



GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS
DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT & HIGHWAYS

Transport Bhawan,
1, Parliament Street,
New Delhi – 110 001
Tele: 2371-7444

No. NH-12037/85/2003/NEC/NH-10

Dated the 17th December, 2007

To

1. Secretaries/Commissioners of PWDs of all North-Eastern States.
2. Chief Engineer dealing with National Highways, PWDs of all North-Eastern.
3. Chief Engineers dealing with State Roads, PWDs of all North-Eastern States.

Sir,

A Committee was constituted by this Ministry vide Order No. NH-12037/85/2003-NEC/NH-10 dated 18th May, 2007 (Copy enclosed) on the above-mentioned subject.

2. First meeting of the Committee was held on 10th July, 2007. From State PWDs side, this meeting was attended by Chief Engineer, PWD, Meghalaya, besides junior level officers of Nagaland PWD. The representative (Chief Engineers) of other PWDs did not participate in the meeting. As the subject matter is important having bearing on the cost and durability of roads, it is requested that instructions may be issued to ensure that future meetings are attended by the Chief Engineers of the State, so that meaningful interaction could take place.

As the next meeting of the Committee is proposed to be convened in the month of January, 2008, it is requested that suggestions on the subject matter may be forwarded to the undersigned, so as to reach before 10th January, 2008. After receipt of the suggestions from various PWDs, the intimation about the next meeting will be sent separately.

Yours faithfully,



(Ravinder)

Executive Engineer

For Director General (RD) & Special Secretary

Encl. As above.

Minutes of the 1st meeting of the Committee setup to address Technical & Research related issues to reduce the cost of construction of roads in North-Eastern Region held on 10th July, 2007.

Chairman welcomed the representative from various Departments and briefly introduced the scope of the Committee. Thereafter, issues considered relevant in the context by participants were deliberated upon, as summarized below:

High Cost of Construction of Roads

The participants expressed the view that high cost of labour, equipment, construction cost of materials, transportation cost and unforeseen expenses to outfit organisation, etc. are the main reasons leading to high cost of construction of roads in NER. It was also highlighted by the participants from NER that even though plenty of construction material is locally available, despite this the cost of sand and carriage cost of materials are high, as quarries are not located near the construction areas. The high cost of permanent works like retaining walls, breast walls etc. were also identified as the contributory factor to high cost and a need to explore alternative technology to construction flexible retaining/breast walls, protection works, CD works etc. thought to be the need of the hour. The representative of NER felt that bitumen should be available in the Depots established at various places, where transportation is possible by railways to reduce the cost.

Maintenance

Maintenance of side drains not adequate in hilly terrain and thus leads to erosion of formation and slip failure. The need for adequate maintenance of side drains has been felt.

Design issues

1. The representative felt that road Geometrics features like formation width and road grade to be decided upon in hilly areas as per requirement and availability of land.
2. It has been stressed that standardization of modular construction/structure for each of construction in hilly areas needs to be explored.

R&D and Training

1. Setting up laboratory at Dimapur to test materials has been advocated by the Officials from Nagaland for maintaining proper quality control.



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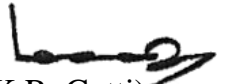
May, 18, 2007

ORDER

With the approval of the Competent Authority, a Committee is hereby set up to address technical & research related issues with the primary objective to reduce the cost of construction of roads in the North-Eastern Region. The composition of the Committee shall be as given below:

- | | | | |
|----|--|---|------------------|
| 1. | Chief Engineer dealing with NE states in the DoRTH | - | Chairman |
| 2. | A representative from the Ministry of DoNER | - | Member |
| 3. | A representative of NEC | - | Member |
| 4. | Chief Engineer of each State of PWD of NER | - | Member |
| 5. | A representative from CRRI | - | Member |
| 6. | A representative from D/o Rural Development | - | Member |
| 7. | Superintending Engineer (P-10)II, DoRTH | - | Member Secretary |

The cost of travel and related expenditure will be borne by the respective Department. The Chairman of the Committee may co-opt any other authority as member.


(K.R. Gatti)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

To:

1. Secretary, M/o DoNER
2. Secretary, NEC
3. Secretaries/ Commissioners of PWDs of all North-Eastern States
4. Director, CRRI
5. Secretary, D/o Rural Development