

Republic Day Message

Dear Railwaymen,

On the auspicious occasion of 75th Republic Day, I extend my heartiest greetings and best wishes to all the officers, employees and their family members. This national festival reminds us of the great leaders of our freedom movement and inspires us to be grateful and committed towards our Constitution.

The Government of India has set a target to electrify the entire broad gauge track, taking into consideration the inherent advantages of electric traction. To achieve this national mission, the Central Organization for Railway Electrification (CORE) is playing a pivotal role and working as a dedicated team, towards making the nation self-reliant by developing a safe, energy efficient, eco-friendly and economical rail transport system. In the last financial year, CORE electrified 4767 route kilometres. In this financial year, CORE has been given a target of electrifying 2090 route kilometres. I am confident that while upholding the basic tenet of "Country First-Always First" in due discharge of our duties, we will work in Mission Mode to accomplish the set goals and bring laurels to the organization. I am happy to inform that CORE has electrified a total of 1254 route kilometres by the third quarter of financial year 2023-24 and 4080 route kilometres in the calendaryear 2023. These achievements signify the high level of calibre and commitment of our Officers and Employees.

In this financial year, CORE has electrified many important sections, which will not only increase the sectional capacity and strengthen the operational setup but also provide impetus to the socio-economic development of the adjoining regions.

With the electrification of Munabao-Gadra Road section, trains coming from Jodhpur will be able to run uninterrupted on the electrified route till Munabao, which is the border station of Rajasthan. With the electrification of Nokhra-Phalodi section, trains coming from Bathinda,now have an alternate electrified route to Ahmedabad via Jodhpur. With the electrification of Halvad-MaliyaMiyana-Surbari, trains from Ahmedabad to New Bhuj via Gandhidhamcan now run seamlessly on electric traction. Electrification of Anandapuram-Talaguppa section has resulted in end-to-end connectivity provided from Birur to Talguppa. Besides, important sections like Vyas Colony to Swamihalli in Karnataka, Gandhidham to Kandla Port in Gujarat, Basar to Mudkhed in Telangana, Dinagaon to Manawath Road in Maharashtra and Fazilka to KotKapura in Punjab have also been electrified.

So far in the financial year 2023-24, 26 Traction Sub Stations, 21Sidings, 166 SP &SSP, 42Tower Wagon Sheds, 30 OHE Depots, 347 Staff Quarters and 455Height Gauges have been completed. Similarly, a total of 85 RE compatible S&Tmodifications have been carried out so far, comprising 68 modifications at stations and 17 modifications at level crossing gates which includereplacement of 52 numbers Non-RE block instruments with Universal Fail Safe Block Instrument (UFSBI). Commissioning of Traction Sub Stations, Tower Car Sheds and OHE Depots is one area where we have to further step up our efforts. While continuously monitoring the progress of work, we have to ensure that their commissioning is

done in a time-bound manner so that apart from strengthening of traction power supply system, Zonal Railways do not face inconvenience in operation and maintenance works.

Any negligence related to safety during electrification works can have serious consequences. We have to ensure that all aspects related to work safety are kept in mind and electrification works expedited duly following the provisions related to work safety. Compliance with safety rules can never be a hindrance in the execution of targeted works; this dictum has to be imbibed by all Railway Personnel. Our special attention should be towards imparting safety training from time to time to railway staff and private employees engaged in electrification work, making them aware of safe working practices and keeping the system alert through random inspections to avert any kind of accident.

User Depot Module (UDM) is functioning successfully in CORE and 193 consignees have transacted a total of ₹ 841 crore in this financial year till the month of December which is 75 percent more when compared to the corresponding period of last financial year. Total procurement through GeM so far in the current financial year has been ₹ 21.27 crore, which is indicative of GeM as an effective procurement platform. Total budget utilization in this financial year till December has been 53.5 percent which is satisfactory. "Person of the Month Award" in CORE is a positive step which motivates the employees to perform better and has a positive bearing on organizational performance. Under this initiative, a total of nine employees fromproject units have been felicitated for their excellent contribution since April to December 2023.

CORE is committed towardsmaximizing use of Rajbhasha. I am glad to inform that on 26/09/2023, *Nagar Rajbhasha Karyanvayan Samiti*, Prayagraj awarded third prize to CORE for its contribution in promoting the use of Hindi at workplace.

CORE is also committed to "Swachh Bharat Mission". Its efforts in creating awareness and making the "Swachh Bharat-Swachh Rail" campaign a success have been commendable.

Railway Electrification Women's Welfare Organization (REWWO) is dedicated to the welfare of the employees and their family members. Railway Electrification Sports Organization (RESA) is actively engaged in promotion of sports.15th All India Railway Electrification Inter-Project Sports Meet-2023 was organized from 28th to 30th October 2023which saw enthusiastic participation from CORE headquarter and its project units. I convey my best wishes to both these organizations. I also extend my greetings to recognized trade unions and associations who have always played a constructive role in pursuit of goals and excellence in Railway Electrification.

Friends, Indian Railways is undergoing a transformationphasewhere it has high expectations from its human resources. On this auspicious occasion of Republic Day, let us all take a pledge to face the challenges as a team. I am confident that with the active participation of you all, CORE will play a leading role in building a self-reliant and developed Nation.

Jai Hind 26 January 2024