NH-24028/02/2024-H
Government of India
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
(Highways Section)
Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001

dated the 6th May, 2025

To,

1. The DG (RD) & SS, Roads Wing, MORTH
2. The Chairman, NHAI, G-586, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075
3. The Managing Director, NHIDCL, PTI Building, New Delhi-110001
4. All ADGs, CEs, SEs of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
5. All ROs

Subject: Land Acquisition and Forest & Wildlife clearances - Milestones for approval, award and declaration of appointed dates

Sir,

I am directed to say that in order to avoid delays in the construction of National Highway projects after award and prevent contractual disputes as well as time and cost overruns, there is an urgent requirement to synchronize the project approval, award and appointed date declaration activities with the milestones for land acquisition procedures and environment, forest and wildlife clearances.

Accordingly, the following milestones are to be strictly adhered to while awarding NH projects in case of any project for which tenders are to be issued w.e.f 1st June, 2025:

Sr. No.	Activity	Commencement of the activity	Completion of the activity
1	Environment Clearance	On approval of alignment.	Before receipt of bids
2	Forest Clearance	On approval of alignment.	Before issue of LOA
2	Wildlife Clearance	On approval of alignment	Before receipt of bids
3	GAD (Railway)	On draft feasibility	Before receipt of bids
4	GAD (IWAI)	On draft feasibility	Before Invitation of bids
5	Utility Shifting Estimates	On draft feasibility	Before receipt of bids
6	Land Acquisition	Issue of notification under section 3A of National Highways Act, 1956 - within 60 days of approval of alignment.	Issue of notification under section 3D for over 90% of the ROW length before receipt of bids. Issue of award under section 3G for over 90% of the ROW length before LoA.

			Possession of 90% of ROW length to be available post award under section 3G of National Highways Act, 1956, on or before appointed date. Possession of 100% of ROW length to be available in a approach stretch of upto 1 km on either side of a standalone bridge or ROB project on or before issue of LoA. Possession of 100% of the ROW length to be available in a approach stretch of upto 1 km on either side of any project with a tunnel on or before issue of LoA. **Note:** Assessment of value and payment for structures should be considered as an integral part of the compensation payment on land acquisition for the purpose of the above milestones.

Yours faithfully,

(Mayank Tyagi)
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
Telephone No. 011-23718575
Email: ds-highways@gov.in

Copy to:

1. PSO to Secretary (RT&H)
2. AS&FA, MORTH
3. All Additional Secretaries in the MORTH
4. All Joint Secretaries in the MORTH
5. All Director/DS in the MoRTH