

No. RW/NH-33044/27/2004-S&amp;R(R)

Dated the 24th December, 2004

To

Chief Secretaries/Secretaries (PWD/Roads) of all States Governments/UTs dealing with National Highways and Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Engineer-in-chief/Chief Engineers of States/UTs dealing with National Highways and Centrally Sponsored Schemes, Director General (Border Roads), Chairman, National Highways Authority of India.

**Subject: Use of Language on Kilometre Stones and Sign boards on National Highways**

In supersession of the Ministry's circular No. NH/III/P/24/76 dated 16.6.1981 following are the consolidated instructions on the language to be used inscribing the kilometer stones and sign boards on National Highways for strict compliance.

**(I) Kilometre stones**

- (i) According to the revised standard on the subject, the place names should be inscribed on these stones in different scripts in the following sequence:

Km No.	Script/Language for place names	Place to be shown
0	Local and Roman (English)	Terminal/starting station on top in Local language followed by kilometerage and then the name of terminal/starting station will be followed in Roman (English) and below this, the next important town in local language followed by kilometerage in symmetrical manner.
1	Hindi (Devnagri Script) and Local	Next important town in Hindi on top and in local language on bottom and in between kilometerage in symmetrical manner.
2	Local language	Next important town followed by kilometerage
3	Hindi (Devnagri Script) and Local	Terminal Station in Hindi on top and in local language on bottom and in between kilometerage in symmetrical manner.
4	Local language	Terminal Station followed by kilometerage

5	Local and Roman	Terminal station on top in local language followed by kilometerage and then the name of terminal station will be followed in Roman (English) and below this, the next important town in local language followed by kilometerage in symmetrical manner.
6	Hindi (Devnagri Script) and local	Next important town in Hindi on top and in local language on bottom and in between kilometerage in symmetrical manner and so on, repeated in the same order

(ii) Where local script happens to be same as Devnagri:

- On ordinary kilometer stones, kilometer to the next important town and terminal station could be shown alternately in Devnagri (Hindi) and Roman (English) instead of the order given above. In such case, the size of letters, numerals and spacing etc. shall be followed as prescribed in the IRC:8-1980.
- On Zero and every fifth kilometer stones of bigger size, the local language shall be replaced by Devnagri (Hindi).
- The numerals on kilometer stones shall in all cases to be written in international form of Indian numerals i.e. 1,2,3 etc.

(iii) The size of ordinary kilometer stones and bigger kilometer stones shall be followed as prescribed vide Plate Numbers 1 and 2 of IRC:8-1980 respectively.

(iv) On ordinary kilometer stones of small size, the size of letter and numerals shall be as given below:

- |                                                                 |   |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------|
| (a) Height of letters for Place Name each in both the languages | : | 75mm   |
| (b) Height of numerals for kilometerage                         | : | 100mm  |
| (c) Height of numerals for Route Numbers                        | : | 100mm  |
| (d) Top clearance                                               | : | 30mm   |
| (e) Bottom clearance                                            | : | 70mm   |
| (f) Spacing between lines                                       | : | 17.5mm |

(v) On zero and every fifth kilometer stones of bigger size, the size of letters and numerals shall be as given below:

- |                                                                 |   |        |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|---|--------|
| (a) Height of letters for Place Name each in both the languages | : | 75mm   |
| (b) Height of numerals for kilometerage                         | : | 100mm  |
| (c) Height of numerals for Route Numbers                        | : | 100mm  |
| (d) Top clearance                                               | : | 30mm   |
| (e) Bottom clearance                                            | : | 70mm   |
| (f) Spacing between lines                                       | : | 42.5mm |

(vi) All other dimensions shall be followed as per IRC:8-1980 guidelines.

## **(II) Advance information signs at approaches to junctions**

- As regards advance information signs at approaches junctions, the following procedure and guidelines may be followed:
  - All boards should invariably be inscribed in local language, Devnagri (Hindi) and Roman (English) scripts. Where local script happens to be same as Devnagri (Hindi), only Devnagri and Roman script may be inscribed on the information sign boards.
  - In a bilingual area on the border of two States, the inscription should also be in the scripts of both the States languages if these are not Devnagri.

## **(III) The State Govt. are requested to adopt the above policy for Km Stones and general information signs on State Highways also to avoid inconvenience to local road users and domestic tourists.**

2. It is requested that concerned Field Officers may be instructed to draw the action plan and all the existing kilometer stones and road signs are to be re-inscribed latest by 31.03.2005 and compliance report sent to the Ministry latest by 21.04.2005.

3. The expenditure on rewriting the Km stones and sign boards may be met out from the M&R grants released from time to time.

4. The contents of this letter may be brought to the notice of all concerned officers in your Department for strict compliance within the time frame.