

No.RW/NH-11047/11/87-DO I

Dated, the 11th March, 1993

To

The Chief Engineers of all States/UTs dealing with National Highways

Subject: Road Signs on National Highways using Retro-reflective sheeting

With a view to provide an adequate and effective system for distance informatory/destination signs along National Highways, detailed guidelines were issued to State/Union Territory Chief Engineers vide this Ministry's letters of even number dated 8.9.1988 and 21.12.1988.

2. On further consideration of the matter in this Ministry, it is felt that there is an urgent need to rationalise and streamline the overall process of procurement of these signs as also other signs using retro-reflective sheeting, so that the rates are reasonable, there is fair competition and specification requirements are met with. Accordingly, the following instructions may please be followed in respect of future procurement of these signs:-

- (i) The tender notice may be widely circulated through press/ other media with coverage in atleast two National dailies so that the information is disseminated amongst all the eligible sign suppliers. As per present information, the following are the known manufacturers of retro-reflective sheetings being imported in India for use in road signs. These sheetings are available through their authorised representatives/agents.
 - (a) M/s KIWA Chemical Industries Co, Ltd., JAPAN
 - (b) M/s 3M SCOTHLITE Sheeting, USA
 - (c) M/s SEIBULITE, JAPAN
- (ii) For ensuring the supply of sign boards conforming to the specifications, the necessary 7 years warranty for satisfactory performance of the retro-reflective sheeting to be used for the proposed work should be obtained from the sheeting manufacturer or its representative/agent authorised by the parent company (sheeting manufacturer) to give such warranty. In addition a 7 year warranty for satisfactory performance of finished signs, inclusive of screen printed or cut-out messages/legends etc. and their bonding to the retro-relective sheeting should be obtained from the sign supplier. Both the warranties should be in original and work specific and drawn in favour of the engineer-in-charge.
- (iii) Before the bidder's offer is considered by the engineer- in-charge, it must be ensured that the bid meets the following specific requirements, besides any other criteria as deemed appropriate:-
 - (a) A certificate from the sheeting manufacturer or its representative/agent so authorised by the manufacturer, to the effect that the bidder is their authorised fabricator/convertor for such signs;
 - (b) Necessary warranties from the sheeting manufacturer or its authorised representative/agent and from the bidder, for satisfactory performance of the sheeting material and the finished sign boards as per sub-para (ii) above and this Ministry's Specifications;
 - (c) Adequacy of sign fabrication facilities available in- house with the bidder.

Only those bidders who satisfy the specification requirements and have satisfactory in-house fabrication facilities should be deemed eligible.
- (iv) The bidders should also be asked to furnish, in support of their financial bid, a complete break down of the cost of various items of sign fabrication. Based thereon and other checks, the reasonableness of the cost of the sign boards should be ensured, so that the interest of the Government is fully safeguarded.

3. It is requested that the above guidelines may be communicated amongst all the PWD Officers for compliance with immediate effect.