

CIRCULAR

It has been observed that strengthening over existing bituminous roads in many cases is being done by removal of BT layers and then laying WBM/WMM courses. In such cases generally 2 layers of metalling each 7.5 cm thick have been added. The experience so far has not been encouraging primarily on account of following reasons:

1. Thickness of bituminous layers of the existing road in most of the cases is more than 50 - 60 mm as renewals have been done in the past. These bituminous layers have undergone consolidation by traffic and thus 5 cm consolidated bituminous course is well equivalent to at least one layer of WBM/WMM.
2. The bituminous course is removed mechanically with the help of JCB which picks up almost whole of the top layer of WBM also. In this way the existing pavement loses road crust equivalent to 15 cm of granular base. In the strengthening generally 2 layers of WBM are laid after removal of bituminous course. Thus the net addition in the road crust is Zero. Besides it the road profile also gets damaged during removal of bituminous layer.

In view of above, it is enjoined upon all field officers of the department that if the existing road surface is not undulatory then strengthening with bituminous course such as BM/DBM with wearing course of SDBC or BC respectively be adopted. Strengthening with metal courses by removal of bituminous layer be resorted to only in those cases where the load supporting capacity of the sub-grade is very poor. It is generally in areas of clayey sub-grade having soaked CBR around 2% or less.

It is further suggested that corrective measures may be taken even in respect of sanctioned works.

  
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Copy to the following for information & compliance:

1. S.A. to Hon'ble Minister, PWD, Rajasthan, Jaipur
2. P.S. to Principal Secretary, PWD, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
3. P.S. to Secretary, PWD, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
4. P.S. to Chief Engineer & Addl. Secretary, PWD, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
5. P.A. to Chief Engineer (NH/SS/PMGSY/Roads), PWD, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
6. The Addl. Chief Engineer, PWD, Zone.....(All)
7. The Superintending Engineer, PWD, Circle.....(All)
8. The Executive Engineer, PWD, Div.....(All)

  
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