Government of India
Ministry of Railways
(Railway Board)

No. 2015/Track-III/TK/5/ Pt. I

New Delhi, dt. 29.12.2016

General Managers,
All Zonal Railways.

Sub: Fixed-Time Integrated Corridor Blocks for maintenance of assets

For improving the safety performance of Indian Railways, Hon'ble MR has suggested to issue instructions and ensure fixed time integrated blocks for maintenance of assets besides various other measures vide Note dated 02.12.2016. Hon'ble MR's advice is reproduced as under:

"Inspection/testing/maintenance of track/signaling/RE assets requires dedicated corridor blocks as per world railway practices. Such blocks have to be Integrated Blocks where all departments take advantage of the block. ....."

In this connection, a Joint Circular approved by Board (ME, MT) for review of existing working time tables for inclusion of required corridor blocks as per extant instructions in working time tables, adherence to corridor blocks along with monitoring mechanism for traffic blocks issued under the signatures of AM/CE and AM/Traffic is enclosed.

Railways are advised to ensure compliance.

Encl: As above

29.12.16

(A.K. Khandelwal)
Executive Director Track (MC)
Railway Board

Copy to : As per list attached (overleaf)

LIST FOR DISTRIBUTION

1. General Managers, All Indian Railways & Production Units
2. Principal Chief Engineers, Chief Operating Managers, Chief Signal & Telecom Engineers, Chief Electrical Engineers, Chief Mechanical Engineers, Chief Safety Officers, All Indian Railways
3. Director General, RDSO, Manak Nagar, Lucknow.
4. Director General, National Academy of Indian Railways, Vadodara
5. Chief Commissioner of Railway Safety, Ashok Marg, Lucknow.
6. Commissioner of Railway Safety, All Circles
7. Director, IRICEN, 11-A South Main Road, Koregaon Park,Pune-411001
8. Director, IRIEEN, P.B. No. 233, Nasik Road – 422 101
9. Director, IRISET, Taar Naka Road, Lalla Guda, Secunderabad
10. Director IRIMEE, Jamalpur – 811214
11. Director, IRITM, Saraswati Residential Estate, IRITM Campus, Manak Nagar, Lucknow.

Copy to :

- CRB, FC, ME, MT, ML, MM, MS and Secretary, Railway Board.
- AM/CE, AM/Works, AM/Mech., AM/Elec., AM/Sig., AM/Traffic, AM/Tele, AM(B), Railway Board.
- Adv./Projects, Adv./L&A, Adv./Bridges, Adv./Vig., Adv./Infra., Adv./Safety, Adv./TT/M, Adv./Sig., Railway Board
- EDCE/G, EDCE/P, EDCE/B&S-I, EDCE/B&S-II, ED/L&A-I, ED/L&A-II, ED/L&A-III, EDTK/M, EDTK/MC, EDTK/P, ED/Works, ED/PM, ED/W&P, ED/Sig.(Dev.), ED/Sig.(Proj.), ED(EEM), EDEE(RS), EDME/Tr., ED/Safety, ED/Safety-II, EDF(X)-I, EDF(X)-II
- ED/TM, RDSO, Lucknow.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)
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JOINT CIRCULAR

Sub: Fixed-time (Corridors) Traffic blocks for maintenance of assets

1.0 The timely maintenance of assets is essential for ensuring their reliability and safety. In current maintenance regime, regular traffic blocks of adequate duration are absolutely necessary to enable stipulated maintenance and renewal works. Instructions regarding arranging adequate duration of traffic block for maintenance and renewals have been issued time and again, but availability and usage of traffic blocks needs improvement so as to liquidate the arrears of track maintenance and renewal.

2.0 It is therefore essential that desirable systemic changes are brought out in the planning and arranging the traffic blocks and its optimal usage. Railways are advised to carry out comprehensive review of working timetable (WTT) to ensure provision of planned corridor blocks of assured duration in all sections as per extant instructions (One Block of four hours or two blocks of two and half hours). Wherever margins are inadequate, above corridor blocks shall be provided by necessary rescheduling of trains within Zonal Railway. In case this is not feasible, proposal requiring rescheduling of inter Railway trains shall be sent to Railway Board for consideration. Once provided in WTT, these fixed time corridor blocks should generally be granted except in unavoidable situations. Such availability of integrated block will enable gainful utilization of blocks provided to all the maintenance departments to wipe out the arrears of maintenance/renewals. **The above exercise should be completed in next two months time and compliance submitted to Board.**

3.0 Notwithstanding above, the stipulated system of issue of Joint monthly programme for Traffic Blocks issued by COM and PCE of Zonal Railways shall be implemented immediately. **This Joint programme shall entail Minimum three hours maintenance blocks even by regulating Mail/ Express trains or short terminating passenger trains, in each section where works are scheduled.** The joint programme for planned work shall be issued at least one month in advance, with necessary direction to DRMs to ensure strict adherence of the same. Sr.DOM & Sr.DEN should make weekly programme. In extraordinary situation, only after explicit approval of DRM, the Operating department will inform about the cancellation or reduction in planned block to Engineering department on previous day. All cases of cancellation/deviation from agreed block, productivity of blocks given and overdue maintenance details, etc. shall be put up weekly to DRM by Sr. DEN/Co-ord. and monthly to GM by PCE.

4.0 DRMs shall also ensure full utilization of blocks so planned for integrated maintenance by Other Departments viz. Electrical (OHE), Signal, also.

Addl. Member/Civil Engineering **Additional Member/Traffic**

No.2015/Track-III/TK/15 **New Delhi, dated 28 .12.2016**

Copy to:

i) **GMs, All Zonal Railways.**
ii) **COMs, PCEs, CSTEs & CEEs, All Zonal Railways**