To

1. All Engineers-in-Chief and Chief Engineers of Public Works Department of States/ UTs dealing with National Highways, other centrally sponsored schemes.
2. The Director General (Border Roads), Seema Sadak Bhawan, Ring Road, New Delhi-110 010.
3. The Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, G-5 & 6, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110 075.
4. The Managing Director, NHIDCL, PTI Building, New Delhi-110001.

Subject: Use of Micro-surfacing for the renewal course, maintenance and repair on National Highways.

Ministry in its Specifications for Road and Bridge Works (5th Revision) has included Micro-surfacing as surface sealing treatment to improve skid resistance, surface durability, seal fine and medium cracks. It is applied when structurally sound pavement surface shows signs of premature ageing, aggregate loss, cracking, high degree of polishing etc. Section 514 of the MORTH Specifications may be referred which prescribes guidelines for its use for low and medium trafficked road. In this regard, Indian Roads Congress has published IRC:SP:81-2008 ‘Tentative Specifications for Slurry Seal and Micro-surfacing’ which may also be referred for its application.

2. It has been observed that Micro-surfacing is still to be adopted for repair and maintenance by the implementing agencies in spite of its advantages, possibly due to lack of awareness and also some contractual obligations which is restricting the adoption of this technology due to compulsory renewal clause by the hot mix method in contracts.

3. In view of this, it has been decided in the Ministry that Micro-surfacing may be used as preventive maintenance/renewal treatment as prescribed in the specifications preferably in a continuous stretch which qualifies for periodical renewal (PR). The criteria for the selection of stretches under Micro-surfacing shall be the same as that of Periodical Renewal stipulated in Ministry’s circular No. RW/NH-33044/10/2000-S&R dated 26th September, 2002.

4. The implementing agencies may ensure that at least 25-30% of total eligible length for Periodical Renewal, preferably in a continuous stretch is covered by micro-surfacing or other similar type of treatment in future.

5. The contents of this Circular may be brought to the notice of all concerned in your organization.

Yours faithfully,

(Manoj Kumar)

Executive Engineer (NFSG) (S, R&T) (Roads)
For Director general (Road Development) & Special Secretary

Copy to:
1. All officers of the Ministry at HQ
2. All ROs and ELO of the Ministry
3. Technical circular file of S&R (R) Section
4. NIC-for uploading on Ministry’s website under “What’s new”

(Manoj Kumar)
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For Director general (Road Development) & Special Secretary