

No. NHVI-50 (3)/83

Dated the 23rd April, 1983

To

CEs of all State PWDs and UTs dealing with
N.Hs and other Centrally sponsored roads

Subject : Digging of borrow pits at the rear of the guide bunds for bridges on N.Hs and other Centrally financed roads

During inspection of a bridge work in a State by ADG (B) recently, it was noticed at a bridge site that borrow pits were being excavated on the rear side of the guide bund of the bridge under construction for use in the body of guide-bund.

- 2.1. While designing the layout of the guide bund, the disposition of the worst embankment in the course of the river is taken into consideration, keeping in view the safety of the approach embankment. If borrowpits are dug indiscriminately at the rear side of the guide bunds, it may lead to formation of active channels and even the configuration of the embankment may change, resulting in possible attack of the road embankment as well as the unprotected rear side of the guide bund.
- 2.2. Digging of borrow pits at the rear side of the guide bunds may also lead to piping action in the absence of adequate overburden endangering the safety of the guide bund.
3. Keeping the above aspects in view, it is suggested that digging of borrow pits at the rear side of guide bunds shall be avoided. The fill material for construction of guide bund should be borrowed from the river side of guide bund whenever feasible even if it involves additional lead and lifts. The location in the river bed from where the earth is to be borrowed should invariably be marked and approval obtained from the Engineer-in-Charge of the work.
4. The above observations may please be brought to the notice of all concerned in the State.