

*No. RW/NH-33054/20/88-S&R*

*Dated, the 13th July, 1998*

To

The Chief Engineers of States/Union Territories (dealing with National Highways); Chairman, NHAI; Director General Border Roads; Director General, Central Public Works Department

Subject : Provision of paved shoulders along 4-lane carriageway on National Highway- Guidelines regarding

It has been policy of the Ministry to construct 1.5 m wide paved shoulders in conjunction with the 4-laning of National Highways being undertaken either from the budgetary resources or from the external aids. The matter relating to provision of composition of paved shoulders has been under consideration in the Ministry in view of feed-back received from different quarters in profession.

2. After taking into account the various technical factors and practical consideration, it has been decided that in case of construction of 4-lane divided carriageway, the composition and specification for 1.5 m wide paved shoulders henceforth should be the same as that of main carriageway. This would also help in construction of future traffic lane to be added at a later stage.

3. Even though the paved shoulder in case of 4-lane carriageway would be of same thickness and composition as that of main carriageway, the carriageway edge line shall be marked and adequately maintained in the form of a single continuous white line of 150 mm wide for demarcation of paved shoulder from the main carriageway as a message of caution to the road users. The markings shall be reflectorised. The materials for marking shall conform to clause 5 of IRC : 35-1997-Code of Practice for Road Markings (First Revision).

4. In case of existing 2-lane sections where paved shoulders are being provided, the guidelines circulated vide Ministry's letter of even number dated 10th May, 1989 will continue to govern. However, the surfacing of the shoulder should as far as possible be the same as that of the main carriageway.

5. It is requested that the contents of this circular may please be brought to the notice of all concerned for compliance. Feed-back on the experience with the present guidelines of paved shoulders will be welcome.

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