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Press Information Bureau Government Of India

Ministry of Road Transport & Highways (06-August, 2012 17:11 IST)

Status and Functioning of District Level Committees for Road Safety Programmes

It is important to build institutions and develop capacities at community level for undertaking road safety programmes at large scale and to make it sustainable. Implementing a comprehensive safety programme at the local level is one of the first steps that can be taken to reduce the number of motor vehicle deaths and serious injuries on rural areas. At present state and district level road safety committees need to be made more effective. There is urgent need that District Level Road Safety Committees having members from all concerned units to review safety scenario in the District should be set up. There should be compulsory periodic meeting of these Committees and issues need to be discussed threadbare and addressed. If road safety measures are implemented in a time bound manner, this will go a long way in improving road safety scenario in the country.

Under Section 215 of Motor Vehicle Act 1988, a State Govt. by notification in official gazette can constitute a District Road Safety Committee for each district. The States can constitute District Road Safety Committee under the Chairmanship of District Magistrates having representation from Officers dealing with Road Transport, Police (Traffic), Health, (Trauma care/rescue), Data collection and analysis, NGOs and other Road Safety Experts from the members.

The Ministry of Road Transport & Highways had requested all States/ UTs in February 2010 on 18.02.2010 for setting up of State Road Safety Council and District Road Safety Committees, if already not done and to hold their meetings. In response to the Ministry's above mentioned letters, Govts of Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Tripura, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Kerala, J&K and Haryana have constituted their respective State Road Councils and District Committees without any further delay and hold meetings at regular intervals so that coordinated steps are initiated to curb the menace of road accidents and due priority is given to road safety issues.

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