

No. RW/NH.III/P/13/85

*Dated the 27th June. 1985*

To

All Secretaries of State Governments & Union Territories dealing with Transport and Roads

Sub : Imposition of load restriction on certain sections of National Highways in which weak bridges and culverts are located

You may be aware that the tendency to overload transport vehicles beyond the statutory limits has been increasing and has led to some bad accidents causing serious damages or even collapse of weak bridges and culverts on the National Highways at several places and disrupting traffic. It is, therefore, necessary that strict vigilance is enforced with regard to loading of vehicles as well as restricting the load on vehicles which pass through Sections of National Highways where weak bridges and culverts are located.

2. In terms of provisions under Section 74 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, the State Government/Union Territories are empowered to take action to restrict the weight that may be carried in any specified area/road in the interest of public safety and convenience or because of the nature of any road or bridge. While doing so, necessary traffic signs indicating the prohibition or restriction should also be put for the information of all concerned. In this connection, circular letter No. TW/TGM (18)/82 dated 27th September 1982 issued by the Ministry of Shipping and Transport, Government of India, may please be referred to and suitable action may kindly be taken by the concerned State authorities immediately, to avoid accidents and/or damages to cross-drainage structures on the National Highways and other roads.

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