

No.RW/G-23012/9/99-WA

Dated, the 23rd December, 1999

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of all States

Subject : Revised payment procedure for Special Maintenance Programme of National Highways sanctioned during 1999-2000

I am directed to convey that in view of the difficulty arising due to tight financial position of several State Governments, which results in delay in payment to contractors, etc. inspite of adequate allotment of funds by this Ministry, it has been decided that all payments including agency charges Special Repair Programme of National Highways will be made directly by the Regional Pay & Accounts Officer, MOST, to the eligible payees, such as, contracts, State Govts. w.e.f. 27.12.1999.

2. The procedure to be followed shall be as under :

- (a) Supervising Engineer, i.e., the concerned Executive Engineer or the PWD will submit certified bills of contractors to Regional Officer of M/o Surface Transport. He will verify the payment and give all necessary approval as per PWD procedure.
- (b) The bill submitted by the Supervising Engineer will include separately, agency charges payable.
- (c) Regional Officers of MOST will be the drawing and disbursement officer (DDO) and will present the bill to the concerned Regional Pay & Accounts Officer for payment.
- (d) Regional Officer of MOST acting as DDO will maintain all necessary records before making the payment to Supervising Engineer.
- (e) RPAO will draw the cheques as per payment instructions of RO in favour of the parties and pass them to RO who in turn will pass them to the Supervising Engineer after making necessary entries in his records.
- (f) The Supervising Engineer will disburse the amount to concerned parties.
- (g) As far as agency charges are concerned they will be paid by RPAO to the State Accountant General.
- (h) Office of the Supervising Engineer will maintain all the records of payments/disbursements and send a monthly demand of disbursements to RO, RPAO, CCA and DG (RD) & AS.
- (i) RPAO will send details of payments of agency charges to the State Accountant General every month.
- (j) State Govt. will be responsible for physical and financial progress of the project.

3. At present, vouchers are checked by State AG and sent to RPAO. RPAO exercises only a few checks as prescribed by CGA (in consultation with C&AG). Therefore, pre-check is not done exhaustibly by the RPAO. In the prescribed revised procedure pre-check has to be done at voucher level, hence RPAO will ensure that all the vouchers are checked thoroughly.

4. The concerned officers responsible for the implementation of the project may please be instructed accordingly.

5. This issues in consultation with the Chief Controller of Accounts vide letter No.PAO/NH/New Proc./Dir.Payment/99-2000/1935 dated 15.12.1999 and C&AG's U.O.No.725-AC.I/SP.II/16-98 dated 15.12.99.