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Government of India
Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
(S&R (P&B/New Technology) Zone)
Transport Bhawan, 1, Parliament Street, New Delhi-110001
File No. RW/NH-35083/04/2026-S&R(P&B)(C. N.:266877) Date: 11th June, 2026

CIRCULAR

To

1. The Chief Secretaries of all the State Governments/ UTs.
2. 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).
3. The Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, G-5 & 6, Sector-10, Dwarka, New Delhi-110 075.
4. The Managing Director, NHIDCL, World Trade Centre, New Delhi-110029.
5. The Director General (Border Roads), Seema Sadak Bhawan, Ring Road, New Delhi-110 010.
6. 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).
7. The Secretary General, Indian Roads Congress (IRC).
8. The Director, IAHE, Noida, UP
9. All CE-ROs, ROs and ELOs of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).

Subject: - Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial recharging along National Highways- Reg.

Ref: Ministry Circular No.(i) RW/NH- 33044/14/2003- S&R(R) (Pt.II) dated: 5th September, 2013 & **(ii)** No. RW/NH-33044/14/2003-S&R(R) Pt. II dated 03rd September, 2019(copy enclosed)

Rain Water Harvesting & Conservation is the activity of direct collection of Rain Water. The Rain Water so collected can be stored for direct use or can be recharged into the Ground Water. The artificial recharge to ground water is a process by which the ground water reservoir is augmented at a rate exceeding that obtained under natural conditions of replenishment. Any man-made scheme or facility that adds water to an aquifer may be considered to be an artificial recharge system.

The Ministry, vide circulars dated 05th September, 2013; and 03rd September, 2019; cited under reference, has issued guidelines regarding Rain Water Harvesting and Artificial Recharging along National Highways.

2. In continuation of the above, it is reiterated that Rain Water Harvesting structures shall be planned, designed and executed in accordance with the provisions of the relevant MoRTH circulars and IRC codes. In this conventional rainwater harvesting systems, a separate desilting tank shall be provided upstream of rainwater harvesting systems **(As illustrated in Annexure).** This shall help prevent clogging and enhance the longevity and efficiency of the recharge system. Filter system of rainwater harvesting system shall also be ensured as per IRC SP 50.

3. As an alternative, the Modular Rain Water Harvesting System, as detailed in the "Rain Water Harvesting & Conservation Manual, 2019" published by Central Public Works Department (CPWD), Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs, may also be adopted as per site feasibility.

4. The advice of Central Ground Water Board shall also be utilized for developing site-specific cost-effective recharge augmentation techniques.

5. It is requested that the contents of the circular may be brought into the notice of the all concerned for needful compliance.

6. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

11.06.26

(Tulsa Ram)
Asst. Ex. Engineer(S&R)
For Director General (Road Development) & SS

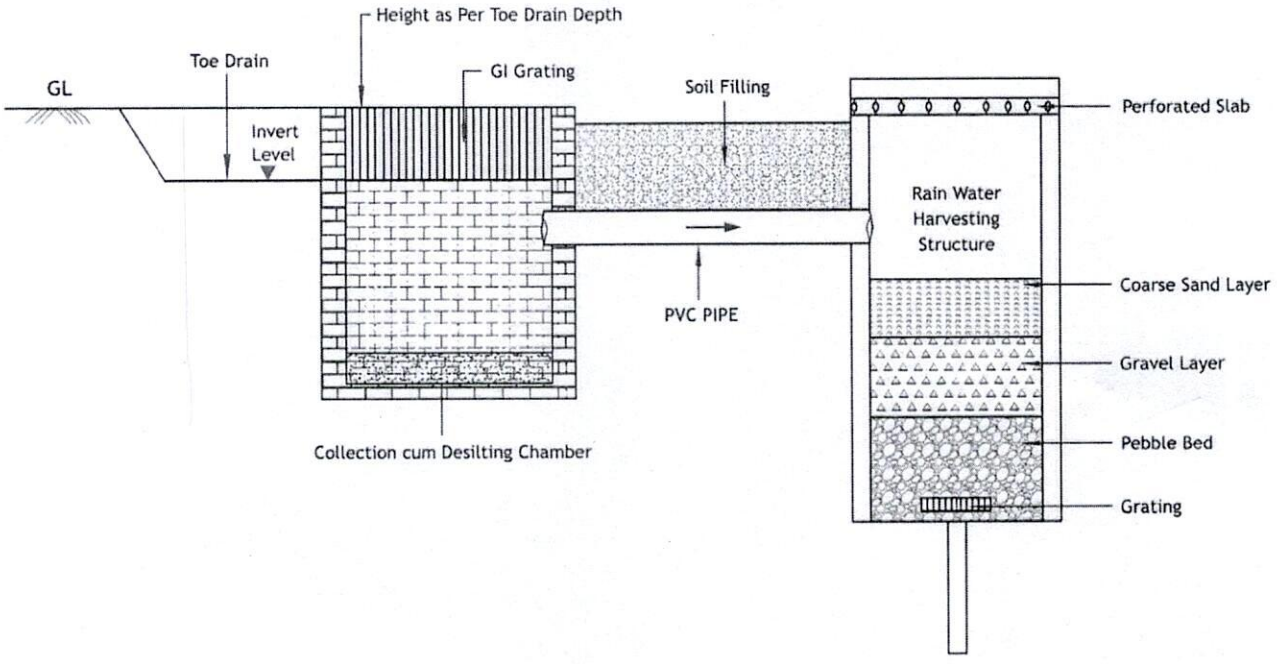
Copy to:

1. All CEs in the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
2. All ROs of the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways
3. The Secretary General, Indian Roads Congress
4. Technical circular file of S&R (P&B) Section
5. NIC-for uploading on Ministry's website under "What's new" & comprehensive compendium circular

Copy for kind information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister (RT&H)
2. PS to Hon'ble MOS (RT&H)
3. PSO to Secretary (RT&H)
4. PSO to DG (RD) & SS
5. Sr. PPS/ PPS to AS&FA/Addl. Secretary (Road Safety)/ ADG(SC)/ADG(RS)
6. Sr. PPS/ PPS to JS(Highways)/JS(EAP)/JS(Logistics)

ANNEXURE:
(Illustration for Separate Desilting Tank)



SECTIONAL VIEW OF COLLECTION-CUM-DESILTING CHAMBER AND RAINWATER HARVESTING STRUCTURE