



भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण

(सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्रालय)

National Highways Authority of India

(Ministry of Road Transport and Highways)

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G-5 & 6, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110075

NHAI/Policy Guidelines/Land Acquisition/2020

No. 7.1.67 dated the 7th August, 2020

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Sub:- Optimization of Planning & Execution of Projects – Approval of Alignment by the LA Committee (LAC) in First Stage.

Refer Policy Guidelines No. 7.1.61/2009 dated 23.10.2019 vide which a LA Committee was constituted to examine all new proposals for construction and development of National Highways, as per viability of the project and approve the alignment & LA Plan. The procedure is applicable for all LA cases where land acquisition has not started or land acquisition has reached only 3A stage including balance acquisition activities for viable projects where 3D has reached only for some part of the required land.

2. The procedure for submission of proposals to LA Committee (LAC), alongwith the details of LAC Portal developed for the purpose were notified vide Policy Circular No. 7.1.64 dated 13.12.2019.

3. In this connection, it is considered that approval of alignment is very vital and hence the LAC needs to consider and finalize the alignment of the project first, before considering LA Plan of the projects. Accordingly, henceforth, there shall be a 2-Stage consideration by the LA Committee for all "**Balance For Award (BFA)**" Projects, which have not reached 3D notification stage, as under:

Stage-1 : For consideration and approval of Project Alignment; and

Stage-2 : For approval of Land Acquisition Plan.

4. **Stage-1:** The procedure for consideration & approval of Project Alignment by LA Committee shall be as under:

- (i) As part of Feasibility Study/ DPR, the Design Consultant and PD, after site visit, will examine and submit to RO various alternative alignments of the project highway alongwith their merits & demerits, cost comparison of various alternatives (including likely project features, civil work rough cost, LA cost & other pre-construction costs) and their recommendations on the preferred option.
- (ii) RO shall carry out site inspection, request the State Nodal Officer to convene a meeting of all stakeholders (online or in-person), present the alignment alternatives in such consultation meeting; video record the proceedings, take their comments/ recommendations; and issue minutes of such meeting.
- (iii) After such consultations and due diligence, RO will submit the preferred alignment alongwith the justification to HQ. The concerned Technical Division at HQ will load the details/ presentations on LA Portal and present the alternatives & preferred alignment, before the LA Committee in which RO, PD, & Design Consultant will also be present in Video Conference.

6. **Stage-2:** The procedure for consideration & approval of LA Plan by LA Committee shall be as under:

- (i) Design Consultant & PD shall finalize the Detailed Project Report based on the alignment approved by the LA Committee. In case of any deviation in the alignment, except minor changes which can be decided by Member concerned, the modified alignment shall be submitted for reconsideration of the LA Committee.
- (ii) Thereafter, the proposed LA Plan will be processed for consideration of the LA Committee as per the Policy Circular dated 13.12.2019. Subsequent to loading of details on LAC Portal & submission of Stage-2 proposal by the Tech Division, the LA Committee will consider and approve the LA Plan and the project features; and the budget for pre-construction activities. Thereafter only, 3A/3D notifications will be processed.
- (iii) Approval of DPR by RO will continue to be as per the existing procedure, subject however to adherence to the approved alignment. As per Policy Guidelines No. 10.2.24 dt. 22.07.2020, DPRs shall necessarily be referred for peer review and the same shall be undertaken before approval of DPR by RO.

7. The duties & responsibilities of ROs vide Office Order No. 11041/262/2009-Admn dated 09.09.2009 stand modified to above extent.

8. BFA Projects whose LA Plans have already been considered and approved by the LA Committee are exempted from the above 2-Stage procedure of LA Committee.

(Amarendra Kumar)
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All Officers of HQ/ROs/PIUs/CMUs/Site Offices