Government of India (भारत सरकार)
Ministry of Railways (रेल मंत्रालय)
Railway Board (रेलवे बोर्ड)

No. 2023/H-1/9/1/Water New Delhi dated 8.05.2023

General Managers,
All Indian Railways &
Production Units

Sub: - Drinking water quality monitoring over Indian Railways.
Ref:- (1) Railway Board's letter No. 2004/LMB-II/9/1 Vol II dated 01.04.2016.
(2) Railway Board's letter No. 2012/H-1/9/5 dated 30.11.2017.
(3) Railway Board's letter No. 2012/H-1/9/5 dated 06.03.2018.

Please refer to above mentioned letters laying down policy of Drinking Water Quality Monitoring over Indian Railway.

Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation has issued "Uniform Drinking Water Quality Monitoring Protocol" in February 2013. The protocol is available at the-

URL http:/wss.hry.nic.in/Documents/UniformDrinkingWaterQualityMonitoring Protocol.pdf.

1. As per para 5.2 (Water quality Analysis Requirements) of "Uniform Drinking Water Quality Monitoring protocol" it is mentioned that thirteen basic minimum parameters that need to be tested for drinking water quality. However, Indian Railway is following water testing as per Annexure-II (23 Parameters) which includes all the basic minimum parameters as mentioned in Para 5.2. In addition, testing of 12 other parameters viz., colour, Ammonia, Free Residual Chlorine, Selenium, zinc, Mercury, Lead, Cyanide, Copper, Chromium, Nickel & Cadmium except alkalinity is being done in Indian Railway.

For 80 parameters as suggested in Annexure –IV, it is mentioned in Foot Note of Annexure-IV that it is mandatory to carry out analysis of at least 13 basic water quality parameters.

2. Health & Malaria Inspectors over Indian Railway are monitoring the quality of the water supplied by testing for residual chlorine and collecting samples for bacteriological analysis as per laid down provision in para 203 (39), Section B (Duties and Responsibilities), Chapter II of IRMM, Volume-I, third edition, 2000. However, Indian Railways should allow the testing laboratories to collect the water sample randomly in presence of concerned **SSE(Works) & H&MI.**

3. Chemical quality of water is being done over Indian Railways at the time of commissioning of any new water source, change of water source and whenever there is a suspect result in Field Test Kit as specified in Para 4 of Railway Board's letter dated 30.11.2017. However, analysis of 80 parameters as suggested in Annexure-IV will also be done once each in pre-monsoon and post-monsoon seasons in a year. In case of detection of any pollutants listed in Annexure IV, the parameter would be analysed on routine basis.

MATTER MAY BE TREATED AS MOST URGENT.

8/5/2023

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