

Government of India
Ministry of Railways
(Railway Board)

No.98/Safety(A&R)/19/16

New Delhi, dt.¹⁴.12.2010

The General Managers
All Indian Railways,
Konkan Railway Corp., Navi Mumbai
Metro Railway, Kolkata
Railway Electrification, Allahabad


Sub: Train Operation during Fog – Precautions - Clarification.
Ref: Board's letter of even number dated 23.08.2010.

Kindly refer the instructions contained in Board's letter under reference on the subject matter.

On a query from a Zonal Railway, the instructions regarding provision of Visibility Test Object (VTO) at stations have been re-examined. At Para D(i) of Board's letter under reference, it was stipulated that VTO has no relevance at stations where detonators are not required to be placed (for example, at stations where double distant signals are provided; where maximum speed allowed in the station section is upto 15 kmph and a warning board exists; where sectional speed is less than 50 kmph and first signal is not a stop signal; in automatic signalling territory; where reliable Fog Safe Device has been provided on locomotives etc.).

Some of the Zonal Railways have interpreted this clause to imply that VTO is not at all to be provided at such stations. It is clarified that VTO is required not only for taking decision about placement of detonators but also for certain other purposes as laid down in different SRs like deciding about onset of the thick foggy or tempestuous weather, impairing visibility which calls for lighting of signals before granting line clear, fixing of tail lamps even during day time, shunting in face of an approaching train etc.

Therefore, VTO is to be provided at **all** stations even though detonators may not be required to be placed at some stations under conditions prescribed under para (E) (i) of the instructions dated 23.08.2010.


(J S Bindra)
Director/Safety
Railway Board

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Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to :-

1. The Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety/Lucknow

2. The Chief Operations Managers, All Indian Railways
3. The Chief Safety Officers, All Indian Railways
4. The Director General, RDSO, Lucknow.
5. The Principal, Railway Staff College, Vadodara.
6. The Director, Indian Railways Institute of Transport Management, Manak Nagar, Lucknow.
7. The Principal, Indian Railways Institute of Civil Engineering, Pune.
8. The Principal, Indian Railways Institute of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Jamalpur.
9. The Principal, Indian Railways Institute of Signal, Engineering and Telecom, Secunderabad.
10. The Principals, Zonal Railway Training Institutes, Central Railway, **Bhusawal**, Eastern Railway, **Bhuli**, Northern Railway, **Chandausi**, North Eastern Railway, **Muzaffarpur**, Northeast Frontier Railway, **Alipurduar**, North Western Railway, **Udaipur**, Southern Railway, **Tiruchirapalli**, South Central Railway, **Maula Ali**, South Eastern Railway, **Sini**.
11. The General Secretary, NFIR, 3 Chelmsford Road, New Delhi.
12. The General Secretary, AIRF, 4 State Entry Road, New Delhi
13. The General Secretary, FROA, Room No.256-A, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.
14. The General Secretary, IRPOF, Room No.268, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.
15. The Indian Railways Conference Association, DRM's Building, Accounts Building, Chelmsford Road, New Delhi.



(J S Bindra)
Director/Safety
Railway Board

No.98/Safety(A&R)/19/16

New Delhi, dt. 14.12.2010

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AM/CE, AM/L, AM/Mech., AM/Signal and AM/Traffic.
ED/Chg.



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Director/Safety
Railway Board