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*Dated the 30th November, 1984*

To

All the Chief Engineers of States and Union Territories dealing with National Highways

Sub : Centralised fabrication/procurement of new road signs in the respective Public Works Departments

It is understood that the new road signs are at present being procured directly by the respective field divisions of the State Public Works Departments. This procedure inevitably leads to non-uniformity and lack of requisite quality control with regard to the specifications. It is felt that centralised fabrication and procurement of new road signs under the control of the State Chief Engineer will go a long way in achieving the desired objective of uniformity and standardisation. The envisaged procedure will also obviate duplication of effort by the various field formations in this direction with resultant speedy implementation of complete switch-over to the new sign system by virtue of a better inventory control and coordinated action. The Traffic Engineering Cells functioning in the State Chief Engineers' offices could be fruitfully utilised for this purpose. The site requirements of the road signs may be assessed by the field formations and a requisition placed with the Traffic Engineering Cells who could arrange fabrication/procurement for supply to the field divisions for installation. The suggested procedure will afford better quality control as well as enable timely and coordinated installation of the new road signs.

The proposed system of centralised fabrication/procurement of the road signs is being extensively followed by the advanced countries like U.S.A. where departmental fabrication of the road signs is being carried out by the traffic engineering workshops of the Departments of Transportation of different States. These workshops are centrally controlled and cater to the requirements of various field formations of the entire State. Adoption of similar procedure in this country will thus be in line with the techniques in vogue in the developed

countries and is being advocated in view of its obvious advantages. Your views with regard to the above suggested procedure concerning centralised procurement of road signs are, therefore, solicited alongwith the action contemplated to be taken at your end.

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