

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

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

रेल भवन, नई दिल्ली - 110 001, तिथि

Rail Bhavan, New Delhi - 110 001, dated **21.04.2009**

**General Managers,
All Indian Railways.**

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

- Ref:** (i). Board (CRB)'s letter 2004/TC(FM)/11/14 dated 14.06.2004 addressed to General Managers of zonal railways.
(ii). Board's letter No. TC-II/2077/04/1 dated 17.08.2004.
(iii). Board's letter No. TC-II/2077/04/1 dated 13.04.2005.
(iv). Board's letter No. 2004/TC(FM)/11/14 dated 10.06.2006.

1.0 Attention is invited to Board's above mentioned letters/circulars wherein instructions were issued to the zonal railways to take remedial steps/precautions for prevention and recurrence of fire incidence in the Luggage Vans (SLRs) of passenger carrying trains. Copies of these instructions are enclosed herewith.

2.0 Recently an incident of fire took place in the Luggage Vans (SLRs) of 2312 Dn (Kalka - Howrah Mail) on 10.04.2009 at Fatehpur station over North Central Railway. It is imperative that the above 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.

3.0 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. Parcel Staff shall ensure that adequate space has been left.
- (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.

(Archana Srivastava)
Director Freight Marketing

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

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