

No.RW/NH-11065/16/92-DO 1***Dated, the 16th Dec., 1992*****To****The Secretaries of States/Union Territories, Public Works Departments****Subject:** Permission from the Forest Department for construction of temporary diversion road for NH works passing through Forest Land- Advance action thereof.

I am directed to say that it has come to the notice of this Ministry that in the case of construction of a minor bridge on a National Highway, the contractor entrusted with the job had sought closure of the contract due to delay in forming the diversion road by the State Public Works Department. The delay had occurred as the State Public Works Department could not obtain the permission from the Forest Department for constructing the temporary diversion road passing through the forest land and involving cutting of some trees. Later, the alignment of the diversion road had to be changed to avoid cutting of trees. The State Public Works Department subsequently had to get the bridge work executed through another agency resulting in delay and consequent increase in cost of the work.

2. To avoid recurrence of such a situation in future, it is requested that wherever a temporary diversion road passes through forest land, advance clearance from the Forest Department should be obtained before finalising the detailed estimate for the N.H. works so as to avoid any changes in the scope of work at a later date and consequent delay. Wherever the diversion road is required to be provided by the Department, the same should be done before the award of work so that the contractor is able to start the work immediately after the award of work.

3. The contents of this letter may please be brought to the notice of all concerned in your State for strict compliance in future.
