

121.6.16

No. RW/NHIII/P/25/84

Dated the 20th June 1986

To

The Secretaries PWDs of all States and Union Territories, (dealing with National Highways and Centrally sponsored Works).

Subject : Splitting up of National Highway Works — Regarding

In this Ministry's letter of even number dated 4.8.1984 the recommendations of Vohra Committee regarding splitting of National Highway works were reiterated with the request to take conscious steps to encourage the emergence of well qualified contracting firms or co-operatives of small contractors, who have the capacity to carry out the work on the required scales. In addition, it was also stated therein that splitting of the works, if at all resorted to should be done with prior approval of the Ministry. Further, keeping in view the present day sophistication in the methods of design and construction and to ensure development of adequate know-how and expertise with the contractors, this Ministry has prescribed that pre-qualification of contractors be carried out for inviting bids for works costing more than Rs 50 lakhs or where the work is to be carried out in continuous stretch of road length more than 2 km or where the overall length of a bridge is more than 125 m.

2. Since issue of the aforesaid communication, the Ministry has been receiving references for permitting splitting of the National Highway works from some of the Chief Engineers for various reasons. In this regard it is clarified that :

- (a) All out efforts will be made by the executing authorities to implement the policy of non-splitting of National Highway works whether horizontally or vertically. Splitting shall be resorted to if at all considered absolutely unavoidable, with the prior permission of the Ministry, but it should be visualised at the time of preparation of the project itself and indicated in the project report of the work with detailed reasons for the proposed splitting. If splitting is agreed to, it will be incorporated in the Technical Note accompanying the sanction. But no subsequent reference in this respect shall be normally entertained.

The works which may fall under such categories could be :

- (i) In case of a composite project for construction of bridge and approaches the bridge work, protection works like guide-bund etc., and approach road work including protection works related to approach bank, if any, — each category of work could be considered for execution by different agencies.
 - (ii) Road work falling in more than one executive division — where vertical splitting of work division-wise can be considered.
 - (iii) Road work having a number of beats each with specific characteristics — where beat-wise package could be considered.
 - (iv) Road work falling on either side of an un — bridged river — where work on either side could be considered for execution by different agencies. Estimates for the above mentioned works shall, be prepared in separate parts for each category of work and a consolidated general abstract prepared for all categories together formulating the total Project.
- (b) The standing instructions of States/UTs, if any, relating to certain works to be done only in a particular manner i.e. through co-operative societies only, or compaction/consolidation, laying bituminous courses, etc., to be done departmentally, etc., would not apply to National Highway works.
 - (c) The items of work likely to be taken up with a long interval between each other should not be clubbed together for sanction under one estimate although at project preparation stage they all need to be conceived simultaneously for technical purposes.
 - (d) Flood damage repair works, special repair works and maintenance works (routine as well as periodic) shall be excluded from the purview of instructions regarding non-splitting of works, but in these cases also efforts shall be made not to split the same as far as practicable.
3. Appropriate action (s) to abide by Ministry's above said policy on non-splitting of National Highway works shall be taken by all concerned authorities right from the stage of preparation of the project/estimate (s) to invitation of tender (s). For all the works, the authority inviting tenders shall invariably endorse a copy of NIT to Ministry's Regional officer/Engineer Liaison Officer in the State.
 4. It is requested that above instructions may kindly be brought to the notice of all field formation handling National Highway works for being adhered to strictly under intimation to the Ministry.
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