Sub:- Monsoon Precautions and patrolling.

Ref:- Board’s letter No. 2017/13/CE- III/BR/Monsoon, dated 27.04.17 & 2016/CE-II/Safety/Precaution, dated 16.05.17.

Monsoon is about to set in most parts of the country. As already advised vide above referred letters, by now Railway must have taken necessary action and made necessary arrangements in regard to monsoon precautions as prescribed in Chapter VII- Part B- “Pre-monsoon Precautionary measures” and Chapter X- “Patrolling of Railway lines” of IRPWM which inter-alia include patrolling of track and vulnerable bridges, availability of reserve materials for restoration, relief girders and other necessary equipment, Inspection of Railway Affecting works & Weather warning and action to be taken. Some of the important activities related to subject are mentioned below:

(i) Regular updation of the list of Railway Affecting Works (RAWs)/Railway Affecting Tanks(RATs) and ensuring their Inspection and upkeep/maintenance by the concerned Authorities of State Govt.

(ii) All catch water drains, side drains and cross drains in yards must be cleared of silt, vegetation and other obstructions to ensure free flow and quick drainage of storm water. Waterway of bridges must be cleared of vegetation and other obstructions.

(iii) Vulnerable locations/kilometragess should be reviewed on the basis of past history and pre-monsoon inspections and the register of vulnerable locations should be brought up-to-date. Stationary watchman should be posted round the clock at every identified vulnerable location during the monsoon period.
(iv) Arrangement should be made with the concerned Metrological Centre for receipt of bad weather warnings (it should cover both high velocity winds and cyclone as well as heavy rainfall) and action there on.

(v) To maintain liaison with local authorities for real time monitoring of excess release of water from reservoirs/dams so that adequate protection could be taken without loss of time.

(vi) In deep cuttings/hilly areas where there is incidence of falling boulders, a survey should be carried out to locate all such locations and action to be taken for felling all such loose boulders in a systematic manner. Trees in proximity likely to foul the track during a storm should also be felled.

(vii) Arrangements shall be made to stock adequate monsoon reserves such as relieving spans, boulders, ballast, Sand/Quarry dust, CC cribs, rails, sleepers etc. at suitable locations near vulnerable locations and loaded in wagons at appropriate stations so that the materials may be rushed to site as required.

(viii) The sections, which are normally to be patrolled during monsoon are identified and notified. For every such section, the period of year shall be defined. Patrol charts shall be prepared taking into consideration the train timings of the time table in force during this period.

Hon’ble MR has also taken a meeting on 16.05.2017 on Monsoon Precautions and patrolling and directed that all the arrangements in this regard be completed within a week’s time. Hon’ble MR has further directed that crack teams from HQ should be nominated for intensive site inspection and ensuring safe conditions for operation of trains. In light of above, it is advised that Monsoon Preparedness of the Railway may be reviewed at your level and necessary measures taken.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

(A.K. Mittal)

General Manager
All Zonal Railways