

No. RW/NH-33023/31/88-DO.III

Dated the 5th/15th February, 96

To

The Chief Engineers of all States/U.Ts., P.W.D. (dealing with National Highways and other centrally sponsored schemes), Director General (Border Roads), Director General (Works), Central Public Works Department

Subject: Installation of Road Signs Using Retro-reflective Sheetings on National Highways - Feedback regarding Field Performance

The Ministry has been recommending installation of road signs using retro-reflective sheetings on National Highways since quite some time in the past. Detailed policy and guidelines for the use of these sheetings were circulated from time to time and in this connection, Ministry's letter Nos. NH-11047/1/87-DO.I dated 8th September, 1988, 21st December, 1988, 7th July, 1980, 11th March, 1993 and No. RW/NH-33023/31/88-DO.III dated 2.5.94 and 4.12.95 may be referred to. Since the guidelines as well as Ministry's specifications clearly stipulate the warranty requirements for different grades of retro-reflective sheetings, it is necessary that the field performance levels warranted by the sign manufacturers are tested on all signs installed from time to time before the expiry of the warranty period (seven years for high intensity grade and five years for engineering grade).

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2. Since a considerable number of signs installed in the initial stages may be nearing their terminal period of warranty, it is requested that a detailed stock of signs installed in your State be taken and performance measurements carried out through recognised laboratories/research or academic institutions equipped with such facilities. An inventory of such records may be maintained at the field units and cases where performance deficiencies are observed may be taken up with the concerned sign manufacturer for invoking the replacement obligations.

3. It is also requested that division-wise summary reports on the status indicating number of signs installed, tested and found complying with field performance requirements, be supplied to this Ministry for information and necessary action.