

No. PL-23 (1)/77

Dated the 30th September, 1980

To

The Secretary to the Govt. of
(By name dealing with National Highways).
All States and Union Territories.

Subject : Levy of fees on permanent bridges costing more than Rs 25.00 lakhs each completed
and opened to traffic on or after, 1st April, 1976 on National Highways

I am directed to invite a reference to paras 3 and 4 of this Ministry's letter of even number dated 18th Dec. 1978 on the subject noted above wherein it had been indicated that it was intended *inter alia* that in metropolitan cities bridges on National Highways situated within the metropolitan cities should be exempted from the proposed levy and that a further communication would follow regarding the definition of metropolitan cities proposed to be exempted from the proposed fees. This Ministry have since examined this matter in consultation with the Ministry of Works & Housing who are concerned with various matters relating to urban development and it has been decided that in the light of the position explained below all such urban areas/cities/urban agglomeration as have a population size of one million or above may be considered to be metropolitan cities for purposes of exemption from the levy of fees :—

- (1) Population census is the main source of information and classification of human information settlements including urban areas. Upto 1971 census, however, no standard definition of metropolitan cities was adopted. However, recently, in connection with the ensuing population census 1981, a uniform nomenclature for different sizes of urban areas has been agreed upon. According to this nomenclature, 'metropolitan city' is a city urban agglomeration with population size of one million or above.
 - (2) The State Government is to issue a notification defining the actual areas of a metropolitan city and if a bridge on National Highway falls within the metropolitan areas so defined, it may be considered for exemption with prior approval of the Govt. of India.
2. I am to request that further action may kindly be taken in the light of this position and necessary notification issued with a copy to this Ministry. If a bridge is proposed to be exempted, prior permission of this Ministry may be obtained.