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**Dated 23-03-2018**

**To**

**The Principal Secretary/Secretary of Nodal Departments for PMGSY  
(State/UT), Empowered Officers/CEOs & Chief Engineers of SRRDA's**

**Subject : Deletion of Tack Coat on Primed Granular Surface**

Sir/ Madam,

Reference is made to MORD Book of Specifications for Rural Roads (First Revision) January, 2014 Clauses 503 (Tack Coat) and 502 (Prime Coat over Granular Bases). As per these clauses, tack coat is applied over prime coat when a bituminous mix is placed for the first time over granular bases such as WBM or WMM.

Though the utility of applying Tack coat on bituminous surface is well known and its technical necessity is unquestionable, the application of tack coat on primed granular surface as Water Bound Macadam (WBM) /Wet Mix Macadam (WMM) has been under debate for some time. From the current state-of-the-art paving practices prevalent in most countries, it has been determined that tack coat is not necessary over prime coat when structural bituminous overlays exceeding 20 mm in thickness are placed on granular bases. IRC Flexible Pavement (H2)Committee has decided in its meeting held on 06.05.2017 that the tack coat on primed Granular surface is not required except in case of thin bituminous surfacing less than 40 mm.

In light of the above, it has been decided that the practice of applying tack coat over prime coat should be stopped both for on-going as well as future PMGSY works. Accordingly, the following guidelines are issued for strict adherence in PMGSY projects.

1. The provision of tack coat may be deleted on primed granular surface where the thickness of bituminous layer required to be laid on it is more than 40 mm. However, the prime coat shall be applied on all granular surfaces such as WBM, WMM as specified.

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2. Tack coat shall be provided on bituminous surfaces viz. Bituminous Macadam (BM) / Dense Bituminous Macadam (DBM) before laying the next bituminous layer such as Pre Mix Carpet with Seal coat/Semi Dense Bituminous Macadam (SDBC)/Bituminous Concrete (BC) on it, as per provisions existing in MoRD book of Specifications.
3. The practice of applying tack coat over prime coat should be stopped both for ongoing as well as future PMGSY projects wherever, the thickness of bituminous layer to be laid is more than 40 mm. However, the prime coat shall be applied in all granular surfaces such as WBM, WMM as specified. The case for deletion of Tack Coat on Primed Granular Surface in sanctioned projects may be processed on a case to case basis depending on the stage of construction of the work i.e. where the construction has not reached the stage up to tack coat. The change of scope in such works may be regularized as per conditions of the contract agreement by the competent authority.

This issues with the approval of DG, NRRDA.

**Yours Sincerely,**

*R. Pateriya*

**(I.K. Pateriya)**

**Director (Technical)**

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All Directors of NRRDA