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PART IV-A

**Rules and Orders (Other than those published in Parts I, I-A, and I-L) made
by the Government of Gujarat under the Central Acts**

PORTS AND TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

Order

Sachivalaya, Gandhinagar. 22nd March, 2016.

State Road Safety Policy

No.PT/2016/19/MVA-102014-Supc-3-P.F.-KH.-WHEREAS, the State Government has constituted the State Road Safety Council under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister (Transport) to deliberate and make recommendations relating to Road Safety and reduction in the number of road accidents.

AND WHEREAS, on 11th May, 2015, a meeting of the State Road Safety Council was convened under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister (Transport) Government of Gujarat.

AND WHEREAS, council has observed that on a average one road accident take place every minute, and one fatal accident every fourth minute in the country. Road crashes cost approximately one to three percent of the country's GDP. It recognizes that road accidents have now become a major public health issue, and the victims are mainly the poor and vulnerable road users.

AND WHEREAS, the draft of State Road Safety Policy was made available to the public on the 7th January, 2016.

AND WHEREAS, objections and suggestions received from the public on the said draft have been considered by the Government of Gujarat.

NOW THEREFORE, the council has expressed deep concern on the increasing number of road accidents, injuries and fatalities in recent years and inter alia, recommended formulation of State Road Safety Policy. The State Road Safety Policy outlines the policy initiatives to be taken by the State Government at all levels to improve the road safety activities in the State. To achieve the goal of reduction in road accidents as well as fatalities by 50% by 2020, the State of Gujarat hereby declare State Road Safety Policy as under:

I. Preamble.

The Government of Gujarat recognises that road accidents have now become a major public health issue, and the victims are mainly the poor and vulnerable road users. The Government of Gujarat further recognises that as road accidents involve roads, motor vehicles and the human beings, road

safety needs to be addressed on a holistic basis. Road traffic accidents, therefore, have the potential of being one of the largest challenges to orderly human existence necessitating immediate and urgent intervention. In light of this, the Government of Gujarat, through this 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 Gujarat is committed to:

(i) Strengthening Legal, Institutional and Financial Frame Work-

The Government will take appropriate measures to ensure that the required legal, institutional and financial frame work for road safety is further strengthened and a mechanism for effective coordination of various stakeholders is put in place. The Government will consider the scheme to create State Road Safety Fund with the objective of strengthening road safety and implementation of road safety measures, through loan, grant, funding through Central Government or any other sources as authorized by the Government. Government will also ensure to establish Motor Accident Claim Tribunals (MACT) in adequate numbers in respect of number of cases. A lead agency would be designated to ensure effective coordination and active and extensive participation of the Government Departments, community at large, the private sector, academia and NGOs.

(ii) Road Safety Education and Training.

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 enable and empower the different stakeholders to play a meaningful role in promoting road safety. Government will take steps to create awareness regarding road safety amongst population through education, training and publicity campaigns. Road Safety may be made the integral part of syllabus for school children and college going students. Road Safety Education should not remain a matter of words. Students must be educated in a way that bring them alive to the issues of road safety through extra curricular activities like lectures of experts, play on safety rules, quizzes, short films, slide shows, etc. Government will encourage the professionals as well as NGOs to actively participate in road safety programmes. It will cover both urban and rural areas.

(iii) Ensure Safer Road Infrastructure

The Government will take measures to review standards pertaining to safety in the design of rural and urban road network for all road users in the State with a view to achieving 'zero road accident figure'. The Government will ensure to adopt best practices in designing the safe roads. Government will ensure to incorporate "zero black spot policy" for reduction in the road accidents. A "Road Safety Design Guidelines" will be developed for use by engineers at all levels in all road sector agencies covering urban and rural roads. The Government will consider providing wayside amenities/service centres on major road network and will also encourage local authorities to ensure adequate parking facilities in city areas. Introduction of 'Traffic Calming' measures will be introduced to physically reduce the speed in vulnerable stretches, near schools/hospitals/markets/other busy community locations. The practice of Road Safety Audits will be undertaken,

(iv) Safer Vehicles

The Government will take steps to promote statutory periodic inspection as an essential check on the road-worthiness of all transport vehicles, and the quality of emissions from such vehicles. The Government will ensure to take effective steps to bring more automation in statutory periodic inspection of vehicles. Stringent measures will be taken to ensure safety features in the usage, operation and maintenance of both motorized and non-motorized vehicles in order to minimize

