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No. PL-30 (193)/71

To

All State Govts. and Admns. of Union Territories (Deptts. dealing with National Highways)

Subject : Delegation of Powers to States to sanction detailed plans and estimates in respect of National Highway (Original) Works

I am directed to say that, as the State Govts, are aware, under the Constitution, National Highways are a Central subject and the Govt, of India are primarily responsible for their development and maintenance. However, the actual execution is being carried out by the State P.W.Ds, on an agency basis for the Govt, of India on the basis of technical approval and financial sanction accorded by this Ministry to detailed plans and estimates in pursuance of the rules contained in this Ministry's notification No. SRO-1182, dated the 4th April 1957. There has, however, been a demand for sometime past for delegating powers to State P.W.Ds, for according technical approval and financial sanction to expedite the progress on works programmes. The Govt, of India have considered the matter carefully and are pleased to agree to delegate powers to the State P.W.Ds, to accord technical approval and financial sanction to detailed plans and estimaes for National Highway (Original) works costing upto and including Rs, 10 lakhs subject to the conditions indicated in the schedule to this Ministry's notification No. SO 680 (E) dated the 15th October, 1976. A copy of this notification is enclosed. This notification was published in the Gazette (Extraordinary) dated 18th October 1976 and also incorporates certain other connected amendments in the earlier National Highway Rules. Further necessary action may kindly be taken in the light of the enclosed notification.

Note: Notification dated 18.10.76 not enclosed.