

## PRESS NOTE

Today the Hon. Minister for Road Transport and Highways Dr. C.P. Joshi, addressed a gathering in which MDs of the Automobile Manufacturers, Society for Indian Automobile Manufacturers and the seven testing agencies attended. During the meeting, the importance of vehicle designing, standards and specifications for road safety was emphasised. Hon. Minister took an overview of the existing institutional framework of standards testing and certification. The Hon. Minister urged the industry that besides the regulatory measures, manufacturers should also incorporate features in vehicle design that promote technological interventions in road safety. A major problem is that of overloading of trucks and it was suggested that industry should explore installation of electronic sensors and systems that prevent overloaded vehicles from plying. Hon. Minister also mentioned that we are moving towards intelligent transportation systems and seamless travel across different toll plazas. For this standard design of RFID has been finalised. It is proposed to incorporate this in the Central Motor Vehicle Rules for all new vehicles. The industry should also think of other advanced on board diagnostic units which can facilitate full intelligent transportation systems.

A meeting was held on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2012 between developers, concessionaires and consulting firms which was chaired by the Hon. Minister (Road Transport & Highways), Dr. C.P. Joshi along with Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission Sh. Montek Singh Ahluwalia and Minister of State, Road Transport & Highways, Sh. Jitin Prasada. While complimenting the industry for their very active participation in road projects in the last year, Hon. Minister and the Deputy Chairman mentioned that in the current year a very ambitious target of awarding 9500 Kms of road projects has been kept. We expect a similar response from the industry in the current year and the Government is committed to provide all support to the Programme and removing any procedural difficulties.