

No RW-NH-11013/02/2019-S&R(P&B)
 Government of India
 Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
 (S&R (P&B) Section)
 Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

Dated: 29th May, 2019

To,

1. The Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments/ UTs.
2. The Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of all States/ UTs Public Works Department dealing with National Highways, other centrally sponsored schemes.
3. All Engineers-in-Chief and Chief Engineers of Public Works Department of States/ UTs dealing with National Highways, other centrally sponsored schemes.
4. The Director General (Border Roads), Seema Sadak Bhawan, Ring Road, New Delhi- 110 010.
5. The Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, G-5 & 6, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110 075.
6. The Managing Director, NHIDCL, PTI Building, New Delhi-110001.
7. All CE-ROs, ROs and ELOs of the Ministry.

Subject:- Principles to be adopted while considering the highway near or within wildlife sanctuaries/National Parks/Animal Corridor -reg.

The development of National Highways is essential for the economic growth of the country, however alignment of NH passing through natural areas may have wide ranging and complex impact on ecology & wild species. To have minimum impact of highways on the protected eco-sensitive area, the implementing agency should consider to spare sanctuaries / National Parks at the planning stage and wherever possible take a bypass/ detour. However if it is absolutely unavoidable all necessary clearances required under the Wildlife Protection Act 1972, Forest Conversion Act 1980 and Environment (Protection) Act 1986 should be obtained before any work is undertaken in such areas.

2. In this regard, *para 3.1.5 of TOR of RFP for appointment of Consultancy Services for preparation of Detailed Project Report (DPR) in respect of National Highways and other centrally sponsored road works issued vide OM no H- 39011/30/2015-P&P(Pt-I) dated 15.02.2019* stipulates that:

"All efforts shall be made to avoid any road alignment through National Parks and Wildlife sanctuaries, even if it requires taking a longer route/bypass. However, where it become absolutely unavoidable and necessary to keep the

alignment through such reserve forest/restricted areas, land would be acquired with RoW of not more than 30 mtrs".

3. Moreover, para 2.11. of Appendix-I of IRC SP 19-2001: 'Manual for Survey, Investigation and Preparation of Road Projects' also stipulates that the areas of valuable natural resource and wild life sanctuaries shall be avoided.

4. ¹~~[In this context, Wild life Institute of India, Dehradun has prepared a Manual for making road or any linear infrastructure and what care should be taken for wild life. Accordingly, all implementing agencies are requested to follow the provisions of the manual at the planning stage itself. The link in this regard showing the draft manual is as under:~~

~~<http://moef.gov.in/wpcontent/uploads/2018/03/Inviting%20commnets%20%26%20suggestions.pdf>~~]

[In this context it is mentioned that the manual entitled "**Eco-Friendly Measures To Mitigate Impacts Of Linear Infrastructure On Wildlife**" has been approved by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change. Accordingly, all implementing agencies are requested to follow the provisions of the manual at the planning stage itself. The link for downloading this manual is given below:

http://www.wii.gov.in/images/images/documents/eia/eco_friendly_measures_mitigate_impacts_linear_infra_wildlife.pdf]

This issues with the approval of competent authority.

Yours faithfully,

Raj Kumar

Assistant Executive Engineer (S&R) (P&B)

For Director General (Road Development) & SS

Copy to:

1. All CEs in the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
2. The Secretary General, Indian Roads Congress
3. Technical circular file of S&R (R) Section
4. NIC-for uploading on Ministry's website under "What's new"

Copy for kind information to:

1. Sr. PPS to Secretary (RT&H)
2. PPS to DG (RD) & SS
3. PPS to AS&FA
4. PS to ADG-1
5. PS to JS (T)/ JS (H)/ JS (LA&C)/ JS (EiC)