

121.2.18

D.O.No. NHIII/P/31/77

*Dated the 28th December, 1977*

To, All State Chief Engineers by Name [ (From DG (RD) ]

Subject : Proper framing and scrutiny of estimates before submitting the same to the Ministry

Recently, the Minister of Shipping & Transport observed on some National Highway projects that revised estimates, in some cases, were more than 60% higher than the original estimates. Consequent of that, the Minister as well as earlier the Prime Minister as Minister incharge Transport had the occasion to advise that they would like the preparation/scrutiny of proposal initially at the original estimate stage itself to improve so that, as far as possible, technical specifications, scope of work etc. do not have to be changed subsequently.

I might mention in this connection that the need for a proper and thorough site investigation, surface and sub-surface explorations and other inputs for a proper project preparation has already been impressed upon the State Chief Engineers on several occasions in the past. Guidelines regarding design and specification for preparation of a road/bridge project have also been circulated to the States. To enable estimates being sent promptly and in a complete manner, a check list has also been sent to the States.

Another important point to be kept in view is that as soon as an excess beyond permissible limits is anticipated, revised estimates should be got framed expeditiously and the same sent with complete data and full justification to this Ministry for obtaining revised technical approval and financial sanction. This is important as the release of funds would, hereafter, be regulated by the sanctioned estimates—whether original or revised. Lastly, the revised estimates should not be loaded with new items for which separate estimates may be prepared, if need be.

I am sure, if the above suggestions are acted upon, the need for submission of revised estimates **would** automatically get reduced considerably. The matter has also been discussed in the recent meeting of all India Chief Engineers, at Calcutta on 23rd Dec., 1977. Your utmost attention and cooperation is requested in the above respects.

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