

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 2020/ Sec. (Int.)/ 51/ 3/ 4 - 018

Dated: 02.01.2020

The General Managers,
All Zonal Railways & Production Units
MD/Metro Railway, Kolkata & KRCL
DG/ NAIR & RDSO
Directors - All CTIs

GM
PCSC, PRMS, PHOD, DGMG
Meeting at 6.00 PM
31/1/20

Sub:-Call for general strike by Central Trade Unions throughout the country-Implementation of strike scheme.

As you are aware that Central Trade Unions have given a call of General Strike throughout the country mainly to protest against the Union Government's labour reforms, FDI, disinvestment, corporatization and privatization policies and to press for 12- point common demands of the working class relating to minimum wage and social security, among others. Various farmers' organizations have also called for nationwide Rural Bandh same day over agrarian issues. The trains are life line to the nation and any hindrance in smooth running of trains will not only cause immense hardship to traveling passengers but also cause great loss to the economic well being of the nation and its citizens.

In order to deal effectively with such scenario, a strike scheme has been formulated and regularly updated by the Railway Administration. In such scenario, the civil administration of the state and the railway administration shall have to act in sync in order to mitigate hardships and overcome obstacles posed by such a strike.

PCPD
DGMG
AU ORMS

It is anticipated that the following security and law & order issues will arise that need to be resolved on real time basis:

1. With no or sluggish movement of trains, crowd will start building up at railway various stations especially major stations. The crowd may become restive and resort to violence, damage/destruction of property etc. Therefore, sufficient bandobast for maintenance of law and order and crowd control may be required at major stations.

PCSC
AU ORMS

2. The security of tracks, bridges and tunnels has to be taken up by the district police/city police. RPF may co-ordinate with concerned officers of local police and ensure police bandobast.

PCSC
PCE
AU ORMS

3. PCSCs may be advised to cover most vulnerable vital installations by providing guard. The number of vital installations/locations may be high, wherein RPF may not be able to provide guard. Therefore necessary coordination with concerned police officers may be undertaken to cover these installations/locations by way of providing guards or deploying patrols as deemed fit. PCSC
4. Chances of committing sabotage with the railway system cannot be ruled out. Swift action against saboteurs may be required. PCSC
5. The manned level crossing gates may be got blocked by the agitators by pressurizing the gatemen deployed there. Therefore, these gates may be got covered by deploying suitable road patrols by striking reserve. PCE
PCSC
ARMJ
6. Patrol trains may need to be run for dealing with security issues during the strike period. PCSCs may provide adequate force in quickest possible time once the patrol train is ordered. PCOM
7. The agitators may put pressure, threaten or use violence to stop loyal workers from coming for duty. Clusters may be planned wherefrom these loyal workers may be picked and taken to places of duty and back under police/RPF security. Necessary planning in this direction may be made in advance. PCSC
8. Loyal workers may be given security cover in case they want to come for duty and are scared that the agitators may cause any harm to them. In case there is difficulty in reaching out to them due to scarcity of manpower, assistance of local police may be sought by co-ordinating with them. PCSC
9. The agitators may try to block train movement. Suitable action may be taken to ensure smooth movement of the trains.
10. Crew lobbies, operation control rooms, RRI cabins, ASM rooms and coaching depots may be spots where the agitators may try to disrupt work as these locations are vital for train running. Proper security arrangement may be planned for these places. PCOM
PCEE
PCSC
ARMJ
11. Railway workshops and PUs have substantial concentration of railway employees. During agitations, they may become flash points and surveillance on such places may be kept in order to sense any danger beforehand. PCME
PCPD
PCSC
ARMJ
12. The Anti Sabotage Scheme in the strike scheme contains instructions to be carried out in the event of an emergency arising from the threat of sabotage. In case of emergency arising from the threat of sabotage, the scheme may be fully implemented. PCSC
DGMG
13. The manpower within the zone may be mobilized to cover most vulnerable locations. If the whole of zone is likely to get affected the same way, the posts need to resort to dynamic deployment and may use force under their command intelligently and as the turn of events demand. PCSC
ARMJ

14. Post Commanders and Outpost in-charges are required to be present in their respective HQrs. Post commanders are required to make the presence of RPF staff at stations and railway premises visible to the public with a view to instill a sense of confidence among them. RPF staff may also be kept available in riot gear at important stations. PCSC
15. Random checks, intensive screening, and combing needs to be organized in co-ordination with the GRP/State police on PF, running trains, passenger areas, other railway premises etc. in major railway stations and sensitive/vulnerable locations. PCSC
16. Sniffer dogs may be utilized intensively to conduct anti sabotage checks. PCSC
17. Announcement through PA systems may be purposeful and help in crowd control and maintenance of law and order. PCCM
PCSTE
DRMS
PCSC
18. Post commanders of RPF may hold meetings with their counterparts in Police, GRP, different railway departments and Intelligence Agencies to discuss the issue and to undertake the coordinated and concerted action. PCSC
19. A Divisional Strike Control Room may be established and function w.e.f. 06.01.2020. Representatives of all departments may be nominated to man the above strike control room. All
DRMS
20. All the walkie-talkie sets may be brought to working order and WT batteries including spare batteries may be kept in fully charged condition during the period of deployment. All the bright lights, night vision devices and other security equipments shall be kept in working order. All DRMS
21. Telephone numbers of Fire Brigades should be kept available with Station Supdt./ Station Masters and RPF Posts/OPs and also at Divisional Control Rooms. RPF may help in coordinating with Fire services in case of need. Fire stations may be alerted in advance to be in readiness and act swiftly in case there are incidents of arson. In-charges shall ensure that adequate numbers of fire extinguishers are available at major Railway stations and other major railway establishments in their jurisdiction. All DRMS
22. Updated list of telephone numbers and names of SHOs, SPs, DCPs of police and GRP may be prepared and kept ready at all stations/ RPF posts and also at Divisional Control Rooms. The jurisdiction may be earmarked section wise and KM wise. In addition, updated telephone numbers of all police stations and Police control rooms of local police and GRP along with their jurisdictions may be kept ready at Divisional Control Rooms. All
DRMS
PCOM
PCSC
23. The train escorting and other less important duties of RPF may be temporarily suspended and manpower may be mobilized for various duties related with the general strike. Twelve hour (12 hour) duty may be imposed. All leave etc may be suspended. PCSC
DRMS

24. RPF staff may be sensitized about this law and order disturbance and they should be put on maximum alert. Special briefings need to be made before deployments. PCCC
25. PCSCs may ensure that SIB and CJB staff are deployed in plain clothes to keep watch on the activities of Trade Union leaders in coordination with Central and State Intelligence Agencies. The Trade Union offices in railway premises are to be kept watch over. They may become flash points in case tempers run high. PCSC
26. An eye should be kept on any sensational posters found pasted in train/station area, they should immediately be got removed. Any distribution of pamphlets containing inflammatory propaganda should also be checked. PCSC
ORMJ
27. Post commanders of RPF may coordinate with AENs for starting Security Patrolling of track in sensitive areas. PCE
PCSC
28. In case agitators try to spread fear in railway colonies among loyal workers, post commanders of RPF may use their striking forces in road vehicles to patrol the affected railway colonies. In case mobilizing RPF is not feasible due to force spread thin, post commanders may co-ordinate with SHOs of local PS and get the colonies patrolled to instill a sense of confidence among loyal workers. PCSC
ORMJ
29. After the rake is washed, it should be inspected by C&W and RPF jointly and then locked by C&W staff. Before bringing the rakes to platforms, joint checking by C&W, electrical and RPF needs to be done intensively. After the train arrives at the terminal station and has been vacated by the passengers, it needs to be inspected and locked. PCME
PCSC
ORMJ
30. No unauthorized vendors, urchins, baggers, anti social elements and other unauthorized persons should be allowed at the platforms. PCCM
31. Proper lighting in all parts of the platforms needs to be ensured. PCEE, ORMJ
32. Station Managers of road side stations (where there is no RPF deployment) should be contacted by Section controllers to gather any worthwhile information. PCCM
ORMJ
33. Security Controls may keep close contact with section controllers and obtain information regarding unscheduled halt of trains in mid section or road side stations. PCSC
34. During the strike, there is a chance of accumulation of railway cash in booking offices/PRS/goods sheds etc. Post Commanders of RPF may plan locations in advance where such accumulated cash can be securely kept under RPF guard. PFA
PCCM
ORMJ
35. In case of stoppage of the train in mid section or small road side station, adequate bandobast should be done at the concerned location. PCSC
PCCM
ORMJ

Same action may be taken on receipt of any damage to track or crowd build up on track or any obstruction in train operation in block section/road side station. If there is no RPF deployment nearby, nearest Police Thanas may be contacted and requested for dispatch of sufficient force to the location. Security Controls will get the message noted down to the district/GRP police control and also in the concerned police Thana. Concerned Post Commanders of RPF should speak to the concerned SHO and ensure adequate deployment of RPF/GRP/Civil Police. The situation may be given more importance if the unscheduled halts/blockages in train movement are during the night.

36. If passenger train stops at a particular unscheduled halt for long period, the passengers are likely to get agitated. Care should be taken to diffuse such situations with tact and empathy by engaging the public in dialogue. It may be possible that some black sheep among the passengers of these ill fated trains start looting food items from the station food vendors. Post Commanders of RPF should be prepared to face such situations.

PCCM
PCSC
ORM

37. All available Video cameras should be used for recording the proceedings in case of any disturbance.

PCSTE
PCSC, ORM

38. It should be ensured that no vehicle is parked in the non-parking area.

PCSC
PCCM
ORM

39. All major access control points of stations should be manned. Unwanted entry/exit points should be closed at major stations.

PCCM
PCSC, ORM

40. One striking reserve force should be kept ready at major stations and a suitable vehicle / means of transport should be available to move them in case of emergency.

PCSC

41. Places of high concentration of Railway Employees like Workshops; depots etc. may become flash points. Railway Employees may gather at these places during breaks and may turn into mobs. These locations need special watch.

PCME
PCSC
ORM

42. Trade Union meetings should be kept watch over and necessary precautionary steps may be taken for smooth and peaceful conduct of these meetings. Activities of unrecognized unions etc may also be closely monitored.

PCPO
PCME
DRM

43. Post Commanders of RPF should keep close liaison with their counter parts of sister Railway departments like S&T, Mechanical, Operating, Commercial etc and exchange information regarding routine working of Railways.

PCSC

44. All outsourced staff should be asked to wear identity cards while on duty for easy identification. No one should be permitted to enter Railway working area without valid identity card.

~~PCSC~~
All PWDs
ORM

45. Railway Employees should be counseled again and again not to rely on rumors. Rumor mongers should be identified and rounded up. All PHODs

46. The fuel for the vehicle should be stocked to meet unforeseen circumstances. All PHODs

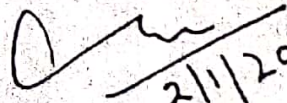
47. As far as possible, Post Commanders of RPF should co-ordinate with concerned railway authority and arrange food for on duty staff at their places of duty. PCSC

48. Necessary temporary shelter for RPF on duty etc at the places of deployment, if not already available, should be provided by coordinating with concerned engineering department officer. PCSC

49. An hourly SITREP should be relayed by the Post Commanders of RPF to the Divisional Security Control Rooms. DSCRs should compile the hourly SITREP of the division and relay to the Zonal Security Control Rooms which will in turn report an hourly SITREP to DG Control/ Railway Board. PCSC

50. The guidelines given above are indicative and not exhaustive. Zonal Railways are advised to take additional measures as deemed fit in coordination with IB, GRP/ Local Police and railway administration to avoid any untoward incident in railways. Sensitize RPF/ RPSF and Railway staff about this input and put them on maximum alert. PCSC

PCSCs are advised to ensure strict compliance. Sr. DSCs/ DSCs/ ASCs should remain in field and supervise the efforts of RPF in tackling the emergency arising out of general strike.


21/1/2020

(ARUN KUMAR)
Director General/RPF

Copy to: PCSCs/ All Zonal Railways, RPSF, ICF, CLW, KRCL, CORE & RDSO - for information and necessary action.