

No. NHIII/P/9/76

Dated the 7th Feb., 1976

To

All State Governments and Union Territories  
(Deptt., dealing with National Highways)

Subject : Construction of culverts across National Highways to facilitate crossing of Irrigation minors and water courses

This Ministry has been receiving requests from the States for permission to construct culverts across National Highways to facilitate the crossing of irrigation minors and water courses. The matter has been reviewed and it has been decided to authorise the Chief Engineers of the States to accord permission in such cases themselves provided the water surface width of such channels at full supply level does not exceed 2.5 metres and instructions contained in the Annexure are fulfilled. For all other cases, prior approval of this Ministry should be obtained.

2. As it is essential to ensure that the conditions laid down are strictly adhered to, the works connected with the crossing of irrigation minors and water courses including reconstruction of the National Highways involved, if any, should be executed by the Highway Authority as deposit works.
3. It is requested that the contents of this circular may be brought to the notice of all officers in your Department engaged on National Highway works.

Encls : As below.

ANNEXURE

*INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING CONSTRUCTION OF CULVERTS ACROSS NATIONAL HIGHWAYS TO FACILITATE CROSSING OF IRRIGATION MINORS AND WATER COURSES WHEN THE WATER SURFACE WIDTH OF SUCH CHANNELS AT FULL SUPPLY LEVEL DOES NOT EXCEED 2.5 METRES :*

- (i) The culverts shall be designed for National Highway Standards and should conform to the requirements of Indian Roads Congress Special Publication No. 13 "Guidelines for the Design of Small Bridges and Culverts". In the case of pipe culverts, the pipes should be of NP 3 type described in IS : 458.
- (ii) Where the canal is to cross the National Highway under pressure, R.C.C. box culvert of appropriate design conforming to National Highway Standards should be used.

- (iii) Deck level of the culvert shall be so fixed that it does not adversely disturb the existing longitudinal and cross profiles of the highway by causing a hump.
- (iv) In fixing the width of the culvert across the highway, due consideration should be given to possible widening of the highway in the immediate future. In case of single and two lane highways, it shall not be less than 12 metres.
- (v) Individual items of the culvert shall be executed fully in accordance with the Ministry's "Specification for Roads and Bridge Works".
- (vi) Such culverts shall be constructed by the Highway Authority only as deposit work. Before commencing work, prior approval of the State Chief Engineer shall be obtained in writing in every case. A copy of each approval along with necessary drawing showing details and location of the structure shall be endorsed to Roads Wing and its regional office for information and record.
- (vii) In no case shall irrigation courses be allowed to flow through existing cross drainage structures.