.K.Patel	Chief Engineer	Road & Building
Shri P. B. Patani	Joint Secretary	Urban Development
Shri R.V. Bhatt	Deputy Secretary	Transport
Shri H.M. Vora	Officer on Special Duty	Commissionerate of Transport
Shri A.N.Mistry	Officer on Special Duty	R&B
Dr. Hitesh Brahmbhatt	Officer on Special Duty	Commissionerate of Health
Shri R.S. Desai	R.T.O. Ahmedabad	R.T.O. Ahmedabad
Shri C.R. Patel	C.E.O.	Gujarat Road Safety Authority
Shri S.C. Pandya	Motor Vehicle Prosecutor	Commissionerate of Transport
Shri D.D. Patel	S.S.	Primary Education
Shri Ajaykumar Swami	DGM (T)	NHAI
Shri Satyen Kulabkar	Road Safety Expert	Executive Committee member