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भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
रेल मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(रेलवे बोर्ड RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 97/M(C)/137/1 Vol. XI

New Delhi, dt. 12.05.2017

The Chief Mechanical Engineers,
All Indian Railways.

Sub: Retrofitment of Balanced Draft Gear in LHB Coaches.

Ref: Board's letter of even no. dtd. 05.11.12.


In order to improve the jerk performance of LHB coaches, sanctions under RSP for the provision of Balanced Draft Gear in 1350 LHB coaches fitted with Single Pack / Floating Plate Draft Gear had been communicated to the Railways vide PB Item Nos. 675/17-18, 694/17-18, 700/17-18, 728/17-18 & 748/17-18. Further, sanction for 500 coaches has been obtained under RSP 17-18, which shall be distributed to the Railways shortly.

While, the Railways are providing Balanced Draft Gear in the LHB coaches, it also needs to be ensured that, as far as possible, the coaches fitted with Single Pack / Floating Plate Draft Gear are not mixed with coaches fitted with Balanced Draft Gear in the same rake. This is essential in order to obtain better jerk performance of the rake.

While travelling by Train No.12301 HWH-NDLS Rajdhani Express on 11.5.17, Member Staff, Railway Board, observed that while the longitudinal jerks were much lesser, but they still took place. Subsequent investigation revealed that, though the coach occupied by Member Staff was fitted with Balanced Draft Gear, there were a total of 9 coaches in the rake that were fitted with Single Pack / Floating Plate Draft Gear.

Board (MRS) has desired that the purity of the rakes, i.e. all the coaches of a particular rake should have Balanced Draft Gear, needs to be ensured, since only then the real benefits will accrue in terms of reduced longitudinal jerks. This had already been advised to the Railways vide Board's letter at ref above.

Zonal Railways are requested to ensure compliance of the above and ensure that the purity of the rakes is maintained, as far as possible. Also, the work of providing Balanced Draft Gear in the remaining LHB coaches still fitted with Single Pack / Floating Plate Draft Gear should be completed at the earliest.


(Brijesh Dixit)
Director Mech. Engg. (Chg.)
Railway Board

Copy to :

- (i) CMEs/ ICF, RCFK, MCF.
- (ii) ED/Carriage/RDSO.