Sub: Safety at work sites

Recently, on one of the Zonal Railway, derailment of an express train occurred at work site during replacement of crossing and other components of turnout taking off from a curve. The traffic block was cleared after replacement of crossing and lead rails of turnout but without fixing check rail. Prima facie, the wheel mounted at crossing resulting in derailment of train at crossing.

This incidence has been viewed seriously by Board. It has been repeatedly emphasized by CRB and ME that safety is sacrosanct and should not be compromised under any circumstances. However, this incidence shows that field officials are still resorting to shortcuts at worksites which lead to unsafe conditions.

All Zonal Railways are advised to sensitize the field officials and staff to follow proper work procedures while undertaking works of track maintenance/ renewals & works/projects affecting safety of train operation on operational tracks. It should be ensured that shortcuts, which may lead to unsafe situations, are not adopted. While works requiring traffic blocks should be undertaken in blocks of adequate duration with proper planning and arrangements of resources, it should be ensured by the officials operating the block that the blocks are cleared only after satisfactory completion of works essential for safe operation of traffic.

It is desired that a Special Drive should be launched by deputing SAG officers from HQ to counsel the field officers and staff in this regard. HQ officers should also inspect few work sites to ensure adoption of safe working practices and procedures. A compliance report may be submitted by you covering the action taken including inspection of worksites, counseling of staff etc. by 06.08.18.

As learnt
25.07.2018
(Ajit Pandit)
Add. Member/Civil Engg.
Railway Board

Copy to: CMDs RVNL, JRCON, KRCL & RITES for information and necessary action pl