

SRES - NFIR

SHAME, SHAME – Despite repeated representations and Board order issued for supply of ORS and Water bottles for Track Maintainers, the Engineering Officers are silent. We request GM to kindly intervene and give suitable instructions to the Engineering Officers to supply the above at the earliest as the Track Maintainers are heavily suffering in the intense heat wave.

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(Affiliated to Indian National Trade Union Congress)
(Affiliated to International Transport Worker's Federation (ITF) London)
3, CHELMSFORD ROAD, NEW DELHI - 110 055

P.S.SURIYAPRAKASAM
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Esc No. : 81/Engineering Date : 02.05.2024

To
**The Principal Chief Engineer,
Southern Railway,
Chennai.**

**The Principal Chief Medical Director
Southern Railway,
Chennai.**

Sir,

Sub : Yellow Alert Heat wave issued by Meteorological Department – request for supplying of ORS Packets to Track Maintainers for re-hydration to their bodies while working in high temperature 38 – 43 degree Celsius (6 degrees above normal).

You are aware that the duties of Track Maintainers to take care of Rail Track as per IREM 151 to 171. His assigned duties are 153 & 154 - He has to observe the effect on the loose sleepers, he has to look after the double and multiple lies on curve. Should then be marked and adequately packed. On double line the Gang shall invariably stand on the cess side and not in between the tracks.

170 - Duties of Keymen – While walking over his length he should look for defects, such as loose fish bolts, SEJ fittings in switches and crossings, fittings on girder bridges and open top culverts, broken or burnt sleepers, broken plates or tie bars, attend to them as necessary.

Trackmen should ensure special works like Sleeper Packings, alignment, cherry cutting, painting rails, loading and unloading rails in the very tough weather conditions. Many Trackmen gets dehydrated due to heat wave and the mercury shooting up everyday.

Some of the Track Maintainers reporting sick as their bodies are getting dehydrated and suffering with thirst and suffering with lightheaded, a dry mouth and tiredness, having dark coloured strong smelling urine, passing urine less often than usual.

The Meteorological Department & Disaster Management time and again warning the people as the weather department has predicted acute rise in the temperature touching between 38 and 43 degrees Celsius. The regional meteorological department has forecast that heat wave conditions would continue for the next three days in the state. The weather office has warned of heat wave conditions at isolated pockets over north interior Tamil Nadu and issued a yellow alert for heatwave conditions. Karur district in Tamil Nadu was the hottest place in the state, recording a temperature of 42.5 degrees Celsius, nearly six degrees above the normal notch.

Therefore, we request you to kindly arrange to supply ORS Packets to the Track Maintainers for re-hydration to their bodies while working in heat wave also supply of adequate water at all areas.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully,
(Signature)
(P.S.Suriyaprakasam)
JGS/SRES & GS/SRES

Copy to : DRM / MAS, TPJ, MDU, SA, TVC, PGT for kind information & necessary action pls.
Copy to : All DP & DS for information & followup action.

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Esc No.82/Electrical Date : 07.05.2024

To
**Sr.DEE/TRD/MAS,
Southern Railway,
Chennai.**

Sri,

Sub : Suggestion for alleviating hardships faced by TRD employees during Heat Waves.

It has come to our notice that TRD employees are encountering significant challenges in carrying out their day-to-day maintenance tasks during hot summer such as replacement of candle/lever assembly, adjustment of height, replacement of insulators, checking of isolators and jumpers, regulated equipments and replacement of regulated equipments, etc. They have to climb the mast to perform their maintenance duty at the height of 6.6 mts from the rail level.

In light of the above, NFIR/SRES proposes the following suggestions to mitigate the difficulties experienced by our dedicated workforce:

Advance Notification of Foot Patrolling Program:
It is suggested that a foot patrolling program to be communicated to employees well in advance. This will enable them to plan and execute their patrolling duties during the cooler hours of the early morning, thereby minimizing exposure to extreme temperatures.

Implementation of Maintenance Work Time Restrictions:
To ensure the safety and well-being of our employees, it is advised that all maintenance activities, including power block work, be suspended between the hours of 12:00 PM and 3:00 PM. This precautionary measure aligns with the directive issued by the Tamil Nadu government, which prohibits outdoor construction activities during these hours to prevent heat-related illnesses.

Alternative Utilization of OHE/SPE and PUT Depot Employees:
In order to alleviate the impact of daytime heat on our workforce, it is suggested that OHE/SPE and PUT depot employees refrain from participating in daytime maintenance operations until July. Instead, arrangements can be made for these employees to conduct maintenance work during the cooler night-time hours, thus reducing their exposure to high temperatures.

By implementing these suggestions, we can safeguard the health and welfare of our valued TRD employees while ensuring the efficient execution of maintenance tasks. Your attention to these suggestions is greatly appreciated, and we trust that swift action will be taken to address this pressing issue.

Thanking you,
Yours faithfully,
(Signature)
(P.S.Suriyaprakasam)
JGS/NFIR & GS/SRES

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

No.M/P.721/Welf./Misc
CMS /MAS

Divisional Office
Personnel Branch
Chennai-600 003
Date:13.05.2024


Sub: Supply of ORS to Open line employees-reg

In view of the severe summer in Tamil Nadu and adjoining Andhra Pradesh areas, of which many areas are under the territorial jurisdiction of Chennai Division, it is proposed that the frontline staff of Operating, Engineering and other departments may be supplied with ORS Packets/tetra packs along with drinking water which could be placed at accessible locations. This would help the front-line staff to manage the extreme weather conditions prevailing presently.

Medical department may kindly make arrangements for the supply of ORS Pockets/tetra packs to the front-line employees.

The above proposal has the approval of DRM/MAS.

Digitally signed by
M SENTHIL KUMAR
Date: 2024.05.13
15:07:00 +05'30'
Sr.DPO/MAS


भारत सरकार GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
रेल मंत्रालय MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(रेलवे बोर्ड) (RAILWAY BOARD)

G20
भारत 2023

No. 2024/E(W)/20/3 New Delhi, dated 09.05.2024

The General Managers (P)
All Indian Railways & PUs.

Sub: Reiteration of instructions regarding issue of Water Bottle to Track Maintainers (erstwhile Gangmen/Trackmen/Keymen/Mates/Patrolmen).

Ref: Board's letter No. E(W)95UN 1-19 dated 27.12.2005.

Keeping in view the ensuing intense heat wave conditions across the country, Civil Engineering Directorate have requested to reiterate the instructions regarding provision of Water Bottle to the eligible categories of employees. In this context, attention is invited to Item No. 11 of Board's letter cited under Ref, wherein Railways were advised to provide eligible employees Water Bottle of 2 Litres having proper heat insulation so that water can be kept cool for 5-6 hours.

2. The Railways are requested to adhere to these instructions scrupulously.

(Signature)
(V. Somadas)
Deputy Director Estt. (Welfare)
Railway Board
Phone No.: 011-47845543
E-mail: v.somdas@gov.in

Dr. M.Raghavaiah
GS/NFIR & President/SRES

Circular No.1422
Date : 20.05.2024

P.S.Suriyaprakasam
JGS/NFIR & GS/SRES

For more details visit nfindia.org & sresindia.org