



## **Independence Day Message**

**Dear Railwaymen,**

On the auspicious occasion of 78<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.

Taking cognizance of the inherent advantages of electric traction, the Government of India has set a target of electrifying the entire broad gauge network which would result in a better fuel energy usage, reduce dependence on fuel imports, reduced fuel expenditure and environmental protection. In pursuit of this National Mission, Central Organization for Railway Electrification, as a dedicated team, has played a pivotal role, by continuously striving towards making the nation self-reliant through development of a safe, energy efficient, environment friendly and economical rail transport system.

Central Organization for Railway Electrification(CORE) has played a key role in achieving the ambitious target of 100% electrification of all broad gauge railway lines set by Government of India. As a result, CORE has achieved 100% electrification of its target by June 2024 and has electrified a total of 48,029 route kilometer broad gauge network. Since its inception, CORE has contributed 75 per cent of the total electrified broad gauge network of Indian Railways, which is a matter of pride for this organisation. The contribution of CORE in providing the necessary infrastructure for operation of Vande Bharat trains is commendable due to which work on this ambitious plan is becoming possible at a faster pace.

In this calendar year, CORE has electrified many important sections which not only increased the section capacity and operational speed but also accelerated socio-economic development.

In the current financial year, CORE has completed electrification of 106 route kms, 09 Traction Sub Stations, 46 SPs and SSPs, 09 Tower Wagon Sheds, 04 OHE Depots and 210 Staff Quarters.

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 introduction of "**Person of the Month Award**" is a positive step which motivates employees to do better. Under this, 05 employees of various projects have been awarded for outstanding contribution from January 2024 to May 2024.

CORE has not only done an outstanding job in execution of Railway Electrification works across India but it is also one of the Vendor Approval agency of Indian Railways. Vendors for almost all the items required for Railway Electrification are being developed by CORE over the years to ensure uninterrupted supply of quality material. CORE has a large vendor base to get competitive prices for quality material.

In the current financial year CORE has developed vendors through 33 Vendor applications, which include 19 in Developmental category and 14 in Conditional Developmental category. Apart from above, 03 vendors have also been upgraded from Developmental to Approved category after successful performance evaluation.

For the first time in the history of CORE, a grand and successful joint Vigilance Review Meeting of South East Central Railway, North Eastern Railway, East Central Railway, Modern Coach Factory and CORE was organized with the Railway Board in March 2024. In this meeting, the system reforms initiated by CORE were praised and encouraged to promote the use of means of communication for expeditious execution of work and prompt redressal of public grievances.

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. In this sequence, the first issue of the Hindi magazine **“RajbhashaSangam”** has been published. I am glad to inform that Shri Sanjay Singh Negi, Chief Electrical Engineer (M&P)/CORE has been awarded the Railway Minister RajbhashaRajatPadak by Railway Board for the implementation of excellent and commendable work done in the field of official language.

Railway Electrification Women's Welfare Organization (REWVO) is fully committed to the welfare of the employees and their family members. Railway Electrification Sports Association (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.**

**15 August 2024**

**(Ashok Kumar Verma)  
General Manager/CORE/Prayagraj**