

No. PL-30(53)/74

Dated the 15th July, 1976

To

All State Govts. and Union Territories Administrations (Departments dealing with Road Transport)  
All State Chief Engineers and Additional Chief Engineers dealing with National Highways

Subject : Landscaping and development of roadside lay-byes along National Highways — Implementation of the recommendations of the Study Group on Wayside Amenities

The Study Group on Wayside Amenities set up by the Ministry had stressed in its report that highway authorities should beautify the roadside simultaneously with road development. Relevant recommendations of the Study Group in this regard are reproduced below :

**\*Highway beautification**

- 6.48 The future programme of road development throws a responsibility on the Highway authorities to beautify the roadside landscape simultaneously. This involves development of scenic spots on or near the road, construction of roadside parks, plantation of trees blending with the environment and removal of trees, rocks etc. which obstruct the view. For all these programmes, land should be acquired at the time of land acquisition for the road itself
- 6.49 We think it necessary that landscaping of the roadside and development of laybyes, roadside parks etc. should be in architectural harmony with the surroundings. We also think that in the construction of structures for roadside amenities like sign-boards, restaurants etc. the aim of beautification of the highway should be uppermost from the very beginning. In other words, the work of beautification should not be left to a later phase giving the highway a merely cosmetic appearance.
- 7.15 As regards priority between different routes, it is imperative that a comprehensive traffic survey of all the important highways should be undertaken. Apart from that an accurate inventory of all the facilities presently available along these highways should be drawn up. This will help in shifting of services which are concentrated unreasonably at many points and remodelling/improvement of others which do not measure up to the requisite standards at the moment.
2. These recommendations have already been discussed at meeting of Transport Development Council held in November 1973. The report of the Study Group was also forwarded to the State Governments for implementation vide Ministry's letter of even number dated the 20th June 1975 and letter No. 3-T(34)/74 dated the 21st June 1974.
3. Having regard in the above it has been decided that a staged programme of beautification and development of the above mentioned amenities along National Highways should be formulated. For this purpose, the State Govts./ Chief Engineers are requested to have an accurate inventory the present facilities prepared in the proforma enclosed. Inventory information may also be depicted on small scale linear plans of National Highways. In addition the plans should indicate the potential locations where scenic laybyes, roadside parks, specially landscape Section etc. could be developed.
4. These surveys will help in remodelling/improvement of amenities which do not measure up to the desired standards at the moment. Based on inventory surveys, the State Governments should fix priorities and formulate a preliminary action programme of beautification giving approximate idea of cost and time schedule of completion along each National Highway Section. These proposals may please be developed associating the Ministry's regional officers and submitted within the next 3-4 months. On approval of the proposals, and their inclusion in the current plan detailed estimates will be called for from the State Government for sanction.
5. As regards landscaping of National Highway sections the proposals may please be formulated with the help of horticulture specialist and landscape architects also associating our Regional officers and the draft action plan sent to the Ministry for acceptance in the same manner as spelt out above.
6. Action taken in the matter may kindly be intimated to us the earliest convenient.

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**PROFORMA FOR SURVEY OF EXISTING ROADSIDE BEAUTIFICATION FEATURES ALONG NATIONAL HIGHWAYS.**

State : \_\_\_\_\_ District : \_\_\_\_\_  
National Highway No. \_\_\_\_\_ Circle \_\_\_\_\_  
Section : \_\_\_\_\_ Division \_\_\_\_\_

Location/ reach (Km)	Type of amenity (give code No. *)	Area covered by (m <sup>2</sup> ) the amenity	Brief Description	Deficiencies & rough cost of improvement	Remarks
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- \* Code :
1. Roadside Park
  2. Scenic Laybys
  3. Landscaped section
  4. Tree plantings
  5. Others (specify)

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