

**Government of India
Ministry of Railways
Railway Board**

No. 2012/H-1/9/5

New Delhi dated 02.05.2016

**The Chief Medical Directors,
All Zonal Railways &
Chief Medical Officers
All Production Units.**

Sub: - Drinking water quality monitoring over Indian Railway.

Ref: - Dir. (L&A) Letter No. 2004/LMB-II/9/1 Vol II dated 01.04.2016 (copy enclosed)

Please refer to above mentioned letter addressed to the General Managers/All Indian railways laying down policy of Drinking water quality monitoring over Indian Railway

The zones have been advised to follow up the policy guidelines for the same. Medical Department may make necessary arrangements for implementing the policy in letter & spirit.

For information and necessary action.

(Signature)
02/05/16

**(Dr. Amitava Dutta)
Executive Director/Health (G)
Railway Board.**

DA: As above

RB-1693/03.5.16

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No.2004/LMB-II/9/1 Vol II

New Delhi, dated 01.04.2016

General Manager
All Zonal Railways and Production Units.

Sub.: Drinking water quality monitoring over Indian Railway.

At present, water being supplied on Railways has to conform to the standards as prescribed in Indian Railway Medical Manual 2000. Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation has issued "Uniform Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Protocol" in February 2013(copy enclosed). The protocol is available at the URL <http://wss.hry.nic.in/Documents/UniformDrinkingWaterQualityMonitoringProtocol.pdf>. The protocol emphasises the importance of frequent inspections and maintenance of the whole system rather than relying on end of pipe water testing. It has been decided that Railway shall strive to follow the Protocol mentioned above and supply water as per BIS specifications IS: 10500-2012 (second revision) (Please see Annexure II of the protocol) w.e.f. 01.07.2016.

2. Supply of safe drinking water is the responsibility of engineering department, while medical department has been entrusted with monitoring the quality of the water supplied. It is highly desirable that Railway supply drinking water with the quality constituents at least within the cause for rejection limits (Permissible Limit in the absence of alternative source) of IS-10500:2012 & graduate steadily to supply drinking water within the desirable limits (Acceptable Limit). (As per Annexure II of the protocol)

3.0 In case, requisite facilities for water testing is not available in the laboratories of Railway hospitals, water sample may be got tested through the laboratories of State Governments and private NABL accredited laboratories. Expenditure incurred will be charged to Revenue. The testing in State Government laboratory can be done on single quotation basis. However for private laboratories due process has to be followed in a transparent manner.

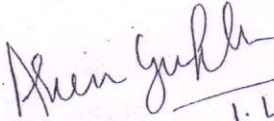
4.0 Section Engineer (Works) and Health & Malaria Inspector will have to be provided with Multi-parameter Water Quality Field Test Kits and Bacteriological Test Vials respectively as mentioned in protocol at page no. 10-11. Expenditure for purchase of kits can be charged to Revenue. The procurement of Multi-parameter Water Quality Field Test Kits and Bacteriological Test Vials have to be done through stores

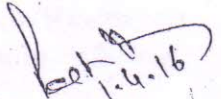
departments. The Section Engineer shall be conducting periodical inspection of the water supply systems at a frequency that each system shall be covered at least twice in a year with Multi-parameter Water Quality Field Test Kits. Similarly H & MI shall also be inspecting each system at least twice a year with Bacteriological Test Vials. Any suspect report will have to be communicated by the SSE to H & MI and vice versa so that SSE can do corrective measures and H & MI can get the water sample tested in detail in laboratory. The detailed chemical testing shall be done at the time of commissioning of any new water source, change of water source and whenever there is a suspect result in field test kit.

5.0 The controlling officer of the SSE and the H & MI shall be kept informed and wherever the problem is not getting solved they shall be intervening in the matter. The ADENs shall be doing inspection of at least 25% of the water supply system falling within their jurisdiction in a year.

6.0 Residual chlorine level shall be checked by H & MI daily at stations/colonies where he/she is posted and at least once a month at other stations falling within his jurisdiction. In addition residual chlorine level should also be checked by H & MI during visit of any station/colony within his jurisdiction.

7.0 Apart from above frequency of testing wherever there is any complaint/suspicion of poor water quality the SSE (works) and H & MI should inspect the system, do field testing and if required take samples for detailed analysis in laboratory.


1.4.16
(Dr. Arun Gupta)
Director (H&FW)
Railway Board.


1.4.16
(Ramesh Kumar)
Director (L&A)
Railway Board.

Copy to:

AM/CE, AM/Works, Adv/L&A, ED/L&A-I, ED/FX-I, EDH(G)/Railway Board