

No.RW/NH-11052/3/97-DO I

Dated, the 31st December, 1997

To

The Chief Secretaries/Secretaries, (Roads) PWD of all States/UTs, Chief Engineers (dealing with National Highways and other Centrally Sponsored Schemes), Public Works Department of all States and Union Territories, Director General Border Roads, Director General (Works), Central Public Works Department, Chairman, National Highways Authority of India

Subject: Passenger Oriented Wayside Amenities Along National Highways

Provision of passenger oriented wayside amenities along highways is necessary since both the passengers and drivers need certain minimum, wayside facilities to make their travel safe, comfortable and convenient in order to reduce fatigue in a long distance journey. Such wayside facilities to a reasonable extent are operational in some states like Haryana and Rajasthan under patronage of State Tourism Departments. For facilitating long distance travel by road and enhancing road safety along National Highways, the Ministry had launched schemes for provision of basic wayside amenities both by Government Sector financing and by private sector financing. Under this scheme, basic facilities like parking areas for cars and buses, drinking water, toilet, snack bar/restaurants, rest rooms, dormitory etc. have been envisaged.

2. Under Government Sector, the scheme was launched in 1986 in association with Central Ministry of Tourism in which, Ministry of Surface Transport bears the cost of land and development of infrastructural facilities while Ministry of Tourism bears the cost of construction of building and services. Operation of the facilities rests with the State Department of Tourism. As a first priority, 17 locations in different States were identified and work on some of the facilities is in progress.

3. In order to supplement the Government effort, the Ministry had in 1987 invited the private entrepreneurs to finance and manage such facilities at selected locations. As an incentive to private entrepreneurs, allocation of fuel retail outlet was made an integral part of the scheme with the consent of Ministry of Petroleum. A few complexes under this scheme have already become operational and work on some others are in progress. Ministry of Petroleum had withdrawn from this Scheme in August, 1994 and thus the retail outlet is no longer a part of the scheme. Revival of this scheme is now being considered.

4. It would be seen that considering our vast road network, concerted efforts are required to develop more such facilities along National and State Highways. It has, therefore, been decided that henceforth in all National Highway Projects being funded through the aid from the multilateral agencies i.e. World Bank, ADB, OECF etc. or being developed through the private sector, provision must be made for passenger oriented wayside amenities at every 50 km of National Highways. Broad guidelines for selection of suitable sites for this purpose are given in Ministry's letter No. RW/34032/1/86-NHVI dated 7th August, 1986. For indicative arrangements of facilities, reference may be made to drawings circulated vide Ministry's letter No. RW/34032/1/86-NH Stds. dated the 23rd December, 1987.

5. It is requested that the contents of this circular may be brought to the notice of all concerned officers in your department for implementation.

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