आज़ादी का अमृत महोत्सव

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav

No.2019/Safety (DM)/6/4/CM

New Delhi, dated 25.08.2022

General Manager (Safety),
All Zonal Railways and,
CMD/KRCL

Director / Indian Railway Institute of Disaster Management,
Hejjala, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560074

Sub: Assessment and evaluation of Disaster Management Exercises/Mock Drills.

Ref: Board's letters No. 2010/Safety(DM)/6/23 dated 09.03.2017 and 2020/Safety(DM)/6/3 dated 02.05.2022

Detailed instructions regarding holding of Disaster Management Exercises / mock drills were communicated to the Zonal Railways vide letter No.2010/Safety(DM)/6/23 dated 09.03.2017. Further, while circulating the annual calendars for joint exercises / mock drills with NDRF, vide letter number 2020/Safety(DM)/6/3 dated 02.05.2022, Zonal Railways were advised that *"a self contained report indicating the activities carried out in the joint exercises alongwith the lessons learnt and corrective action to be taken / taken may be sent to Board within 15 days of the conclusion of the exercise."* However, it is observed that the directions as above are not being followed by various Zonal Railways. It is also observed that data regarding status of Disaster Management Exercises / mock drills are also not being updated by some of the Zonal Railways in Safety MCDO in SIMS portal.

2. The matter has been considered afresh and it has been decided that post-mock drill evaluation & assessment of outcome and learnings from mock drills (including DOs and DONT's) may be communicated by the Zonal Railways to IRIDM, Bengaluru, within 15 days of completion of each such exercise. IRIDM will thereafter further analyse/compile the same on centralised basis and share the same with all the Zonal Railways / other stake holders under intimation to Railway Board on quarterly basis. IRIDM may also include such learnings in their training programmes on Disaster Management. Zonal Railways may also take appropriate measures in consultation with IRIDM for suitably sensitizing / training private operators, engaged in running and operating of trains, regarding crisis management and also involving them in mock drills to the extent feasible.

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Issued with Enclosure
26/8/22
of issue

c/c

Issue
10/3/2017

SNo. 45

Government of India
Ministry of Railways
(Railway Board)

No. 2010/Safety(DM)/6/23 **New Delhi, Dated 09.03.2017**

General Managers,
All Indian Railways and
CMD/KRCL

Sub:- Mock drills for ART/ARMV and Full Scale Disaster management exercises.

Accident manual of Zonal Railways stipulated that mock drills should be conducted for ART/ARMV to check their readiness so that in case of an accident ART/ARMV staff performs like a will rehearsed team. Board has noticed that the periodicity prescribed in the accident manual is varying over Zonal Railways and the methodology is also not uniform.

Based on the recommendations of High Level Committee on Disaster Management (vide recommendation No. 106) each division should conduct one full scale disaster management exercise on the similar line as army exercises once in a year. Likewise, mock drills for ARTs/ARMVs have to be conducted on a regular basis.

Controller and Auditor General report No. 13 of 2016 (Railways) Chapter no. 6 on Disaster Management was critical of Railways for not conducting mock drill as per the prescribed periodicity. To have uniformity over Indian Railway and ensure that all the relevant aspects are covered in the mock drills and full scale disaster management exercises, detailed instructions are prepared by the Board and these instructions are annexed to this letter.

Zonal Railways shall ensure that the mock drills and full scale disaster management exercises are conducted in the prescribed periodicity as per the procedure annexed. Details of drills may please be reported to Board in the Safety PCDO as per Annexure-XIII.

9/c

V. A.

(Vinod Kumar)
ED/Safety(Coordination)
Railway Board

Date of issue 10/03/2017

Annexure to RB letter No.2010/Safety(DM)/6/23 dated 09.03.2017

Instructions on Mock Drill and Full Scale Disaster Management Exercises

1.0 Aim and Objectives

Mock Drills provide virtually the only means, short of an actual incident, of measuring the state of readiness and of testing the effectiveness of an emergency response plan. The real purpose of mock drill is to make all Railway Staff who have specific duties to perform in case of an accident, to practice their duties regularly and test check the equipment so that in real emergency they perform their duties like a well-rehearsed team. The Aim and objective of Mock drill is to:

- To evaluate response.
- To evaluate readiness of all stake holders.
- To improve coordination within departments.
- To identify the efficacy of SOPs.
- To revise SOPs for enhanced coordination.
- To identify planning gaps.
- To increase emergency preparedness of staff members.
- To enhance the ability to respond faster.

2.0 Periodicity

Mock drills have to be conducted once in every quarter either during day or night. It is desirable not to repeat the drill again and again at the same time or section. However if ART/ ARMV is turned out on account of accident in that quarter, the periodicity may be reckoned from that date. At a particular station if both ART/ARMV are stationed, alternatively ART and ARMV needs to be turned out quarterly. Full scale disaster management exercise has to be conducted in a division once in a year as recommended by High Power Committee on disaster Management.

3.0 Responsibility for conducting the Mock drills and full scale disaster management exercises.

To have an element of surprise mock drills shall be ordered by the DRM and drills shall be conducted under the direct supervision of Sr.DSO /DSO. Secrecy and confidentiality shall be maintained to extent possible. SrDSO/DSO shall be responsible to conduct full scale disaster Management Exercises.

4.0 Who has to associate with these exercises

Doctors, paramedics and the usual break down staff should travel by these trains exactly as they would have to in case of an accident. Railway Ambulance should also be turned out. The officers and staff of such other departments who have specific duties to perform in case of accidents but may not have to accompany such trains should also participate. District administration to the extent required also has to associated with these drills.

5.0 Activities to be monitored during Mock drill

- Turning out of relief trains within prescribed time.
- Speed of specials
- Attendance of staff
- Whether correct information given to control particularly in respect of nature of assistance required.
- Action taken to stop any approaching train if any.
- Medical assistance available mustered in full strength and calling out of local ambulances.
- Time at which first ambulance reached the spot.
- Response of the local administration like police, fire brigade etc.,
- Time taken to set up field telephone.
- Time taken to set up rescue equipment.
- Staff conversance in usage of equipment.
- Working of select equipment shall be test checked.
- Logging of events.
- Mock drill shall be called off by SrDSO/DSO after consulting DRM.

6.0 Procedure for full scale Disaster Management Exercises

Full scale disaster management exercise is a planned activity to check complete preparedness, response and functioning of all stake holders in case of disaster. Station at which these exercises are planned should be selected in due consultation with DRM and Operating officers to ensure least disturbance to train operations. In these exercises in addition to the activities to be carried out in mock drill indicated in para 5.0, the following shall be carried out.

- Accident like situation has to be created like one coach over another so that rescue operations can be similar to an accident site.
- All the stake holders have to be involved in the rescue and relief operations.

- All the activities prescribed in the Accident Manual/Disaster Management plan regarding setting up of UCC, LCC, CAC etc., have to be carried out.
- Railway staff can double up as injured passengers with various types of injuries and handling of such passengers by rescue staff needs to be observed/recorded.
- Time taken to set up rescue equipment and time taken to rescue first person should be recorded.
- All the equipment is ARMV/ART have to be physically tested for their performance and endurance.
- All the activities need to be video graphed for post analysis and also for training purpose.

7.0 Reporting and follow up action.

Detailed report of the mock drill and full scale disaster management exercise shall be prepared by SrDSO/DSO duly indicating attendance of nominated staff from each branch, non-attender to be reported by name, deficiencies in the equipment, gap in the disaster management plan and SOPs etc,. The report should also include any improvement or otherwise in the deficiencies observed in the previous drills. SrDSO/DSO shall monitor the action taken on the deficiencies by the respective departments.