

No. RW/RD/8/WB/77-OR

Dated the 17th March, 1983

To

The Chief Engineers of all States, dealing with National Highways/Other Roads

Sub : Research Project R-2-Spectrum of Axle Loads on National Highways—Dissemination of Study Results

As the State PWDs are aware, the Ministry sponsored sometime back a project on the spectrum of axle loads on National Highways with the following objectives :

- (i) To collect data about the frequency distribution of axle loads of commercial vehicles plying on different roads in different regions.
- (ii) To rationalise the procedure of design of road-pavement based on collective data received from different regions.
- (iii) To collect data about traffic intensity and its breakup.
- (iv) To streamline the policy about weights and dimensions of vehicles.
- (v) To evolve a suitable method for design of road crust based on axle load distribution in the region.

2. Earlier to this project there was hardly any data collected about axle loads distribution on commercial vehicles plying on different roads in different regions in the country. The pavement design procedure currently being followed is based on the number of commercial vehicles of more than 3 tonnes laden weight regardless of the axle load frequency distribution. The study on axle load distribution has now been completed in respect of important National Highways in the States of Haryana, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Maharashtra, Gujrat, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. A summary of the results of the study is enclosed for your information and further necessary action.