

No. RW/NH-33041/3/2001-S&R

Dated the 13th June, 2002

To

The Secretaries of States/Union Territories, Public Works Departments, All Chief Engineers of States/ Union Territories (dealing with National Highways), The Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, The Director General (Border Roads), All Regional Officers, Ministry of Road Transport & Highways.

Subject: Use of rubber polymer/rubber modified bitumen in road works on National Highways and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes

Reference is invited to Ministry's letter No. RW/NH-34041/86/90-S&R (Vol.II) dated the 21st April, 1999 on the subject mentioned above with instructions to all States for use of polymer/rubber modified bitumen in surfacing coats of Pre-mix carpet, MSS, Semi-Dense bituminous carpet and bituminous concrete as the case may be on heavily trafficked sections of National Highways in at least 10 per cent length of periodical renewal programme starting from 1999-2000 in accordance with interim guidelines. Subsequently, in the Ministry's letter No. RW/NH-34041/36/90/S&R (Vol.II) dated 11.1.2000 it was decided that IRC Guidelines for use of Polymer/Rubber Modified bitumen should be adopted for all works on National Highways and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes and also advised the use of polymer/rubber modified bitumen for road works in State sector.

2. Some agencies have expressed that polymer/rubber modified bitumen to the extent of 10 per cent only can be allowed in surfacing of IRQP works which has restricted its use considerably. It is clarified that Ministry's letter dated 21.4.99 on the subject specified only the minimum percentage length for use of polymer/rubber modified bitumen and the user agency could adopt polymer/rubber modified bitumen as per requirement. It has now been decided that keeping in view its advantages, polymer/rubber modified bitumen may be adopted in surfacing for whole length, subject to its availability. It is reiterated that IRC guidelines shall be strictly followed for the provision of polymer/rubber modified bitumen.

3. It is requested that suitable display boards indicating types of polymer/rubber modified bitumen used and date of laying may be placed at the beginning and end of each such stretch. Performance report on the stretch where polymer/rubber modified bitumen has been used may please be furnished to the Ministry every six months.