The Tripura Road Safety Fund Rules, 2017 with State Road Safety Policy.
NOTIFICATION

WHEREAS the Committee on Road Safety constituted by the Supreme Court recommended to set up Road Safety fund and frame rules thereof for taking up Road Safety Activities.

NOW, THEREFORE, in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 138 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Act No. 59 of 1988), the Governor of Tripura is pleased to make the following rules:

1. Short title and commencement
   (i) These rules may be called the ‘Tripura Road Safety Fund Rules, 2017’.
   (ii) They shall come into force on the date of their notification/publication in the Tripura Gazette.

2. Definitions
   In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,
   (a) “Act” means the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988;
   (b) “Committee” means the State Road Safety Committee constituted by the Government to coordinate activities relating to Road Safety in the State.
   (c) “Financial Year” means a period of twelve months commencing on the first day of April of a calendar year;
   (d) “Fund” means the Tripura Road Safety Fund;
   (e) “Scheme” means scheme implemented to achieve the objectives of the Fund and includes projects, programmes, works etc;
   (f) “State” means the State of Tripura and
   (g) “State Government” means the Government of Tripura;
   (h) “Lead Agency” means an agency constituted by the Government for follow up, and monitor activities and decisions taken related to Road Safety in the State.
3. Establishment of Fund and its Objectives

(i) There shall be established a Fund by the State Government with the object of strengthening road safety and implementation of road safety measures in the State;

(ii) The Fund shall be utilized to achieve the following objectives:-

(a) to make and implement schemes, projects and awareness programmes pertaining to road safety and related activities;

(b) to take necessary steps for safe plying of vehicles and secure movement of road users;

(c) to identify accident prone areas and initiate corrective measures for the same;

(d) to impart knowledge of traffic rules and create awareness among the public;

(e) to provide equipments and vehicles for enforcement and controlling road accidents;

(f) to take steps for making driving licence system effective;

(g) to take steps for making the certification system of fitness of motor vehicles effective;

(h) to provide coordinating mechanism for rescue and post-accident care;

(i) to conduct studies and research on road safety;

(j) to collect and analyze road accident data.

4. Accounting and classification of Fund and Financial Procedure

(1) The amount allocated in the Fund shall be shown under Demand No.11 of Transport Department under the Head-3055 Road Transport (Non-Plan) Grant-in-Aid (Road Safety);

(2) The expenditure on the objectives mentioned in Rule 3, shall be met out from the above said Head i.e. 3055 –Grant-in-Aid (Road Safety), Non-Plan.
The funds shall be transferred to the concerned Head of the Department/DDO concerned as per the schemes sanctioned by the Committee. The executing department will spend the money as per rules and submit utilization certificate to the Committee.

5. Sources of Fund:
   (i) Fund earmarked by State for Road Safety
   (ii) Any financial contribution, grant, donation etc. by the State Government or the Government of India or any other agency.
   (iii) Interest accruing out of Road Safety Fund.

6. Committee:
   (1) The administrative department for the Fund shall be the Department of Transport and the Fund shall be operated by the Lead Agency subject to overall supervision of the State Road Safety Committee.

7. Powers of the Committee and other authorities:
   (1) The Committee shall be authorized to approve the schemes of any amount within the available funds.
   (2) The Committee shall meet at least once a quarter wherein the proposals will be discussed.
   (3) The Principal Secretary/Secretary to Government of Tripura Department of Transport who is also the Chairman of the Committee shall be authorized to approve schemes subject to a maximum limit of Rupees ten lakhs for a scheme on matters of emergency nature. The same shall be placed in the next committee.

8. Rights and duties of the Committee:
   (1) The Committee shall select and approve the schemes to be financed from the Fund.
   (2) The Committee shall review the physical and financial progress of the approved schemes.
   (3) The Committee shall ensure maintenance of accounts of the Fund in accordance with these rules.

9. Utilisation of the fund:
   The following is the manner and the purpose for which the Fund may be utilized:
   (a) 50% of the total fund shall be kept as Corpus fund and rest 50% shall be utilized for Road Safety.
   (b) On schemes, the selection of which shall be made on such norms as may be determined from time to time by the Committee;
   (c) On such schemes which may be completed in one go;
10. Procedure for submission of schemes to the Committee-

1. Every department desirous of taking up any Road Safety measures may submit a detailed proposal to the Lead Agency.

2. The Lead Agency shall put up the schemes before the Committee after due examination. The lead agency may also suo-moto prepare proposals on its own.

3. Formal administrative and financial sanction shall be issued by the State Transport department after approval by the Committee.

11. Responsibilities for execution of schemes financed from the Fund -

1. The Lead Agency/Transport Department shall co-ordinate the work related to the successful execution of schemes.

2. Heads of the Departments concerned shall be responsible for successful implementation of schemes and for regular monitoring of construction, maintenance and repairs of assets equipments etc. financed from the Fund within the area of their respective jurisdiction. They shall supervise, monitor and review physical and financial progress of the schemes. The senior most district level officer of respective department shall also be responsible for issuing completion certificate of the schemes.

3. Stores Purchase Rules and other Government instructions issued from time to time shall be complied with in the cases of purchases with respect to the approved schemes.

12. Maintenance of Fund and Audit-

1. The Lead Agency or such other officers in Transport Department as authorized by the Principal Secretary/Secretary, Transport, shall maintain accounts of the expenditure incurred from the Fund in accordance with the provisions of the Tripura Financial Rules, instructions and the Treasury Rules. Accounts will be reconciled with the records of the office of Accountant General (Accounts and Entitlements), Tripura. Before the closure of annual accounts, orders related to reconciliation adjustments will be made available to the Accountant General (Accounts and Entitlements), Tripura. Simultaneously.

2. The unutilized money left in the Fund at the end of the financial year shall remain in the Fund. Such balance/unutilized amount in the Fund shall be utilized in the next financial year.
The accounts shall be audited by the Accountant General (Audit), Tripura.

Detailed report of receipts in, and the expenditure from, the Fund shall be submitted by Lead Agency to the State Government from time to time or as may be required.

By order of the Governor,

Sriram Taranikanti
Principal Secretary to the Government of Tripura
State Road Safety Policy
Government of Tripura

The Government of India, based on the recommendations of Sunder Committee, notified the National Road Safety Policy that outlines the policy initiatives to be framed/taken by the Government of India to improve the road safety activities in the country.

This policy provides the basis for action to be taken jointly by the Government of Tripura and its non-governmental partners with consideration of the following issues:

a. Raise awareness and create mutual understanding among one and all about issues relating to Road Safety
b. Articulate principles that justify and guide action
c. Generate a general consensus on the actions to be undertaken and provide a framework for action
d. Define institutional responsibilities and mechanisms of coordination
e. Secure or raise commitment from all stakeholders
f. Monitor progress and effectiveness of strategies

The Committee on Road Safety (CoRS) Constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court advised that each State also formulate a State Road Safety Policy. Based on the recommendation of the State Road Safety Council (SRSC), which approved the formulation of State Road Safety Policy (SRSP) on the lines of National Road Safety Policy, the State Government hereby notifies the State Road Safety Policy.

I. Preamble:

The Government of Tripura is deeply concerned about 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. The topography of Tripura makes it that much challenging and requires closer monitoring among all stakeholders towards a common direction.
2. The Government of Tripura further recognizes that as road accidents involve roads, motor vehicles as also the human beings, road safety needs to be addressed on a holistic basis. It also recognized that Road Safety is not the responsibility of just the Government but it is also the duty of every citizen in the State to improve the road safety through better driving habits, in rendering timely help to victims and good co-ordination among various stakeholders. Likewise, the Pre-eminent role of Government is no doubt recognized and the primary initiative falls on it. At the Government level, it is the responsibility of all departments, more particularly Transport, Police, PWD, Health and Education Departments.

3. In the light of this, the Government of Tripura, through this State Road Safety Policy, states its commitment to bring about a significant reduction in mortality and morbidity resulting from road accidents.

II. Policy Statement:

In order to achieve a significant improvement in road safety, the Government of Tripura is committed to:

(i) Raise Awareness about Road Safety Issues:

The Government would increase its efforts to promote awareness about the various aspects of road safety, the social and economic implications of road accidents and what needs to be done to curb the rising menace of road accidents. This would inter alia include adherence to various traffic laws in force on over speeding, seat belt wearing, helmet wearing, avoidance of drunken driving, usage of mobile phones while driving etc and also good practices such as appropriate parking, have discipline, care for pedestrians etc. This would enable and empower the different stakeholders to play a meaningful role in promoting road safety.

(ii) Establish a Road Safety Information Database:

The Government will establish a system for data collection, transmission and analysis. A State Road Safety Information System will be established for providing continuity and policy guidelines to this activity. It will also put in place suitable applications that can be used at the field level, at the same time, ensuring seamless dataflow.
Ensure Safer Road Infrastructure:

The Government will take measures to review standards pertaining to safety in the design of rural and urban roads in the State. It would endeavour bring under a common framework matters relating to construction and maintenance of road infrastructure. It will leverage work done elsewhere in the National and International platform on different dimensions pertaining to Road infrastructure including establishment of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS).

Safer Vehicles:

The Government will implement all measures that are prescribed to make vehicles safe and will take punitive action against those violating the same.

Safer Drivers:

The Government will strengthen the system of driver licensing and training to improve the competence and capability of drivers. At the same time, it will take measures to punish erring driver through various provisions available under the act and rules.

To this effect, the Government will also take up study on the comparative effectiveness of driver education and training programmes. In recognizing that young drivers face collision risks, efforts will be taken to identify the best driver education, training and behavior-change interventions for learner and novice drivers.

Safety of Vulnerable Road Users:

The design and construction of all road facilities (rural and urban) will take into account the needs of non-motorized transport and the vulnerable and physically challenged in an appropriate manner. The Government will seek to disseminate 'best practices' in this regard to town planners, architects, and highway and traffic engineers.
Road Traffic Safety Education and Training:

Road safety knowledge and awareness will be created amongst the population through education, training and publicity campaigns. Road safety education will also focus on school children and college going students, while road safety publicity campaigns will be used to propagate good road safety practices among the community. It would also utilize the services of the existing formal and informal set ups such as schools, collages, training institutes, motor driving schools, motor stands, NGOs and bodies such as various trade and worker association.

The Government will encourage all professionals associated with road design, road construction, road network management, traffic management and law enforcement to attain adequate knowledge of road safety issues.

Enforcement of Safety Laws:

The Government will take appropriate measures to strengthen and improve the quality of enforcement in order to ensure effective and uniform implementation of safety laws. The Government will establish and strengthen highway Patrolling on National and State Highways with appropriate mechanism of monitories using technology.

Emergency Medical Services for Road Accidents:

The Government will strive to ensure that all persons involved in road accidents benefit from speedy and effective trauma care and management. The essential functions of such a service would include the provision of rescue operation and administration of first aid at the site of an accident and the transport of the victim from accident site to nearby hospital. Hospitals alongside the National Highways and State Highways would be adequately equipped to provide for trauma care and rehabilitation. A common helpline will be established which will facilitate information flow that will speed up such rescue operations.
HRD & Research for Road Safety:

The Government will encourage increased activity in programmes of road safety research by identifying priority areas, support projects in those areas and leverage works done by various centers of excellence and academic institutions in the area of Road Safety. The Government will facilitate dissemination of the results of these works and identified examples of good practices through publication, training, conferences, workshops and websites. It will coordinate with National and State level academic institutes as well as professional bodies engaged in Road Transport and Road Safety.

Strengthening Enabling Legal, Institutional and Financial Environment for Road Safety:

The Government will take appropriate measures to ensure that the required legal, institutional and financial environment for road safety are further strengthened and a mechanism for effective coordination of various stakeholders is put in place. A part from providing suitable support through the activities of the Stakeholders departments, a road safety fund will be established that would augment of initiatives in this direction.

Implementation Strategy:

The Government will implement Road Safety activities through a Lead Agency constituted for this purpose. A State Committee will be constituted to oversee the work of the Lead Agency and will evolve effective strategies for implementation of the Road Safety Policy. The State Road Safety Council shall guide and suggest policy measures to be taken up in the area of Road Safety.

Sriram Taratkanti
Principal Secretary to the Government of Tripura Transport Department