



NFIR

National Federation of Indian Railwaymen

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

Phone : 23343305, RI. 22283
Fax : 23744013, Rly. 22362
Telegram : RAILMAZDOR
E-mail : nfir@satyam.net.in

P.S.SURIYAPRAKASAM

Joint General Secretary
Member - DC / JCM - NEW DELHI

"Unity House"

New No. 9, Old No. 2,
Siruvallur High Road, Perambur,
Chennai - 600 011.
Ph : 044-26701425, Rly. 24000
E-mail : sresnfir@gmail.com

URGENT

Esc No. : 39/Running Staff

Date : 05.03.2020

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

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

Sir,

**Sub : Preventive / spreading of Coronavirus (COVID – 19) infection &
Stop breathalyzer test for Running Staff.**

Ref : Boards Letter of even No.2015/H-1/7/3 dated 04.03.2020.

More than 4000 Loco & Traffic Running staff of Southern Railway, South Central Railway, South Western Railway have to undergo the breathalysers test in Southern Railway whenever they report for duty and also give their attendance through Bio-metric.

They are facing severe health risk when they blow in the breathalyzer due to the pipe into which they blow is fixed and never cleaned / replaced as a result, the Running Staff insulate their mouth with palms or cover the pipe with a handkerchief to minimize risk of infection. In the above device the pipe which is used by Running Staff are not at all replaced and not cleaned periodically which causes high risk. They have to undergo the breathalyzer test every day which cause allergy rhinitis, viral pneumonia, tuberculosis, pharyngitis, bronchitis among others. Transmission of bacteria from mouth can cause teeth related problems.

In this connection, very recently Railway Board also issued a letter dated 4.3.2020 vide under above reference for preventive / spreading of coronavirus. Mere paper circular will not prevent / spread the Coronavirus. The field reality like breathalyzer test should be taken into account, action to be taken.

In this connection, Govt. of NCT of Delhi had issued a circular dated 14.2.2020 to take preventive action the Biometric attendance is suspended / exempted till further advise.

We therefore request you kindly take immediate action to suspend / exempt the breathalyzer test and also biometric attendance.

Thanking you,

Yours faithfully,

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

Copy to : 1) PCPO / MAS

2) All DRMs to take immediate preventive action please.

3) GS/NFIR @ SCRES for kind information and take appropriate action pls.