

भारत सरकार
भारतीय रेलवे
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 2004/TC(FM)/11/14.

रेलवे, नई दिल्ली - 110 001, दिनांक

Rail Bhavan, New Delhi - 110 001, dated 05.04.2006

General Managers,
All Indian Railways.

Sub: Precautions for prevention of fire incidence in the Luggage Vans (SLRs) of passengers' carrying trains.

1.0 Incidents of fire in the Luggage Vans (SLRs) of passenger carrying trains have increased from 10 during the year 2004-05 to 14 in the first nine months of current year 2005-06. Instructions have already been issued to the zonal railways to take remedial steps/precautions for prevention/ recurrence of fire incidence in the Luggage Vans (SLRs) of passenger carrying trains. It is imperative that these instructions are not being followed by the concerned staff. Adequate safety precautions are also not being taken by the private parties/ leaseholders. Board has viewed it seriously.

2.0 Attention in this regard is invited to Board (CRB)'s letter of even number dated 14.06.2005 addressed to General Managers of all zonal railways on the above subject followed by letter of even number dated 17th August 2005. Copies of these instructions are enclosed herewith. The same are reiterated once again for strict compliance:-

- (i) Adequate space must be left between roof and the top layer of the packages loaded in the SLRs to avoid contact with the ceiling and electric lamps. The private parties/ leaseholders must ensure the same. Provision to this effect may also be made in the agreement in case of leasing contracts.
- (ii) After, completion of loading, lights provided in the luggage portion of the Brakevan (SLR) must be switched off to eliminate possibility of short-circuiting. Guard must ensure that all the lamps in the luggage compartment/ portion of the Brakevan (SLR) are switched off.
- (iii) The Guard and parcel staff responsible for loading/unloading of packages in SLRs should exercise proper supervision to avoid any hazardous situation, also ensuring proper locking of the luggage portion of the SLRs.
- (iv) Rules contained in para Nos. 505 and 506 of the IRCA, Coaching Tariff No. 25, Part I (Volume-I) regarding booking of Explosive, Dangerous, Inflammable articles, empty gas cylinders, dry grass and leaves, waste paper, acids, corrosive substances enumerated in the Red Tariff must not be booked as luggage by passenger trains. Dangerous articles, such as explosives of any variety including fire works, inflammable materials such as oil, grease, ghee, paint, dry grass and leaves of any variety, waste papers, acids and other corrosive substances are prohibited to be carried by any person in the compartment.

- (v) Rules regarding booking and carriage of any type of explosives and inflammable materials including LPG cylinders, kerosene stoves, etc., other than those required for security purposes or by the armed forces, by any passenger carrying train must be strictly enforced.
- (vi) While loading/unloading of parcels in the Brakevan (SLR)/Parcel Van (VP), smoking and lightening of cigarette/bidi is strictly prohibited. Parcel staff responsible for loading/unloading of parcels will ensure strict compliance.
- (vii) Maintenance of electrical devices in the passenger coaches and parcel vans may be carried out adequately as per the laid down norms.
- (viii) The desired norms for the quality of wiring used in electric junction boxes may be ensured to avoid chances of fire due to electrical short-circuiting.
- (ix) Random checks against carriage of inflammable/explosive materials by passenger carrying trains should be intensified.

3.0 Railways should take immediate steps to prevent any possibility of fire in the trains.

4.0 Ensure strict compliance of these instructions by all concerned.

5.0 Compliance report/ Action taken report in this regard may please be advised to Board's office within next one month.

(Indra Ghosh)
Executive Director Freight Marketing

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. Chief Operation Manager, All Indian Railways.
2. Chief Commercial Manager/ Chief Commercial Manager(FM), All Indian Railways.
3. Chief Passenger Traffic Manager, All Indian Railway.
4. Chief Mechanical Engineer, All Indian Railways.
5. Chief Safety Officer, All Indian Railways.
6. Chief Security Commandant, All Indian Railways.
7. Managing Director/Chief Commercial Manager, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., Belapur Bhavan, Plot No.6, Sector 11, CBD Belapur, Navi Mumbai-400014.
8. General Manager, Metro Railway, 33/1, JL Nehru Road, Kolkata-700071.
9. Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety, Lucknow.
10. RDSO/Lucknow.
11. CRB, MT, ML, MM, ME, DG/RPF, Railway Board for kind information.
12. ED(Safety), Railway Board for kind information.