

No. RW/NH-24020/2/2016-EAP-Part(1)  
**Government of India**  
**Ministry of Road Transport & Highways**  
**(EAP Zone)**

Jeevan Bharti Building, MoRTH, Ground Floor, 124, Connaught Place, New Delhi-110001

**C. No.** 188095

**Dated:** 10th September, 2025

**To,**

1. The Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries of all States/ UTs Public Works Department/ Road Construction Department/ Highways Department (dealing with National Highways and other centrally sponsored schemes)
2. All Engineers-in-Chief and Chief Engineers of Public Works Department of States/ UTs/ Road Construction Department/Highways Departments (dealing with National Highways and other centrally sponsored schemes)

**Subject: MoRTH Standard Data Book (SDB) and Creation of Works Cost Database – Regarding deriving rates of various items through MoRT&H SDB portal.**

**Reference:**

- (i) Ministry's letter of even number dated 09.12.2019
- (ii) Ministry's letter of even number dated 03.01.2020
- (iii) Ministry's letter of even number dated 27.01.2020
- (iv) Ministry's letter of even number dated 20.02.2020

Sir/Madam,

This is in continuation to the Ministry's initiative on the updated Standard Data Book (SDB) for Highway Works, launched on 14.10.2019 by the Hon'ble Minister (RT&H), which aims to standardize project cost estimation across the country.

2. As communicated earlier through the above-referenced letters, the revised SDB includes a significant input from States and Union Territories wrt labour rates, material costs, and Petroleum, Oil & Lubricants (POL) prices upto district level. These inputs are essential for the system to generate State/district wise Schedule of Rates (SoR) through the MoRTH SDB software accessed through portal [www.sdb.morth.gov.in](http://www.sdb.morth.gov.in)
3. The updated SDB also supports the creation of a Works Cost Database that allows users to prepare approximate project cost estimates by selecting project parameters along with the SoR of the State/district. This cost estimate can be used to compare the cost arrived by DPR Consultants. To facilitate this, unique User IDs and passwords were issued to all States and UTs, with the request that the relevant input rates be uploaded to the portal.
4. Furthermore, training sessions were conducted at various locations across India through M/s LEA Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd. to support State/UT officials in understanding the software and addressing any issues faced.
5. Despite these efforts, it has been observed that States and UTs have not yet taken action to feed the required input rates on the SDB portal, which is critical for the platform to function as intended. It is, therefore, once again requested that all States and UTs urgently to feed the input rates in the SDB portal covering manpower, materials, and POL—for each State/district using the login credentials already provided.

6. It is important to note that the Ministry has decided that, with effect from 01.11.2025, appraisal of highway projects/packages will only be carried out if the item rates are derived through the SoR generated from the SDB portal. In order to enable this, States and UTs must upload all relevant input costs so that the system can generate and maintain updated SoRs on the portal. For clarity no estimate shall be processed for appraisal if SOR is not available on online SDB portal.

7. For any clarification, authorized officer NH PWD of State may contact Sh. Subash Joshi, M/s LEA Associates South Asia Pvt. Ltd. Mob. No. 7503288995. In case further clarification is needed Shri Nikhil Narang, Executive Engineer, MoRTH (011-23310036) may be contacted with.

8. In view of the above, State and UTs are requested to complete the State/ district-wise basic input rates on the SDB portal at the earliest to ensure uninterrupted appraisal of project proposals submitted to the Ministry.

**Encl:** As above

Yours sincerely,

Harleen Kaur  
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India  
Email: ds-highways@gov.in

Copy to:

1. Director General(RD)&SS
2. The Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, G-5 & 6, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110 075
3. The Managing Director, NHIDCL, World Trade Centre, New Delhi-110029
4. The Director General (Border Roads), Seema Sadak Bhawan, Ring Road, New Delhi - 110 010
5. All Additional Director Generals, MoRTH
6. CEs in the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
7. All ROs of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways

Copy for kind information to:

1. PSs to Hon'ble Minister and MOS
2. Sr. PPS to Secretary (RT&H)
3. Sr. PPS to AS (Highways)