

Why safety SOPs for amusement rides don't apply to ticketed bridges?

Morbi Bridge Thronged By Sightseers, Yet Not Classified As 'Recreational'

Jignesh Parmar
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Ahmedabad: In 2019, when an amusement park ride in Kankaria crashed, killing two and injuring 28, the state government tasked a seven-member committee with preparing standard operating procedures (SOPs) to enforce safety protocols for all recreational rides. However, the SOPs were not made applicable to suspension bridges where sightseers are allowed ticketed entry because the activity is not classified as 'recreational'.

Though separate rules exist for bridges, these are mostly commuter bridges. Had Morbi's suspension bridge been put under the 'recreational ride' category, regular safety checks and accountability could have further prevented the tragedy.

"All the districts have technical committees in place that inspect recreational rides and issue safety certificates. However, as suspension footbridges like the one in Morbi are not classified as 'recreational', despite being ticketed, the rules for amuse-



ment rides don't apply to bridges," said an official in the state roads and building department who did not wish to be named. In Ahmedabad alone, between 2012 and 2020, there have been seven major accidents at melas or temporary fairs. These include deaths caused due to electrocution, fall, and injuries.

The rules that were framed by the seven-member committee after the Kankaria disaster came into effect in February 2020 in Ahmedabad district.

The SOPs were the first of their kind; they ensured safety checks and inspection rules for recreational rides. Later, in 2021, the state government, through a notification, asked all districts to set up similar technical committees to implement these rules.

The seven-member committee set up for Ahmedabad district under the chairmanship of executive engi-

neer of roads and building department included the R&B department's deputy executive engineer, two teachers from LD Engineering College and Ahmedabad Polytechnic, and officials of the industrial health and safety department and municipal corporation's engineering department. So far, the committee has inspected and issued safety certificates to 16 amusement rides in the city. The suspension bridges were excluded from the purview of these committees, said roads and buildings department sources. The state government could have set up a separate system to ensure safety inspections of such structures, they said.

Sources added that for the inspection of bridges, the operator is required to apply to the collector's office and then the R&B department issues structural stability certificates after inspection. The government is yet to set up SOPs for these bridges, the sources added.

Shastri Bridge in state of disrepair, NHA alerted

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: The Morbi bridge collapse should ring alarm bells and get the authorities to ensure structural stability of public bridges. In Ahmedabad city, the Lal Bahadur Shastri Bridge, connecting Narol and Vishala Circle, is in a state of disrepair. The guard rails and parapet of the bridge are damaged. The concrete has begun to fall off and locals fear that the bridge is another disaster waiting to happen. Several letters have already been written to the civic body and the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) demanding immediate repair of the bridge.

The bridge is almost 40 years old and stands downstream on the Sabarmati, into which millions of litres of sewage and industrial effluents are released. The bridge is an essential route connecting Ahmedabad city to Saurashtra.

"Thousands of vehicles, including light and heavy commercial vehicles, cross this bridge every day from Vishala Circle towards Narol. Soon after monsoon this year, there were potholes on the bridge. We had written to the NHAI on several occasions, asking them to repair the bridge, but they are yet to respond," said a senior AMC official. The official added that even local industries and residents have made representations to the NHAI.



Quick battery charge: New anode material invented

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Ahmedabad: Battery-based gadgets will now get charged in minutes, thanks to an invention by researchers from India and Japan. A team from IIT Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) collaborated with Japan Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (JAIST) and invented a new anode material using two-dimensional nanosheets from titanium diboride.

Anode material is negative electrode in lithium-ion battery and is paired with cathode material to form a battery cell.

The researchers said that currently graphite and lithium titanate are used for the batteries that power laptops, phones and even cars. The frequent charging and fire hazards are some of the challenges for the current batteries.



Technology was invented by a team of IIT Gandhinagar in collaboration with JAIST

The study published in 'ACS Applied Nanomaterials' claimed ultra-fast charging time and longer life cycle.

MTech student Akash Varma, the lead author of

the search, said that carpet-like interwoven structure within the nanosheet helps efficient charging transport and storage. For any nanomaterial to translate into a tangible technology, scalability is the limiting factor. Our method to synthesise these titanium diboride nanosheets only requires stirring and no sophisticated equipment, making it highly adoptable," said Prof Kabeer Jasuja, associate professor of chemical engineering at IIT-Gn.

Prof Noriyoshi Matsumi, professor of material chemistry at JAIST, said that the tech will give boost to electric vehicles.

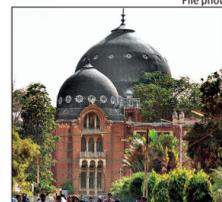
"We hope continuous research will contribute to the convenience of EV users, lesser air pollution on the road, especially in cities, and less stressful commute," he said.

MSU to start course on CPR

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vadodara: M S University on Wednesday announced that it will soon launch a certificate course to train students and staff on lifesaving skill of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR).

MSU vice-chancellor professor Vijaykumar Shrivastava on Wednesday felicitated city-based female doctor Dr Divya Mathur and her husband Dr Hemant Mathur for saving the life of a passenger at Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj In-



Training on CPR will be started with deans of all faculties

ternational Airport in Mumbai.

TOI on Tuesday had highlighted how Dr Divya, a

freelance anaesthesiologist, had helped save the life of a passenger at the Mumbai airport on Sunday evening when she, along with her husband, was returning to Vadodara.

Talking to TOI, Dr Divya had expressed her wish that training of lifesaving skills like CPR should be provided to citizens at large.

The university has decided to start offering certificate course on CPR. Training on CPR will be started with deans of all the faculties, officials said.

Company had sought permanent agreement

Continued from P1

In the meeting, it was decided that Oreva group will maintain and repair the bridge only on a temporary basis. However, the group, which was granted the contract of repairing the bridge since 2007 at regular intervals, was not ready to accept another temporary contract and sought for a permanent agreement," said an officer of Morbi municipality confirming the letter.

"We will not repair the sus-

sension bridge on a permanent basis, procure material or hire contractors for repairing until we get a properly signed document of a permanent agreement," the letter stated. The letter signs off with a casual sounding off to the authorities that they are "going ahead with the opening of the bridge".

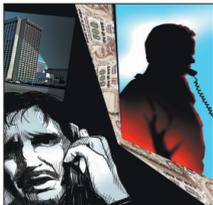
The bridge was operational until March 2022, when the civic body signed a 15-year agreement for maintenance, operation and security of the bridge.

Imposter as RaGa's PA asks Cong leader for money

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vadodara: Congress state vice president Satyajit Singh Gaekwad complained to the cyber crime cell of the city police that a man impersonating Rahul Gandhi's personal assistant Kanishka Singh was seeking money to get Gaekwad a ticket in the upcoming state elections. Gaekwad feared that the man could have contacted other ticket aspirants too.

The complaint was made by Gaekwad on Wednesday after he got messages and phone calls from a man claim-



ing to be Kanishka Singh. Gaekwad stated in the complaint that he received a WhatsApp message on Tuesday evening in which the sender asked him to call claiming to be Singh.

When Gaekwad called

back, the person did not receive the call. So Gaekwad left a message asking the person to call back.

According to Gaekwad, the man called back and told him that secret observers were coming for the ensuing polls. He asked Gaekwad to pay for their stay and arrange some cash to ensure that he got a ticket. The man even claimed that after Gaekwad paid the money, Kharge (referring to national Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge) would call him.

Gaekwad said that he knew Singh very well and re-

alized the man on the phone was not Singh. When Gaekwad pointed this out to the caller, he said that it was because he was tired due to the 'padyatra'.

What made Gaekwad concerned was the fact that the person knew intrinsic details of the party in both Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh. "I was in-charge of Himachal Pradesh in the past and knew these things," he said. Gaekwad feared that the man may have contacted other persons seeking ticket and has mentioned this even in his complaint too.

Gaekwad later spoke to Singh who told him that a similar incident had occurred during the 2020 Bihar elections and an offence was registered there then. Gaekwad said that going by the details the person knew about the party and its members, it was possible that the man was an insider. "Not all can have such details," he added. An offence is yet to be registered regarding the incident. Gaekwad said that he had given the complaint and necessary details to the police and it was up to them to register the offence.

VMC razes foot bridge over storm water drain

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vadodara: Close on the heels of the Morbi bridge tragedy, the Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) razed a makeshift pedestrian bridge that was erected by the residents of a settlement in the Kasamala Kabrastan area near Nagara-



BRIDGE TRAGEDY IMPACT

wada on Wednesday to prevent similar accident in the future.

The bridge was utilized by the residents of around 20 to 25 dwellings located on one side of the storm water drain to cross over to the other side. The bridge was constructed using pipes, angles, planks and other loose materials.

The residents informed Atul Gamechi, an activist, about the bridge while highlighting their situation.

"The only alternative route is long and that too passing through thick vegetation. Again, walking along the storm water drain is also risky as there are crocodiles," Gamechi told TOI.

The VMC swung into action on Tuesday night and cleared the vegetation along the drain to provide a safe passage for the residents. The next morning, the VMC officials along with workers went to the spot again and brought the bridge down on Wednesday amid protests from residents.

Boom turns into gloom as IT firms in Gujarat restrict new recruitment

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Ahmedabad: The IT boom is probably a thing of the past now. With the US and Europe staring at an economic slowdown, inquiries from foreign companies in the Indian and consequently Gujarat IT sectors have dried up in the past two months.

The enviosly fat salary packages which once lured young professionals are now off the table, due to the eroding margins and falling revenues of IT companies. Industry players say the decline in new jobs has been caused by rising inflation concerns in the local and client markets.

In Gujarat alone, IT companies hired at least 50,000 people since Covid-19 hit, according to estimates from the GESIA IT Association. This aggressive hiring has cooled off now.

With fewer inquiries and the cutting of sub-contracting costs by foreign players, hiring in the IT sector here has been reduced.

"With Europe and the US staring at a recession, inquiries have gone down dramatically. Several US-based enterprises are re-evaluating their IT investments while others have slashed IT budgets. Consequently, IT companies here



are not actively looking for fresh hiring unless the need is dire," said Tejinder Oberoi, ex-chairman, GESIA IT Association.

Finding people who suit the requirements of companies is becoming difficult, according to GESIA IT Association.

"While the need for certain type of talent will remain for Gujarat IT companies, it is becoming increasingly difficult to find people with the right mix of skills. This is also one of the factors for hiring getting slightly slow," said Pranav Pandya, chairman of the GESIA IT Association.

With attrition rates falling, hiring has reduced in companies. "There was greater attrition earlier due to which

companies were constantly looking for people. With demand going down, attrition is very much under control. Companies abroad which outsource work to Gujarat-based companies have also slashed their spending. Therefore, the hiring outlook seems bleak," said Jaimin Shah, MD, Dev IT Limited.

A year ago, when IT companies doled out fat salaries and increments to woo and retain employees, their profitability had reduced. However, as hiring has gone down, revenues continue to be on a downward slope, as volumes decline.

"Revenues are under pressure with 75% of inflows going towards salary costs due to the large packages offered last year. Sustaining this will be difficult, especially when inquiries are going down. Thus, gross margins have dropped to below 10%," said Oberoi. This situation has cropped up in the last three months, and new opportunities have completely dried up.

"Business inquiries have reduced in the past quarter. Since digital transformation targets have not been met, companies are cutting budgets. If this situation continues, companies may be forced to lay off people," said a well-placed source.

2 dist collectors can now grant minorities citizenship

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Vadodara/Anand: Collectors of state's two districts known for its sizeable NRI population have been empowered to grant citizenship under the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA).

The Union ministry of home affairs (MHA) issued a notification on October 31 granting collectors of Anand and Mehsana

districts powers to investigate the applications and grant citizenship to persons who are eligible under CAA.

The objective of the CAA is not to treat persecuted minorities like Hindus, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists, Parsis and Christians from Pakistan, Bangladesh and Afghanistan as illegal immigrants and grant such people who had come to India till December 31, 2014 Indian citizenship.

"Government of India already

grants citizenship under CAA. But earlier, the powers to grant citizenship to an individual were with under the secretary of home department. Now, the entire process has been made quite simple. Under the new rule, now the collectors have the right to investigate people and give them citizenship,"

Anand district collector D S Gadhavi told TOI.

Officials said that earlier the district collector's office processed such online applications seeking citizenship. The hard copies of the applications along with supporting documents were sent to home department which took the final decision of granting citizenship to a person.

The CAA was passed by the Parliament on December 11, 2019 and was given the Presidential approval the next day. In January 2020, the MHA notified the Act.

SAURASHTRA GRAMIN BANK
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Phone: 7574808405 / 7574808097 Email: sgb00405@sgbrb.org

APPENDIX IV [Refer Rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable properties)

Whereas, The undersigned being the authorized officer of the Saurashtra Gramin Bank under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (54 of 2002), in exercise of powers conferred under sub-section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated 28.05.2021 calling upon the borrower 1) M/s. Yeshu Tiles Private Limited (Earlier Known as Space Ceramic Private Limited) located on Revenue Survey No. 565/p, 566/p & 567, At Village Ghuntu, 8-A National Highway, Ghuntu road, Morbi and Directors/Guarantors 2) Rajendrabhai Chaturbhai Halapara [Director/Guarantor], 3) Hardikbhai Kishorrbhai Kalola [Director/Guarantor], 4) Bhaveshbhai Prabhubhai Detroja [Director/Guarantor], 5) Sarojben Bhagvanjibhai Halapara [Guarantor/Mortgagor], 6) Hareeshbhai Jerambhai Patel (Sherayya) [Guarantor] and 7) Rakeshbhai Anilbhai Adroja [Guarantor] to repay the fund based amount mentioned in the notice being Rs. 4,06,63,794/- (Rupees Four Crore Six Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Seven Hundred Ninety Four Only) with further interest and incidental expenses, costs etc. & to surrender the Bank Guarantee (non-fund based facility) of Rs. 8,40,907/- (Rupees Eight Lakh Forty Thousand Nine Hundred Seven Only) within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under section 13(4) of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this 1st day of November of the year 2022.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the Saurashtra Gramin Bank for an amount of Rs. 3,84,89,085/- (Rupees Three Crore Eighty Four Lakh Eighty Nine Thousand Eighty Five Only) as on 31st Day of October of the Year 2022 and interest as well as incidental expenses, cost, charges etc. thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to provision of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

Description of the Immovable property

Property 1: (Owned by M/s Yeshu Tiles Private Limited (Earlier Known as Space Ceramic Private Limited) [Borrower unit]
All piece and parcel of NA Land Area 3-28 Gs = Sq. Mt. 14973-00 of NA Survey no 567 situated at village Ghuntu of Morbi which is bounded as under:
East : Land of Nagjibhai Dayabhai Patel, West : Land of Ambabhai Lavjibhai and Harkha Jivabhai, North : Land of Maganbhai Khimabhai & Marag of Mahendranagar, South : River and Sadak

Property 2: (Owned by M/s Yeshu Tiles Private Limited (Earlier Known as Space Ceramic Private Limited) [Borrower unit]
All piece and parcel of NA land area Sq. Mt. 1720-00 of NA Survey no 565p and 566p situated at village Ghuntu of Morbi which is bounded as under:
East : Property of Space Ceramic Pvt Ltd, West : Property of Mark Glaze Tiles Pvt Ltd, North : Gada Marag of Mahendranagar- Ghuntu, South : Waste Land and then Kalindri River

Property 3: (Owned by Sarojben Bhagvanjibhai Halapara [Guarantor & Mortgagor])
All piece and parcel of one Flat no 603 built up area Sq. Ft. 929-20 = Sq. Mt. 86-36 erected on 6th floor of a multi-storied residential building known as Hari Darshan Apartment constructed on plot of N.A.S. No. 163/p of Village Ravapara, Ta Morbi which is bounded as under:
East : Plot no 52, West : Common Passage, Stairs, Lift, Flat no 602, North : Land of S. No. 164/p, South : Road
Date : 01.11.2022, Sd/- Authorized Officer, Saurashtra Gramin Bank, Lalpar Branch

ICICI Home Finance Corporate Office: ICICI Home Finance Company Limited ICICI HFC Tower, Andheri - Kurla Road, Andheri (East), Mumbai- 400059, India
Branch Office: 3rd Floor, 301, Nakshatra-3, 150 Fit Ring Road, Near Raoya Telephone Exchange, Rajkot- 360007
[See proviso to rule 8(6)]
Notice for sale of immovable assets

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower(s) and Guarantor(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical Possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd., will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is", as per the brief particulars given hereunder.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower(s)/ Co Borrowers/ Guarantors/ Legal Heirs. Loan Account No.	Details of the Secured asset(s) with known encumbrances, if any	Amount Outstanding	Reserve Price/ Earnest Money Deposit	Date and Time of Property Inspection	Date & Time of Auction
(A)	(B)	(C)	(D)	(E)	(F)	(G)
1.	Raju Boghabhai Parmar (Borrower) Loan Account No. LHRAJ0001326185	Plot No 20 Paiky, Sub Plot No 19+20/4, Yamunanagar 3 Paiky, Nr RTO Junagadh, Off Khamdhol Road, At Junagadh- 362001	Rs. 11,63,033/- 1st Nov, 2022	Rs. 7,59,080/- Rs. 75,908/-	23rd Nov, 2022 11:00 AM - 03:00 PM	2nd Dec, 2022 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The online auction will be conducted on website (URL Link- <https://sarfaesi.auctiontiger.net/EPROC/>) of our auction agency Auction Tiger. The Mortgagors/ notice are given a last chance to pay the total dues with further interest till 1st Dec, 2022 before 05.00 PM else these secured assets will be sold as per above schedule.

The Prospective Bidder(s) must submit the Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) RTGS/ Demand Draft (DD) (Refer Column E) at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 3rd Floor, 301, Nakshatra-3, 150 Fit Ring Road, Near Raoya Telephone Exchange, Rajkot- 360007 on or before 1st Dec, 2022 before 04:00 PM. Kindly note, in case prospective bidder(s) are unable to submit their offer as per above mentioned time then signed copy of tender documents may be submitted at ICICI Home Finance Company Limited, 3rd floor, 301, Nakshatra-3, 150 Fit Ring Road, Near Raoya Telephone Exchange, Rajkot- 360007 on or before 1st Dec, 2022 before 05.00 PM. Earnest Money Deposit Demand Draft (DD) should be from a Nationalized/Scheduled Bank in favor of "ICICI Home Finance Company Ltd.- Auction" payable at Junagadh

For any further clarifications with regards to inspection, terms and conditions of the auction or submission of tenders, kindly contact ICICI Home Finance Company Limited on 7021072869.

The Authorized Officer reserves the right to reject any or all the bids without furnishing any further reasons.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please visit <https://www.icicifhc.com/>

Date : November 03, 2022
Place : Junagadh
Authorized Officer
ICICI Home Finance Company Limited

बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
Bank of Baroda
Bhuj Region, Regional Office
Floor, Dhanraj Building, College Road
Bhuj, Dist. - Kutch - 370001

NOTICE

Mr. Amardeep Kumar, Employee Code No 77554, Chief Manager, presently posted at Bank of Baroda, Anjar Branch, Anjar, Dist. Kutch, is remaining on unauthorized absence from duty since 15th Nov. 2022 continuously without pay, for which disciplinary actions are initiated against him in terms of Regulation 6 of the Bank of Baroda Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) Regulations, 1976.

The Article of Charges & Statement of Allegations dated 16.05.2022 have been sent to Mr. Amardeep Kumar vide Memorandum of the Disciplinary Authority dated 16.05.2022 at his address recorded with the Bank through Registered Post to enable to make submission of Written Statement of Defence against the charges/allegations.

However the envelope containing the Memorandum dated 16.05.2022 along with the Article of Charges & Statement of Allegations at his address recorded with the Bank has been returned undelivered with remark "Not Traceable".

In view of the above, Mr. Amardeep Kumar is hereby advised to contact to collect the aforesaid envelope personally or through his authorized representative from the following address within 7 working days of publication of this notice.

The Chief Manager (HRM), Bank of Baroda, Regional Office, 1st Floor, Dhanraj Building, College Road, Bhuj, Dist. Kutch, PIN Code 370 001

Attention of Mr. Amardeep Kumar is drawn to Regulation 6 (19) of the Bank of Baroda Employees' (Discipline and Appeal) Regulations, 1976 in terms of which he does not submit his Written Statement of Defence on or before the date specified for the purpose or otherwise refuses to comply with provisions of these Regulations, an inquiry may be instituted ex-parte.

Sd/- Zonal Head (GM) & Disciplinary Authority
Dt : 03/11/2022