

D.O. No. RW/PL-30 (106)/82

*Dated the 17th May, 1983*

To

All the Secretaries and Chief Engineers of the State PWDs (By name)

Subject : Assignment of SAW/RLW of Transport vehicles — Reference to Central Govt. Rating of bridges

I would like to draw your kind attention to this Ministry's letter of even number dated 12.5.83 on the subject noted above. While you will be taking immediate action for arranging the task of determining the rating of existing bridges and culverts and having the same notified through the State Transport authorities, I take this opportunity to bring to you kind notice two unfortunate incidents where unduly heavy transport vehicles were plying resulting in collapse of bridges over the river Lingra on NH 42 in Orissa and over river Damodar on NH 33 in Bihar. This has caused heavy national loss and inconvenience to the heavy traffic using these two National Highways as the collapsed bridges will take time for their replacement and the traffic has, in the meantime, to be either re-routed or subjected to inconvenience.

2. I shall be grateful if the State Governments/UTs. kindly take all preventive steps to avoid such instances and ensure with the State Transport authorities that the enforcement regarding the load restriction on any bridge, if any, as reported by the State PWD authorities is more strict and damages to the existing weak bridges on the NHs are avoided. We shall be thankful to know the steps being taken by you in this matter.