

No. RW/NH-11052/4/89-DO I

*Dated, the 18th September, 1990.*

To

The Chief Engineers of State Public Works Department and Union Territories dealing with National Highways and other centrally financed scheme, The Director General (Works), Central Public Works Department, The Director General (Border Roads), The Chairman, National Highway Authority.

Subject: Execution of works on National Highways and under other Centrally Financed Schemes – Level at which tenders should be invited.

I am directed to say that the Vohra Committee on National Highway Agency System had, inter-alia, made the following recommendation in their Report:-

“Delay in the commencement of the work often results from the fact that the authority inviting tenders is not always empowered to accept them. While most tenders are invited at the level of the Executive Engineer, his powers to accept them is limited and in most cases, he has to send up the tender papers, after receipt and scrutiny, for approval by his Superintending Engineer and/or the Chief Engineer. In many cases the tender has to be referred back to the Executive Engineer for seeking clarifications and he may have to take up the matter with the Contractor. In order to cut down such delays, it would be advisable that tenders are called directly by the authority empowered to accept them.”

2. The above matter has been brought to the notice of State Chief Engineers from time to time at various forums but it appears that many of the tenders for National Highway works are still being invited at a level other than that empowered to accept the same. In order to minimise delays in the execution/completion of National Highway works, it may please be ensured that tenders are called directly by the authority empowered to accept them as recommended by the Vohra Committee. The above instructions may kindly be brought to the notice of all concerned.

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