



## **Independence Day Message**

**Dear Railwaymen,**

On the auspicious occasion of 77<sup>th</sup> Independence Day, I convey my heartiest congratulations and best wishes to all the Railway Officers, Employees and their family members. It is an occasion when we pay homage to our great patriots, martyrs and freedom fighters. At the same time, the day is also an occasion to introspect on one's contribution to overall performance and reaffirm our commitment to achieve assigned targets in the current year. This national festival of ours reminds us of the great heroes of the country's freedom struggle and inspires us to be grateful and loyal to our Nation.

Keeping in view the inherent advantages of electric traction, the Government of India has set a target of electrifying the entire broad gauge rail route by December 2023. Central Organisation for Railway Electrification (CORE) through its dedicated project units has played a pivotal role in achieving this National Mission and making the country self-reliant by developing a safe, energy efficient, eco-friendly and cost-effective rail transport system. You will be happy to know that CORE in the financial year 2022-23 set a new unbeatable record of highest ever electrification of 4767 route kilometres surpassing its previous record of 4283 route kilometres of electrification in the financial year 2021-22.

In the last financial year, CORE electrified several important sections, which not only increased the section capacity and operational speed, but also accelerated the socio-economic development.

An important electrified route from Prayagraj to Bhopal has been achieved with the electrification of Ishanagar-Udaipura section (75 RKM) apart from North Central Railway becoming 100% electrified. With the electrification of the Sikar-Churu section (87 RKM), entire

Shekhawati region, which is a major business and tourism hub, is now directly connection to Delhi on electric traction.

With the electrification of Shohratgarh-Pachpherwa-Subhagpur section (118 RKM) the entire alternative stretch from Gonda via Balrampur-Anand Nagar to Gorakhpur has been fully electrified. At the same time entire State of Uttar Pradesh as well as NER have been fully electrified.

With the electrification of Pangri-LaturRoad section (129 RKM), the entire stretch from Pune to Secundrabad via Kurduwadi, Latur Road and Vikarabad has been fully electrified. This will provide an alternative route to Pune-Wadi-Secunderabad section along with Central Railway being fully electrified.

The entire main line connecting Bengaluru and Hubballi has been fully electrified resulting in seamless end to end connectivity for running of Vande Bharat express with the electrification of Nittur-Arsikere-Birur-Hosdurga&Chikjajur-Devarguda-Karajagi-Hubballi sections (244 RKM). Trains from New Delhi to Bikaner can now run on fully electrified route with the electrification of Benisar-Napasar-Bikaner section (61 RKM). Meghalaya has been connected with the rest of India on electrified route with the electrification of Dudhnoi-Mendipathar (20 RKM) route which is a major achievement.

In the current financial year, CORE has been given a target of 2093 route kilometres of electrification by December for which all the Project Units are fully committed. As a result, 179route kilometres have been electrified by CORE so far.Besides, 12 Traction Sub Stations, 56 SP & SSP, 23 Tower Wagon Sheds, 09 OHE Depots, 186 staff quarters and 275 height gauges have been commissioned till date. Similarly, in this financial year till date, a total of 54 signal installations have been made RE fit which include 21 nos. signalling modifications at stations, 15 nos. signalling modifications at LC gates and replacement of 18 nos. Non-RE block instruments with Universal Fail Safe Block Instruments (UFSBI). Commissioning of Traction Sub Stations, Tower Car Sheds and OHE Depots is one area where we have to step up our efforts. While continuously monitoring the progress of work, we have to ensure that these are commissioned in a time bound manner so that train operation and maintenance works do not suffer. I am confident that with proactive

monitoring and in-depth work reviews at regular intervals, all our project units will be able to meet the targets by executing the works in Mission Mode.

Any negligence related to safety during electrification works can have serious consequences. Taking lessons from recent accidents, 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.

In order to successfully commission the electrification works in a time bound manner, CORE has taken several steps like judicious deployment of existing manpower, adoption of EPC mode of contract, engagement of PMC services on need basis where EPC contracts have been awarded, close co-ordination with State Electricity Authorities for timely completion of transmission lines and commissioning of traction substations, detailed work reviews with work agencies from time to time to gauge the progress of works and accordingly taking corrective actions so that things move in the right direction for expeditious execution of works and accomplishment of set targets.

The User Depot Module (UDM) in CORE has been working successfully and 129 consignees have transacted a total of Rs.450 Crore in this financial year up to July which is 88 percent more than the corresponding period in the last financial year. In the current financial year, so far, total procurement through GeM has been Rs.12.37 Crore which is indicative of GeM as an effective procurement platform. Total budget utilization in this financial year has been 35 percent till July, which is satisfactory. **“Person of the Month Award”** has been initiated which inspires the staff to perform better and has an overall motivational effect and positive bearing on organizational performance. Under this initiative,

a total of 08 staff from Project Units have been felicitated from November 2022 to June 2023 for their outstanding contribution.

Due to the efforts of Railway Protection Force, it has become easier to execute electrification projects in areas prone to miscreant activities.

CORE is committed towards maximizing the use of Rajbhasha. I am glad to inform that the second sub-committee of Committee of Parliament on Official Language successfully reviewed the progress of Rajbhasha use in Official works at Lucknow project unit on 22/06/2023 and Bengaluru project unit on 14/07/2023 and awarded certificate to CPD/Lucknow and CPD/Bengaluru.

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 fully committed to the welfare of the employees and their family members. Railway Electrification Sports Organization (RESA) is actively engaged in the promotion of sports. I convey my best wishes to both these organizations. I also extend my greetings to the recognized trade unions and associations who have always played a constructive role in pursuit of goals and excellence in Railway Electrification.

On this auspicious occasion of Independence Day, let us all come forward and take a pledge to face the challenges as a team. I am sure that with the active participation of you all, CORE will bring glory to the Nation.

Jai Hind.

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