

No.RW/NH-33054/3/92-S&R

Dated, the 14th May, 1993

To

The Chief Engineers (dealing with National Highways and other Centrally Financed Schemes), Public Works Department of all States and Union Territories, Director General (Works), Central Public Works Department, Director General Border Roads and Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, Engineer-in-Chief, Municipal Corporation of Delhi, Delhi

Subject: Soil/sub-surface investigations for road and bridge works on National Highways and under Centrally Sponsored Schemes - empanelment of experienced and competent consultants

Please refer to this Ministry's letters No.RW/NH-33054/55/89-DO-II dated June 5, 1990, September 25, 1990 and letter RW/NH-33054/4/91-S&R dated October 25, 1991 and May 14, 1992 on the above mentioned subject.

2. The panel of the geotechnical consultants under different categories mentioned in the letters under reference, has since expired on March 31, 1993. Accordingly, fresh panels of the competent and experienced geotechnical consultants for carrying out soil/sub-surface investigations for the two categories (i) major bridges and (ii) high embankment, road pavement and minor bridges etc., for National Highways and Centrally sponsored projects have been prepared by the Ministry and enclosed as Appendix I & II.

3. The Government Institutions which are considered suitable for taking up geotechnical investigation are listed in Appendix-III. There prequalification will, however, be subjected to the proviso that adequate infrastructure to carry out the investigations meeting the requirements of the specific work is available with them and they are in a position to take up such works satisfying the prescribed targets for completion.

4. The present panels of geotechnical consultants for different categories of work will be in force upto March 31, 1995.

5. The empanelment is subject to condition that there will not be any change in the structure/constitution of the organisation of the consultants during the validity of the panels from that indicated in the applications of the consultants. In case, any firm is empanelled as an association/joint venture/consortium with other firms/individual, such firms shall be asked to furnish MOU/agreement alongwith submission of any proposal.

6. The consultancy proposals for future geotechnical investigation work for road and bridge works on National Highways and under other centrally sponsored schemes shall be taken only from the geotechnical consultants prequalified in para 2 and 3 above, as per their eligibility for the category of work involved.

7. Before calling for quotations for any geotechnical investigations work, the terms of reference detailing with the scope of work, the preferred method of testing, sampling procedure, type and number of samples to be taken, engineering parameters required for design and construction, the target for completion and essential equipment both field and laboratory required to be deployed on the work be clearly specified. The State/UT, PWDs should also supervise the method and the quality of investigation work through experienced Departmental Officers with the help of check list already circulated in this Ministry's letter No.RW/NH-33054/35/89-DO II dated June 5, 1990 (which is not job specific but general only) or by engaging experienced supervision consultants. The check list can be suitably modified as required depending upon the nature of investigations, which will also depend on the TOR for the investigations. A list of suggested essential laboratory and field equipment which the consultants should possess as given at Appendix-III of this Ministry's letter No.RW/NH-33054/35/89-DO II dated June 5, 1990 should be insisted upon by including the same in the tender documents.

8. A record about the performance of the geotechnical consultants covering aspects like adequacy of laboratory and field equipment deployed, expertise of the personnel, quality of investigations, reliability of data collected, completion time etc. should be maintained and this Ministry kept periodically informed particularly with regard to any unsatisfactory performance.

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9. The contents of this letter may please be brought to the notice of all officers in your Department dealing with works on National Highways and under other centrally sponsored schemes.
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