

No. RW/NHIII/P/31/84

Dated the 9th January, 1987

To,

The Secretaries, Public Works Departments of All State Governments/UT Administrations
Departments dealing with Roads

Subject: Provision of safety measures at approaches to Railway Level Crossings

Railway level crossings have been the scene of recurring accidents which has become a cause of serious concern. Since these accidents are caused mostly because of the negligence on the part of the road users, it is essential that suitable safety measures should be taken at the approaches to railway level crossings to forewarn the road users of the hazard ahead.

2. In this connection, this Ministry had issued instructions to Chief Engineers of all States/UT PWDs for providing safety measures at level crossings falling on National Highways, *vide* letter No. RW/NHIII/P/31/84 dated 20th November, 1984. The measures recommended therein are:

- (i) Installation of IRC Road Signs (specified in IRC: 67-1977, "Code of Practice for Road Signs") whether the railway crossing is manned or unmanned.
- (ii) Imposition of speed limits for approaching traffic and installation of relevant road signs.
- (iii) Provision of rumble strips on both sides of the railway crossings. Speed breakers of hump type shall not, however, be permitted.

3. Specifications for rumble strips have been circulated among all State Governments *vide* this Ministry's letter No. PL-50(8)/72 dated 4th June, 1976. In brief, application of rumble strips is the placement of intermittent raised bituminous overlay across the roadway. Raised sections can be 15-25 mm high, 200-300 mm wide and spaced about 1 m centre to centre. A series of such strips roughly 15-20 at one location can caution the motorist sufficiently through combination of vibration and rumbling noise. Since coarse textured overlays are more effective, the raised section should consist either of pre-mixed carpet or bituminous surface dressing. Further, it is important that the rumble strips should be placed not nearer than 40m and not farther away than 60 m from the nearest railway track.

4. It is requested that urgent instructions be issued to all concerned in your Department engaged in National Highways and other Centrally financed road works for implementing the above mentioned safety measures on priority and time-bound basis. The cost for this may be met from against the M&R Grants for National Highways placed with the respective State Governments.

5. It is also requested that from public safety angle, similar instructions may be issued for providing safety measures at approaches to level crossings falling on State roads.

6. This Ministry may please be informed of the action taken in the matter.
forwarded for information and necessary action to: