

**Guiding principles to be followed in the Irrigation & Waterways
Department to accord permission to the private persons /
entities for construction of bridge / culvert over rivers /
drainage channels / irrigation canals**

1. Generally speaking, a cross over structure across a river / channel / canal having total span length of less than 6m is a culvert, otherwise it is a bridge.
2. Permission to private persons / companies / organisations to construct bridges / culverts across rivers / channels / canals would only be accorded subject to fulfilment of all the following conditions:
 - i) The proposed bridge / culvert will not cause any encroachment / restriction on the existing waterway. It should preferably be a single span structure, upto 20m. If multiple spans are to be provided, number of spans should be odd and there shall be no pier at the centre of the river / channel / canal.
 - ii) The applicant abides by the terms and conditions of the standard undertaking as per Annex-III.
 - iii) Construction of the proposed bridge / culvert will not cause or aggravate flooding or inundation in the area and will not pose any major problem to maintenance of the river / channel / canal in future.
 - iv) NoC for construction of the bridge / culvert has been accorded by the Local Government / Authority, i.e. Panchayat Samity for rural area and Municipality / Municipal Corporation / Development Authority for semi urban and urban areas.
3. Decision of the Irrigation & Waterways Department will be final and binding on the applicant.