



**Office of the Principal Chief Commercial Manager
South Central Railway, Ministry of Railways, Government of India
Rail Nilayam, Secunderabad-500025 (Telangana)**

No.C.432/Mktg/Parcels/Safety

Dt.16-08-2022

Sr.DCMs/SC, HYB, BZA, GTL, GNT, NED

Sub: Precautions for prevention of fire incidence in the Luggage Vans (SLRs)/Parcel Vans (VPs) of Passenger carrying trains.

Ref: (1) CCM/FS Lr no: No.C.432/Mktg/Parcels/Safety dtd. 07.07.22

(2) Minutes of Safety Review Meeting by GM on 19.07.22.

(3) Inquiry report of Fire incident in LVPH by Tr no: 12721 express

1. This office vide letter mentioned under reference had issued instructions for Precautions for prevention of fire incidence in the Luggage Vans (SLRs)/Parcel Vans (VPs) of Passenger carrying trains. Further, it was advised to launch a campaign including arranging Safety Seminars with parcel leaseholders, handling agents and parcel staff to avoid fire accidents and loss to Railway property. Action taken by Divisions in this regard is still due.

2. During the Safety Review Meeting held by GM on 19.07.2022, the fire incident which took place in the LVPH by Tr No: 12721 (HYB-NZM) Dakshin Express was discussed and GM instructed that the recommendations, suggestions and matters brought to light by the accident enquiry committee should be implemented sincerely to avoid re-occurrence of such incidents.

3. In this connection, Divisions are hereby advised to scrupulously follow the instructions for taking remedial steps/precautions for prevention/ recurrence of fire incidence in Luggage Vans (SLRs)/Parcel Vans (VPs) of passenger carrying trains:

- a. Rules contained in Para Nos.505 and 506 of IRCA Coaching Tariff No.25, Part I (Volume I) regarding booking of explosives, dangerous, inflammable articles, empty gas cylinders, dry grass and leaves, waste paper, acids, corrosive substances enumerated in Red Tariff must not be booked as luggage by passenger trains.
- b. Complete details of the consignment with respect to number of packages, content and weight should be available in the manifest and the same should also be kept in the pockets inside the VP/SLR.
- c. The loading manifest format should be standardized as per FMC 12 of 2022, so as to contain all the particulars and description of items, number of packets, weight etc.

- d. The manifest should be submitted before commencement of loading and should be accepted only if it is signed by the Leaseholder or his authorised representative.
- e. In cases of leased SLRs/VPs, the details of actual loading done at originating station and space available should be intimated to enroute stations where intermediate loading is permitted.
- f. It should be ensured that the fuel tanks of the two-wheelers are properly and fully emptied, wiped with cloth, properly packed, properly placed on centre stand and secured in the SLR/VP.
- g. The instructions issued by PCCM vide Commercial Circular 144 of 2012 regarding booking/carriage of motor cycles/scooters including leased SLR/VP should be followed by all staff working in Parcel Offices.
- h. CCTV surveillance should be set up at all major parcel offices. Emptying of fuel tank and packaging of two-wheelers should be done in the area covered under CCTV surveillance.
- i. Photo Identity cards should be issued by Divisions to registered Lease holders and their authorised representatives. The leaseholders should invariably issue laminated photo identity cards to labour engaged by them.
- j. Only those labourers who are in possession of valid photo ID cards should be permitted for loading/unloading the leased SLR/VP by the designated train.
- k. Private labour should be counselled to exercise caution in ensuring two-wheelers are loaded only after fuel tank is emptied and proper packaging is done.
- l. Railway Parcel Staff & Leaseholders should exercise proper supervision to ensure that all consignments mentioned in the manifest are only loaded and also ensure that they are evenly loaded in SLR/VP.
- m. Random checks should be conducted by Parcel staff/supervisors by opening the outward and inward packages (leased & non-leased) to ascertain any misdeclaration of contents/weight.
- n. Adequate space must be left between the roof and top layer of packages loaded in SLRs/VPs to avoid contact with ceiling and electrical lamps. After completion of the loading, lights provided must be switched off to eliminate the possibility of short circuit.
- o. The leased SLR/VP shall be padlocked by the lease holder or his representative and shall be sealed by the parcel clerk within the permitted stoppage time of the train.
- p. Parcel Staff should adhere to the terms and conditions mentioned in the lease contract agreement and ensure compliance.
- q. Random checks should be conducted jointly by CPSRs and RPF personnel to prevent unauthorised persons in engaging of loading/unloading of consignments in parcel vans in view of safety and security to passengers and railway assets.
- r. Parcel staff/supervisors should ensure that leased consignments are removed from railway premises within the stipulated time.

s. As per para 35.6 of CPLP, Sr.DCMs should explore the feasibility for creation of Multi-disciplinary team comprising on-duty staff from Commercial, Mechanical and Security departments at major stations.

4. Regular checks should be conducted by Divisional Officers, Commercial Inspectors and Supervisors as per the schedule given below and observations/deficiencies should be recorded in a register.

| Sl. No | Officer/Supervisor | Frequency of inspections | Location |
|--------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1. | Sr. DCMs | Monthly | Major Parcel Offices in the Division |
| 2. | DCMs & ACMs | | |
| 3. | Section Commercial Inspectors | Fortnightly | Parcel Offices in respective jurisdiction |
| 4. | CCSRs & CPSRs | Weekly | Concerned stations |

Dr. B S Christopher

16/8/2012

(Dr. B S Christopher)
Chief Commercial Manager (FS)

Copy to:

1. PCSO/SCR for kind information please.
2. PCSC/SCR for kind information please.
3. DRM's/ SC, HYB, BZA, GTL, GNT, NED for kind information please.