

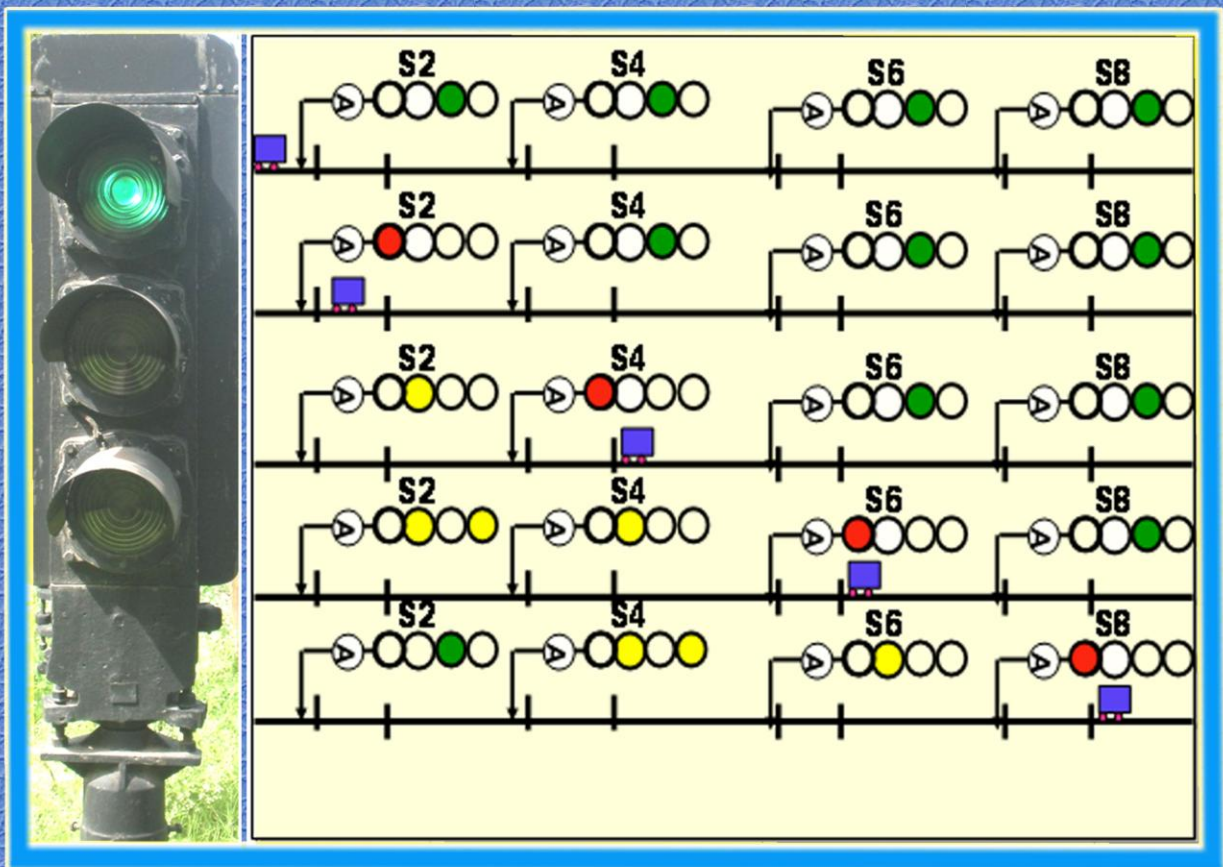
# इरिसेट



# IRISET

## S 10

# COLOUR LIGHT AND AUTOMATIC SIGNALLING



Indian Railways Institute of  
Signal Engineering and Telecommunications

SECUNDERABAD - 500 017



# S 10

## COLOUR LIGHT AND AUTOMATIC SIGNALLING

**VISION :** TO MAKE IRISSET AN INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL REPUTE, SETTING ITS OWN STANDARDS AND BENCHMARKS

**MISSION :** TO ENHANCE QUALITY AND INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY OF SIGNALLING & TELECOMMUNICATION PERSONNEL THROUGH TRAINING

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**INSTITUTE INDIAN RAILWAYS OF  
SIGNAL ENGINEERING & TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**SECUNDERABAD - 500 017**

**Issued in June 2013**

**COLOUR LIGHT AND AUTOMATIC SIGNALLING**

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Checked By	<b>IOS-3, JE (D), LS2, PS-1</b>
No of Pages	<b>59</b>
Date of Issue	<b>June , 2013</b>
Revision No	<b>A3</b>

Incase of any suggestions please write to LS2/PS1 or mail to LS2/PS1, at email address [LS2@iriset.indianrail.gov.in](mailto:LS2@iriset.indianrail.gov.in), [PS1@iriset.indianrail.gov.in](mailto:PS1@iriset.indianrail.gov.in)

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## CHAPTER 1: MULTIPLE UNIT COLOUR LIGHT SIGNAL

### 1.1 Multi-unit Signals

The light units are specifically designed to avoid “phantom” effects in sunlight, which otherwise might occur due to internal reflection and tend to give the impression of a cleared signal. Each light unit comprises a low voltage concentrated filament lamp at the focal centre of a double lens system in order to provide an efficient optical arrangement without the use of a reflector.

Colour Light Signals as the name implies give the different aspects both by day and night by colours corresponding to the night aspects of semaphore signals. The multi-unit type signals are of 2-unit, 3-unit or 4-unit type depending upon the number of aspects to be displayed. They are made of cast iron, sheet metal or fiber reinforced plastic. The 4-unit type is also derived by combining (2+2) units, (3+1) units or single unit also.

The grouping of the light units is usually vertical with the Red aspect the lowest so as to be as close to the driver's eye level as possible. In the case of a 3-aspect signal the green is placed uppermost for the best sighting, whereas with a 4-aspect signal the two yellow aspects must be as widely separated as possible to give a clear “double yellow” indication at a distance.

### 1.2 Advantages over Semaphore Signals

The following are the main advantages of multiunit colour light signals over semaphore signals.

- (a) The same aspect is displayed both by day and night.
- (b) High intensity beams produced by these signals have great penetrating power. This is important when atmospheric conditions are unfavourable. This increases the range of visibility.
- (c) No moving parts are used. Hence, maintenance required is less, No of failures is also less.
- (d) As the structure is light and small, mounting is easier.
- (e) Backgrounds such as trees and buildings etc., which are bad backgrounds for semaphore signals, are good backgrounds for colour light signals.
- (f) Aspects can be displayed at driver's eye level.
- (g) Long range of operation & very quick operation also.

The disadvantages of colour light signals are: -

- (a) Close up view is difficult.
- (b) Glare at night.
- (c) Limited visibility on curves.
- (d) Lamp failures are frequent.
- (e) However with latest technology like LED Lamps, the above Disadvantages can be minimised.

### 1.3 Description

In multi-unit type a separate light unit is provided for each aspect to be displayed. The main parts of a 3-unit type are shown in Fig.1.1 (a). Multiple Unit Colour Light signal units are separated from each other and fitted one cast aluminium/ a sheet metal/ fiber reinforced plastic. The light units are generally arranged vertically about 300mm apart green on top, yellow in the middle and red at the bottom, for 3-aspect signal. Each signal unit is provided with a shield for providing good background and each light unit with a hood to prevent sunlight falling directly on the lens. Below the units a compartment with two terminal blocks for the termination of cable and for internal connections is provided. Separate waterproof-hinged covers are provided for the light units and terminal box. Multiple Unit Colour Light signal units are locked by universal locks.

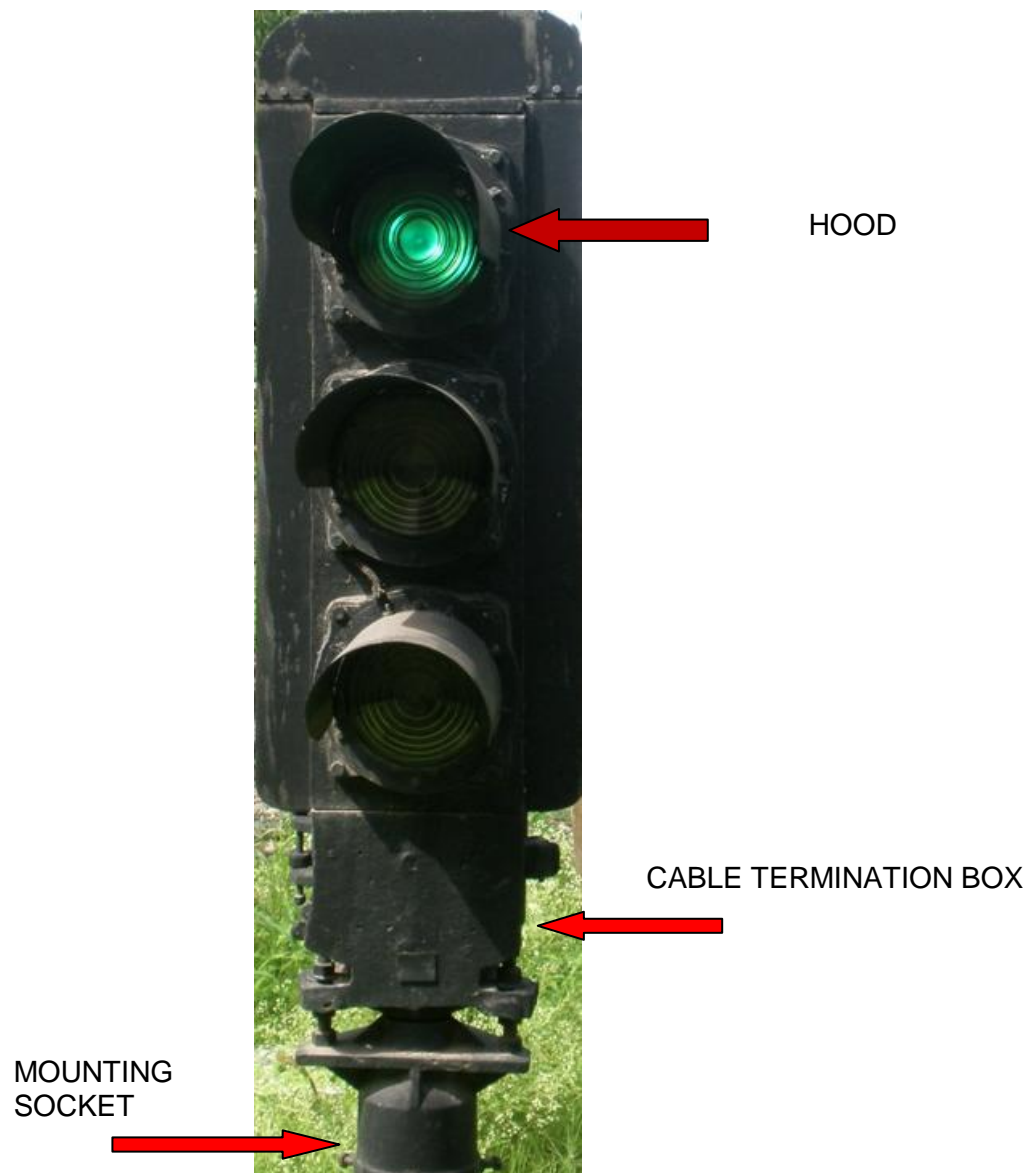


Fig.1.1 (a) 3-ASPECT - MACLS UNIT

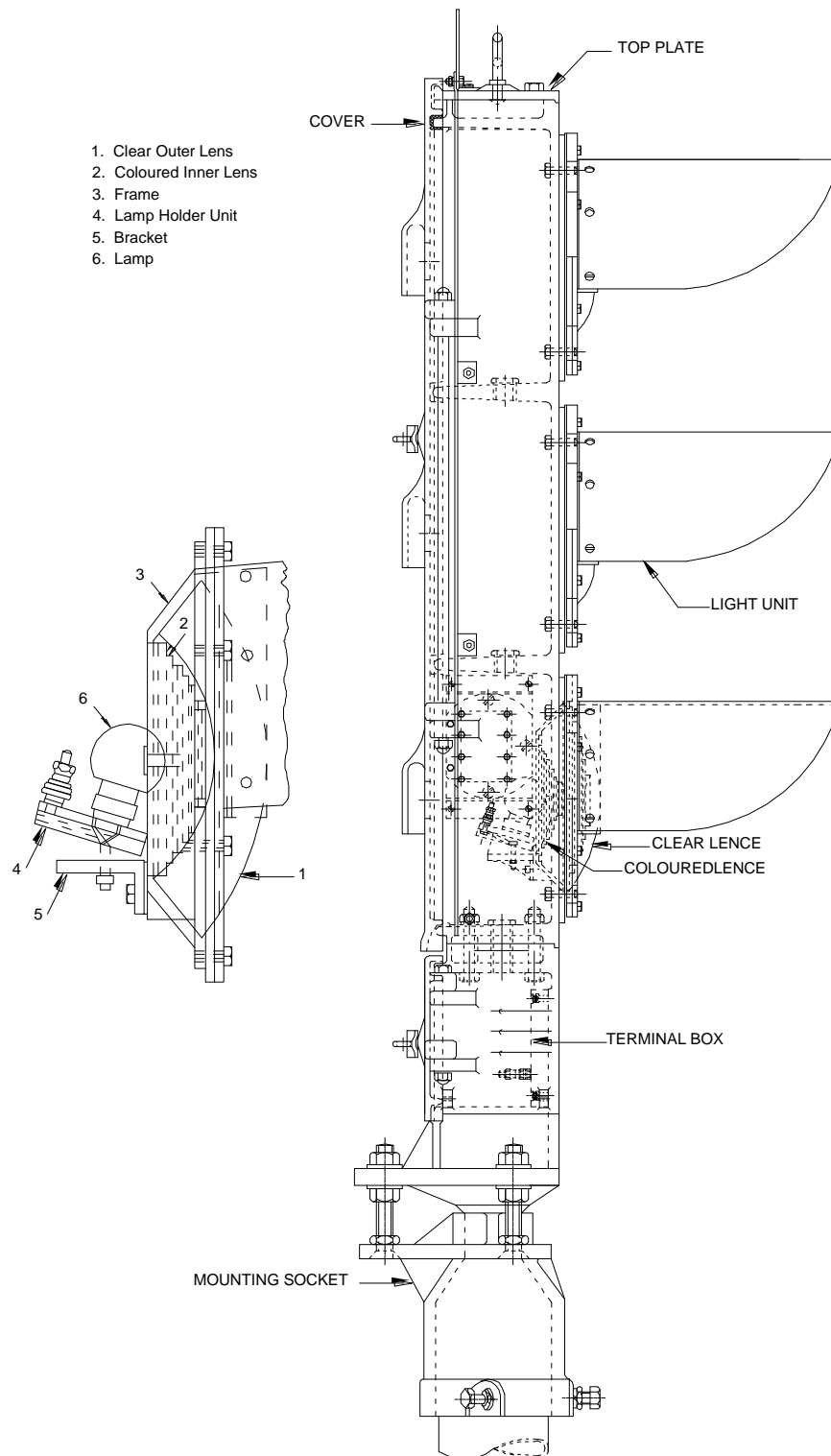


Fig.1.1 (b) SIGNAL COLOUR LIGHT-MULTI UNIT TYPE

**1.4** Normally the Red aspect is kept at the lower compartment at driver's eye level. Breathing holes are also provided on the cover, one for each compartment to ensure ventilation. Suitable expanded metal netting may also be provided over the external lenses to prevent damage of the lenses. To increase the visibility, steel backgrounds are provided. Each aspect is normally provided with a hood to shield the lens unit from external light. Reflectors are not used in multiunit signals as it is necessary to ensure that outside light source such as that from an engine headlight or sunbeam are not reflected back, through the lens to give phantom indications to the drivers.

## 1.5 Focusing Arrangements

To ensure good visibility it is essential that the light unit is focussed to align the beam of light towards the driver. As the red aspect is more important, it is kept at driver's eye level. For the purpose of focussing all signals are fitted with lugs drilled with small apertures at the bottom of the unit to form an aperture sighting arrangement. These two holes are aligned in the direction of the approaching train. The mounting socket (turn table) is fixed on the post with three bolts and by proper adjustment of these bolts; the entire unit can be titled either vertically or horizontally for correct alignment of the beam of light.

The complete CLS unit is fixed over the turntable. It is useful to turn the unit both horizontally and vertically for correct adjustment of the beam light.

For sighting a signal from a particular spot on the track, Sighting Apertures are provided on the right side of the signal units on terminal box (two numbers). These two holes are provided externally and aligned in the direction of the approaching train.

Signal Lamp Holder & Bracket- It will have slotted notches both in horizontal and vertical position. Bracket is fixed over the conical casting of the signal unit. Vertically it can be aligned, for vertical adjustment of focusing of the signal. In horizontal slotted notch the lamp holder will be fixed for keeping the main filament exactly at the focal point of the lens combination.

### **Focus the aspect lamps as per the procedure explained below:**

See that the signal post is in proper plumb and that all the fixing bolts of foundation base and unit base are tight.

See if the unit is properly aligned with aspects turned towards the track at the farthest Point, where the signal should be sighted first. If the unit seems to be away from or closer to the track, loosen nuts on the turntable bolts and adjust its position. The curve or gradient within the signalling distance shall be taken into account while doing it. Unit may be tilted forward or backward, as necessary before fixing it.

Fix a sighting object at the point of maximum required visibility on track (minimum 200 m) or place a man there with a walky-talky.

Now, for focussing of the lamp, loosen the fixing studs of lamp bracket moving it gradually up and down, arrive at a position so that a complete round bright spot is formed at the middle of outer lens. Fix the bracket in that position by tightening its screw studs.

Loosen the nuts on holder bolts below bracket. Moving holder to and fro, bring it to a position at which the aspect is able to be sighted its brightest form from the maximum required visibility distance. Tighten the nuts.

Finally moving along the entire sighting distance, make sure that the signal can be sighted well and continuously for 200 m towards the signal from the farthest point of visibility.

Each CLS unit consists of

- (a) Lens arrangement,
- (b) Signal lamp
- (c) Sig Transformer (110/12V,40VA )

### 1.5.1 Lens arrangement

Each aspect of a colour light signal is a complete light unit in it. Each unit comprises a concentrated filament electric lamp accurately focussed behind an efficient lens system, using a doublet combination of 2 lenses Fig.1.2 (a). These lenses are concave, convex, combination the inner lens being coloured, red, yellow or green and the outer clear lens being a plane lens (clear). The 5½" (140 mm) dia x ½" focus inner lens is stepped outside whereas the outer lens is stepped inside and is of 8 ⅜" (213 mm) dia x ½" focus mounted on a conical casting of the unit. Polycarbonate lenses are used as outer lens to increase signal visibility and these are unbreakable lenses.

The advantages of a step lens over a plane convex lens are:

- (a) Reduced variation in thickness, which reduces the light absorption.
- (b) The improved accuracy of refracting surface.
- (c) Saving in weight (about 1/7<sup>th</sup> of plane convex lens).
- (d) Increased thermal endurance (max. safe tem. is about 100°C as against 45°C in case of plane convex).
- (e) Flexibility in optical design, which enables better use of the light, emitted.

It would be impracticable to make a (213 mm x 100 mm) plane convex lens. The strongest lens of that dia is of 11 ½ "focus, which only collects 6% of the light from the source. A single step lens usually collects 20 to 25% of the light and the combination of 2 lenses are used in multi-unit signal, known as toric combination which may collect upto 50% of the light emitted due to reduction of focal distance by the combination of lenses.

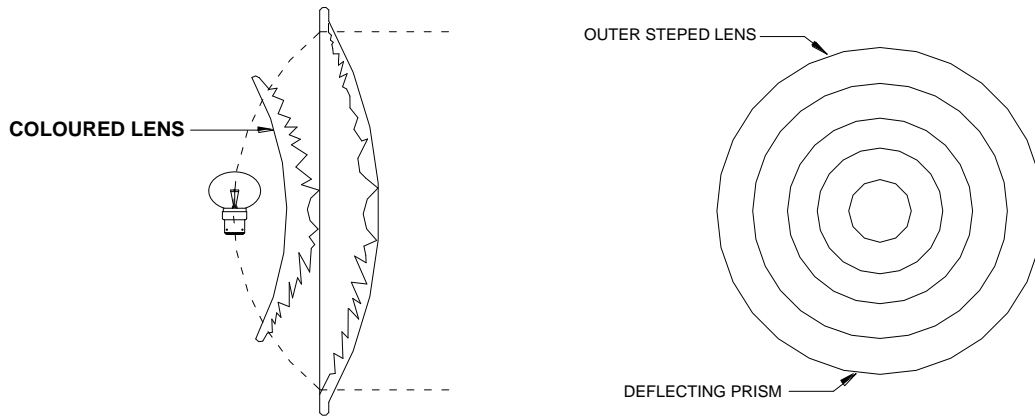
Doublet lens is used on the unit because more beam candlepower is obtained by this arrangement than with a single optical lens. The lens combination collects light from the lamp through a solid angle of 155° and refracts this into almost parallel beam of light. The amount of useful luminous flux cannot be increased by using reflectors due to the possibility of phantom indications from the reflected headlight of trains approaching on sunrays.

If accurately aligned and focussed, the clear visibility of these signals is more than 1000 m in bright sunlight. The visibility of the signal at close range is however poor on curves as the driver passes out off the beam as he approaches the signals. This can be however remedied by the use of spread light lens giving 8° or 16° or 32° angular deflection instead of the usual clear lens. The greater the deflection the less efficient is the main beam and care has to be taken to accurately align the signal for maximum sighting distance combined with good close range visibility.

A driver standing very near a signal cannot read the signal properly as he is out of the direct line of focus of the beam. To obviate such a situation, close up indications are provided on the signal. This may be sidelight or deflecting prism in the outer lens. Where sidelights are provided a separate side light lamp and optical system is used for each aspect so that there cannot be any phantom indication in the main lens. The side light lamp is connected in parallel with the main signal lamp. It consists of a lamp and a colour lens. The lamp rating is 12 V / 4 W (SL 5) or 12 V / 6 W (SL 8) 2-Pin single filament. The code SL 5 indicates Signal Lamp serial number five.

A deflecting prism (Fig.1.2 (a) & 1.2 (b)) is fitted to the outer lens which diverts a part of the light as subsidiary beam at an angle of 35° from the main beam. This should be carefully adjusted and kept either to the right or left of the track depending on the location of the signal to give the best possible effect to a driver on the foot plate of an engine or cab standing at the signal.





**Fig: 1.2 (a) SIDE VIEW OF STEPPED LENS**

**Fig: 1.2 (b) FRONT VIEW OF LENS**

The double lens unit used for long range signals has an outer lens of  $8 \frac{3}{8}$ " (213 mm) diameter with 4 inch (100 mm) focal length and an inner lens of  $5 \frac{1}{2}$ " (140 mm) diameter where as that for short range signal the outer lens is 5" dia., and the inner coloured lens is  $3 \frac{5}{8}$ " dia. The focal point of this lens combination is ( $\frac{1}{2}$ " ) at the back of the inner lens. Due to short focus of the 13 mm combination the lens collects  $155^{\circ}$  of effective light from the front of the lamp. The vasil rings and frame, which is hold the two lenses, are accurately machined so that when the signal unit is assembled the lenses will be held in their correct positions. The inner lens is coloured lens and stepped outside. Where as the outer lens is plane / clear lens and stepped inside. The stepped surfaces of the outer and inner lenses face each other. As both the lenses are concave convex, they help to throw a parallel beam of lights of high intensity.

### 1.5.2 Types of Multi-Unit Signals: -

Multi Unit colour light signals may be of short range or long-range type. The range of visibility of long-range signals is not less than 1000 m and for a short-range signal 350m. Doublet combination lens is used in both the cases but in short range type the outer clear lens is 160 mm ( $6 \frac{3}{8}$ " ) dia against 213 mm ( $8 \frac{3}{8}$ " ) clear lens used in long range signals. The coloured inner lens with outside step in either case is of 140 mm dia ( $5 \frac{1}{2}$ " ). The short-range type is not generally used on Railways and the description given in this chapter pertains to long-range signals.

SI. No	APPLICATION	DIAMETER AND COLOUR	TYPE	NOMINAL FOCAL LENGTH
1	Colour light signals multi unit type.	140 mm Red / green/ Yellow	Outside step	13 mm#
2	Colour light signals multi unit type (for stop signals only).	213 mm Clear	Inside step with spread light.	102 mm
3	Colour light signals, multi unit type (for stop signals only).	213 mm Clear	Inside step with moulded prism for close up indication	102 mm
4	Colour light signals multi unit type (for permissive signals only).	213 mm Clear	Inside step without moulded prism for close up indication	102 mm
5	Route indicator inner lens (Direction type indicator)	92 mm Lunar white	Outside step	16 mm*

Sl. No	APPLICATION	DIAMETER AND COLOUR	TYPE	NOMINAL FOCAL LENGTH
6	Route indicator outer lens (Direction type indicator)	125 mm Clear.	Inside step with moulded prism for close up indication	70 mm
7	Point & trap indicators, target type (clear only)	101 mm Red / Green / lunar white /Clear	Inside step	89 mm
8	Semaphore signal lamps	136 mm Clear	Inside step	89 mm
9	Calling "ON" colour light signal	136 mm Yellow	Inside step	89 mm
10	Position Light Shunt signal	101 mm Lunar white	Inside step	89 mm

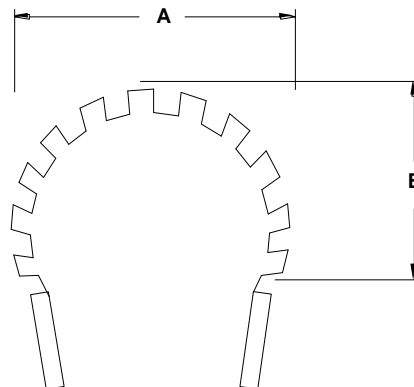
\* The focal length refers to doublet combination of the lens with 127 mm dia x 70 mm focal length inside step clear lens.

\* The focal length refers to doublet combination of the lens with 213 mm dia x 102 mm focal length inside step clear lens.

\*\* The inside step clear lens, moulded out of polycarbonate material, shall confirm to Drg. No: S - 24845

## 1.6 Lamps Used for Colour Light Signals

A signal lamp consists of a helix of tungsten wire mounted within a sealed glass envelope. The tungsten wire or filament as it is called is so designed that it is raised to incandescence by the flow of electric current through it when voltage is impressed, across its terminals. The envelope is either evacuated or filled up with gas, which will not combine chemically with tungsten filament even at high temperature. Although rapid chemical decomposition of the filament is eliminated, the wire wears away gradually as the lamp "burns". This process is called "evaporation", atoms of incandescence, which condenses and forms a black deposit on the bulb.

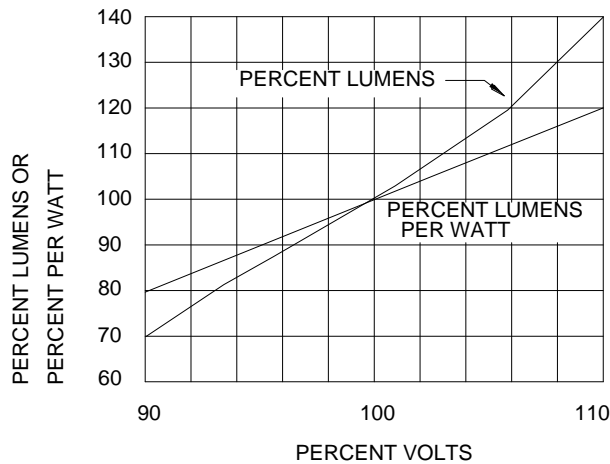


**Fig: 1.2 (c) TUNGSTEN FILAMENT**

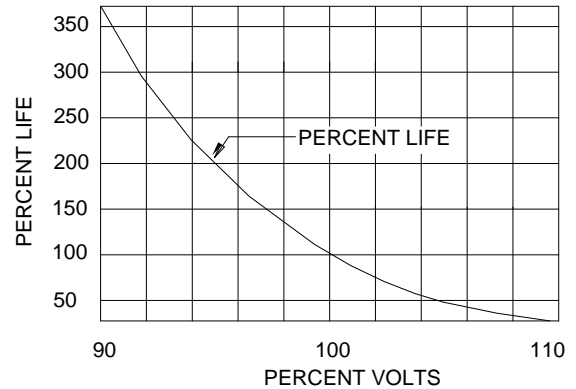
During the life cycle the lumen output or candlepower of the lamp diminishes, partly on account of attenuation of the metal conductor, which reduces the wattage, consumed and partly as a result of black deposit of tungsten, which has evaporated. In common type of signalling lamps, the lumens output will have reduced to approximate, 15% just before the lamp fails.

### MULTIPLE UNIT COLOUR LIGHT SIGNALS

The light output of a tungsten filament depends entirely upon the temperature at which it operates, which in turn depends on the voltage impressed. This relationship is illustrated in curve, of Fig. 1.3(a). The efficiency of the lamp as a light generating device also varies with the filament temperature and voltage. This is shown in Fig. 1.3(b) by curve 'P'.



**Fig: 1.3 (a) LIGHT INTENSITY**



**Fig: 1.3 (b) LIFE OF LAMP**

Light output and efficiency increase or decrease in proportion to the voltage impressed on the lamp, but the life of a lamp decreases as the light output and efficiency increases. The life, therefore, varies inversely with the voltage. It results from the fact that the rate of evaporation is determined by the operating temperature of the tungsten wire. With higher operating temperature, the rate of evaporation is greatly increased.

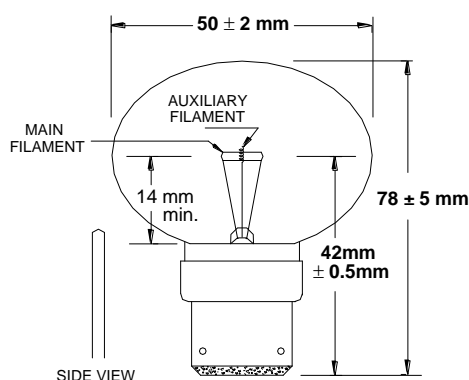
As the light output varies quite rapidly with variation in voltage, at 90% of the rated voltage, the candle power of the lamp is reduced to about 70% of the value of full rated voltage. Consequently, care must be exercised in reducing the lamp voltage that the intensity of the beam is not reduced to a point where atmospheric conditions can affect the integrity of the signal aspect.

Lamps burned at less than 80% of the rated voltage may have their filament temperature reduced to a point where chromatic of the signal light colour will be affected. For colour light signals a low voltage lamp (12 V) is preferred. Low voltage lamps take higher currents and therefore, current density is higher. Higher current density gives higher temperature thereby increasing light output and efficiency. A high voltage lamp (110 V /33 W) has resistance of

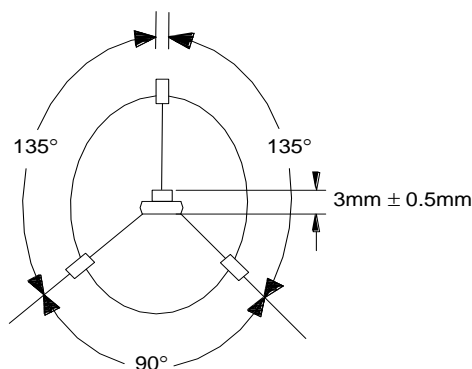
$$\frac{110 \times 110}{33} = 367 \text{ Ohm and } 300 \text{ ma.}$$

A thick filament would technically strong. Especially for the colour light signals kept closer of the track and subjected to vibrations. A long filament will have most of its light outside the focal point and hence the brilliance of the lamp will be effected.





**Fig: 1.3 (c) FILAMENT CONNECTED IN PARALLEL**



PLAN FROM TOP OF BULBS, CAP DOWN

**Fig: 1.3 (d) ILLUSTRATIONS OF LAMPS NOS. SL -17, 21 and 22**

The following three types of signal lamps are generally available for use on multiple aspect colour light Signals: -

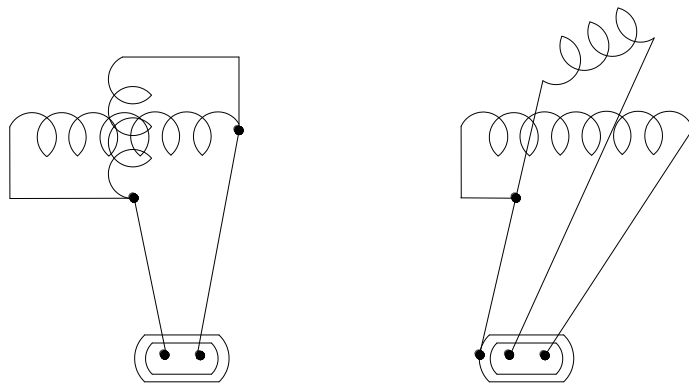
Sl. No.	Type of Signal	Rating of filaments	Light output in lumens
1.	SL 17	Main filament 12 V / 16 W, Auxiliary filament 16 V / 12 W	150 lumens
2.	SL 18	12 V / 24 W	275 lumens
3.	SL 21	Main filament 12 V / 24 W, Auxiliary filament 16 V / 12 W	230 lumens

In the earlier installations of multiple aspect colour light signals, cascading arrangement was not provided. Therefore, in those days and in such installations it was necessary to provide double filament signal lamps so that even in case of main filament failure, the auxiliary filament will be there to display the aspect though it may be very dim. This reduced the chances of drivers coming across blank signals. But some Railways continue to use double filament lamp even after (cascading) "Cutting-in" arrangement has been entered with the result that daily complaints are being received from the drivers and motor-men of signals displaying conflicting aspects such as Red and Yellow or Green and double Yellow etc. Because, the lamp proving relays are not adjusted properly. If the signal is to function efficiently, the lamp proving relay, connected to the OFF aspect signal lamp should drop only when both the filaments have fused and the proving relay connected to the 'ON' aspect signal lamp should be capable of de-energising when any one of the filaments has fused for timely detection.

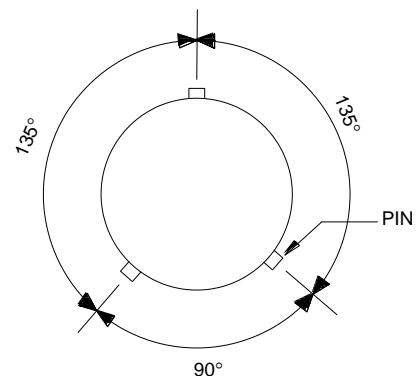
## MULTIPLE UNIT COLOUR LIGHT SIGNALS

To overcome the problem, Railway has switched over to the use of single filament lamp (SL 18, 12 V / 24 Watt) for the "OFF" aspects of colour light signal where 'cutting-in' is provided. If SL 18, 12 V / 24 W lamp is used where earlier SL 21, 12 V / 33 W lamp was in use for the "OFF" aspect, there may be complaints from the drivers and motor-men regarding impaired visibility of OFF aspect after the change-over. This argument is ill founded because it is evident from the specification of the lamp and which has been verified from actual use that the light output from the SL 18 lamp is much more than obtained from the SL 21 lamp. Even though the wattage is less by as much as 9 W, still the light output is more by 45 lumens because in the SL 18 lamp there is only one filament and the same is correctly focussed at the focal point of the lens whereas in the case of SL 21 there are two filaments and one of them have to be necessarily out of focus. It is therefore SL 18, 12 V / 24 W lamps for the OFF aspects of multiple aspect colour light signals where "Cutting-in" arrangement is already catered in the design of circuitry.

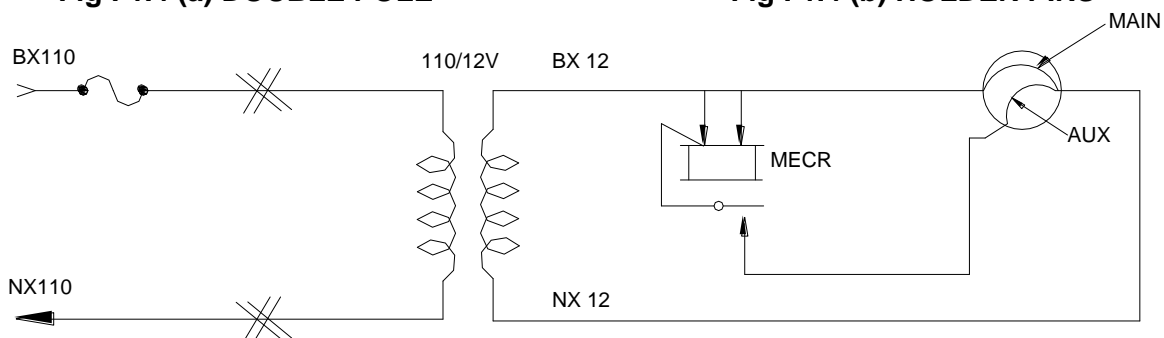
Lamp failures with single filament lamps caused considerable traffic delays. This led in the first place to devising an arrangement with 2 similar single filament lamps; the second being normally comes in circuit by the failure of the first. As the second lamp will always be out of focus, the visibility was greatly reduced and hence, the later development has the 2 filaments known as "main" and "auxiliary" placed in the same envelope in the shape of double filament lamps. These are classified as two pole known as double pole (parallel burning) or triple pole (independent burning) as shown in Fig. 1.4(a).



**Fig : 1.4 (a) DOUBLE POLE**



**Fig : 1.4 (b) HOLDER PINS**



**Fig: 1.4 (c) SCHEMATIC WIRING DIAGRAM**

Double Pole Double Filament lamps may have centre contacts of 2-pin bayonet cap or triple pin type. As both the filaments are burning always, it is essential to maintain the auxiliary filament at a lower voltage to prevent its failure before the main filament fails. As an example, in the type SL 17 (12 V / 25 W) double filament double pole 3 pin lamps, main filament is rated at 12 V / 16 W and the auxiliary filament at 16 V / 12W. The other type of lamp used for multiunit type is SL 21 (12 V / 33 W) double filament, double pole, 3 pin in which the main filaments is rated at 12 V 24W and the auxiliary 16 V / 12 W. The main horizontal filament is placed at the focal point of the lens combination whereas the vertical auxiliary filament is slightly away.

In order to ensure that the main filament is at the correct focal point 3-pin caps are used. As shown in Fig.1.4 (b), the three pins are not at 120 deg apart and hence, insertion of the lamps in any position other than the desired position is not possible. The lamp has 2 bases, the inner one is for sealing the envelope and the top one with the pins is used for rebasing to get the filaments in the correct position. In SL 21, one filament is horizontal in position and other filament is vertically placed. As the two filaments are burning simultaneously, at the place of crossing of the filaments, more heat is generated and the filament is fusing earlier. So the life of the lamp getting reduced. This is the hot spot problem. To overcome this problem, triple pole lamps came in existence. In these lamps, the common connection of the filaments is connected to the shell and the other end of each of the filament connected to the contact plate Fig.1.4 (a). With triple pole lamps, a lamp-proving relay (MECR) is used in series with the main filament. When the main filament fails, the auxiliary filament is brought in circuit through the de-energised contact of the MECR Fig.1.4 c. As both the filaments are not burning together the auxiliary filament can also be rated at the same voltage (12 V) as that of the main filament.

In SL 21 double Pole, double filament and the main filament is horizontally located with the ratings of 12 V/ 24 W and the auxiliary filament rating of 16 V/12 W vertically placed. In these lamps, when main filament fused the auxiliary filament came into circuit with a dim light because of less wattage.

In SL 35A Triple Pole, double filament and both filaments are kept horizontally located with the ratings of 12V / 24 W main filament and auxiliary filament.(12 / 24 W )

In SL 35B Triple Pole, double filament and both filaments are kept horizontally located with the ratings of 12 V / 33 W &12 /33 W for both main and auxiliary filaments.

<b>Table-1 Dimensions of Signalling Lamps (B.S. Specification No.469)</b>				
<b>Ref.</b>	<b>PURPOSE * Types Recommended By RDSO</b>	<b>Rating Volts</b>	<b>Watts</b>	<b>Remarks</b>
<b>*SL5</b>	Signal and point Indication behind levers. Signal box diagrams, multi lamp route indicator with parallel connection	12	4	V or Bow filament
<b>*SL17</b>	<i>Multi Aspect CLS.</i>	<i>12 Main 16 Aux</i>	<i>16 12</i>	<i>Double Pole</i>
<b>*SL21</b>	Multi Aspect colour light Signal	12 16	24 12	Double Pole
<b>*SL30</b>	Illuminated diagrams and control panels.	12	1.2	V or Bow filament



Table-1 Dimensions of Signalling Lamps (B.S. Specification No.469)				
Ref.	PURPOSE * Types Recommended By RDSO	Rating Volts	Watts	Remarks
SL 30	Illuminated diagrams and control panels.	24	24	Red end piece, Yellow end piece.
*SL 33	Position light junction	110	25	-
*SL 13	Multi lamp type Route indicator with series connections	6	1.2	V or Bow filament
*SL 18	Multi Aspect colour light Signal	12	24	-

Sl. No.	Reference	RATING		Specified Life in hours
		Volts	Watts	
1	SL 5	12	4	100
2	SL 21	12	33	1000
3	SL 30	12	16	1000
4	SL 31	24	1.2	-
5	SL 33	110	25	500
6	SL 18	12	24	1000
7	SL 35A	12	24	1000
8	SL 35AL	12	24	5000
9	SL 35B	12	33	1000
10	SL 35BL	12	33	5000

The following are the important instructions for the maintenance of signal lamps: -

- Lamps must be replaced with similar lamps.
- Lamps must be inspected at intervals specified by the officials to see that they are burning properly.
- Receptacle and base of lamp must be clear to ensure proper contact.
- Care must be exercised when replacing lamps to see that the pins in the base are turned to the end of the slots in the receptacle and forced into place by the contact spring.
- Applied voltage must not be more than the rated voltage of the lamps and should not be more than 90 % of the rated voltage (10.8 V). Not less than 80% percentage of the rated voltage (9.6 V).
- Lamps should be stored in clear dry place.
- Where practicable, signal lenses roundels and reflectors should be cleaned without removing the lamp.

- (h) Voltage reading at lamp must be taken each time when the lamp is replaced.
- (i) Double filament lamps must be replaced when one filament fails.
- (j) New lamps should be handled carefully and as little as possible before placing in service. Jerking should be avoided so that filament will not be distorted.
- (k) Maintainers should not carry lamps in their toolboxes. A spare lamp should be stored in one apparatus case near every station.

### Records of Signal lamp failure

Signal lamp failure should be maintained as under given table:

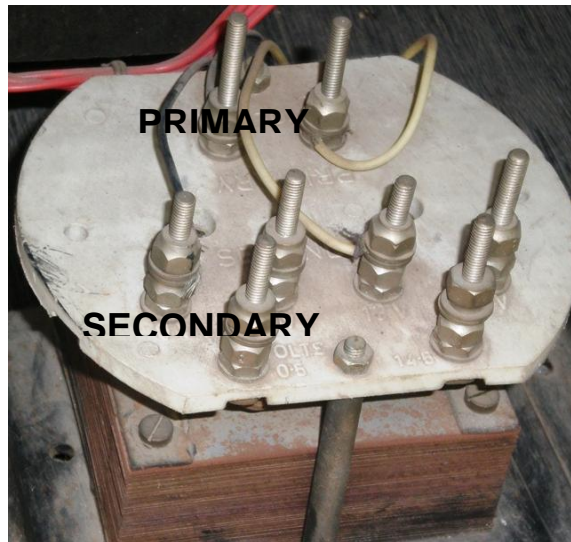
S.No	Type of Signal lamp and make	Lot no.	Lamp testing date	Voltage on lamp holder terminal	Lamp replacement date
1	2	3	4	5	6
2					
3					

### 1.7 Signal Transformer (IRS: S 59)

The rated voltage of colour light signal of multiunit type is 110 V 50 C/S AC (high voltage) or 12 VAC (low voltage). Usually the high voltage is used for CLS. The low voltage type is preferred where the signal lamp is fed from a standby battery.

In the high voltage type a transformer 110 / 12 V / 40 VA 50 C/S is provided for each aspect in the respective unit. Without a transformer, if the lamp is directly connected to the cabin as the lamp current is about 3 A (for SL 21 12V / 33W), the voltage drop in cable will be very high. As an example, let us assume a cable resistance of say 10 ohms, the voltage drop being roughly 30 V. Hence, the voltage to be maintained at the cabin is about 42 V, and in this case, most of the power supplied is lost in the cable. Further, the voltages to be maintained at the cabin will have to be different for different signals, as all signals are not located at the same distance. Use of a transformer at the signal reduces the current in the cable to about  $33 \text{ W} / 110 \text{ V} = 0.3 \text{ A}$ .

Hence, the drop in voltage under the same condition will be only  $(0.3 \text{ A} \times 10 \text{ OHMS})$  about 3 V out of 110 V supplied. Hence, the voltage drop is negligible and the same 110 V supply can be used for all signals. Tapings are provided either on primary side or on secondary side of the transformer to get the specified voltage across the lamp irrespective of line drop and drop due to series repeating apparatus, in the figure 1.6.



Signal Transformer (110/12, 40 VA)

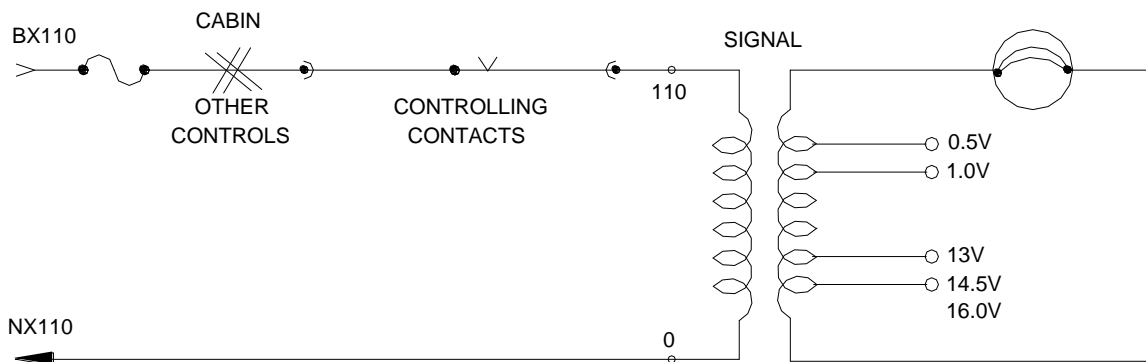


Fig: 1.6 TYPICAL CIRCUIT DIAGRAM

Transformer rating is 110 V / 12 VAC, 40 VA, 50Hz. Minimum capacity of the transformer is 40 VA continuous. No load current shall not be more than 15 mA

$$\% \text{ Regulation} = \frac{\text{No load voltage} - \text{Full load voltage}}{\text{No load voltage}} \times 100$$

% Regulation measured on secondary side shall not be more than 15%. Signal Transformers are available in two types.

- (a) IRS type (IRS: S-59). It is having tapping on secondary winding.
- (b) Siemens type: It is having tapping on primary winding.

Voltages mentioned above on Transformer tapping are nominal voltages at “No Load”. Insulation Resistance shall not be less than 100 MΩ with 500 VDC Megger. It shall be measured between the core and each winding and also between the primary and secondary windings.

**NOTE:** As per Railway Board’s Letter No.96/Sig/M/4 dated 01.10.1997, 110 VAC feed system should be provided on all colour light signal installations.



## CHAPTER 2: SIGNAL ASPECT CONTROL CIRCUITS

### 2.1 Introduction

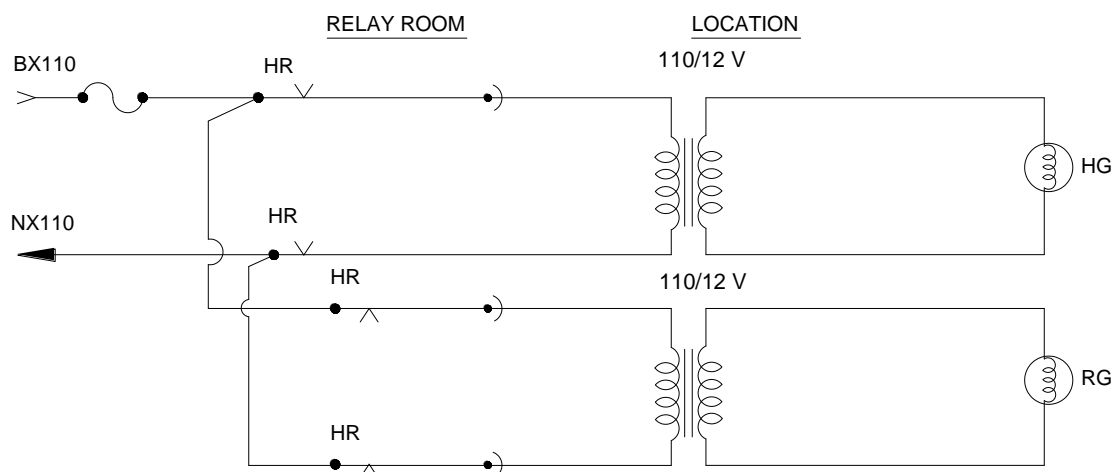
In CLS, a Signal Control Relay must always control the signal. Without a control relay, the signal may have no aspect, when the signal lever is left in a mid-position. To make the circuit simple, signal aspect control relays are introduced. For 2-aspect signal, one control relay is required. Similarly for 3-aspect signal, two control relays; and for 4-aspect signal three control relays are required.

### 2.2 Two-Aspect Colour Light Signal Control Circuit

The relay HR is controlled through the selection circuit proving all the conditions including signal/lever/button-operated contacts. The energisation of this relay connects "OFF" Aspect YELLOW. If any one or more conditions required to take OFF the signal is not fulfilled HR is de-energized and the signal is maintained at "ON" Aspect. 2-Aspect Signal Lamp Control Circuit is given in Fig.2.1.

**TWO-ASPECT CONTROL TABLE**

S.No	RELAY CONDITION	ASPECT
1	HR ↑	HG
2	HR ↓	RG



**Fig 2.1 TWO-ASPECT CLS CONTROL CIRCUIT (LOOP LINE STATER)**

### 2.3 Three-Aspect Colour Light Signal Control Circuit (STOP SIGNAL)

In this circuit HR and DR (two) control relays are used. Where HR is a Yellow Aspect control relay and DR is a Green Aspect control relay. HR relay is energized proving the conditions required up to next signal and overlap in advance of it. DR relay is controlled by the off aspect (Y or G) of the 3-Aspect Signal in advance. When HR itself is not energized the signal is maintained at Red Aspect irrespective of the Signal Aspect ahead. When HR is energized Yellow Aspect is selected through HR relay front contact. . When DR is energized Green Aspect is selected through HR & DR relay front contacts.

A front contact of DR relay is used for green aspect lamp circuit. A back contact of DR relay in yellow lamp circuit is used to prevent both yellow and green lamps lighting up when DR picks up. The control circuit for 3-aspect stop signal is shown in Fig.2.2.

THREE-ASPECT CONTROL TABLE

S.No	RELAY CONDITION	ASPECT
1	HR $\uparrow$ + DR $\uparrow$	DG
2	HR $\uparrow$ + DR $\downarrow$	HG
3	HR $\downarrow$	RG

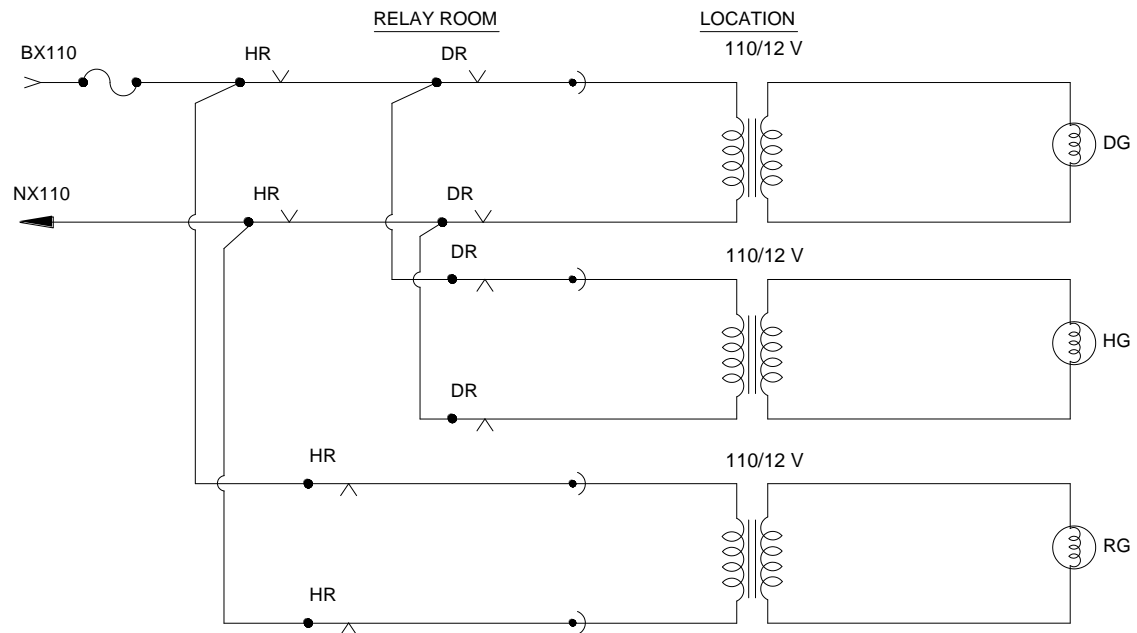


Fig. 2.2 THREE-ASPECT CLS CONTROL CIRUIT (STOP SIGNAL)



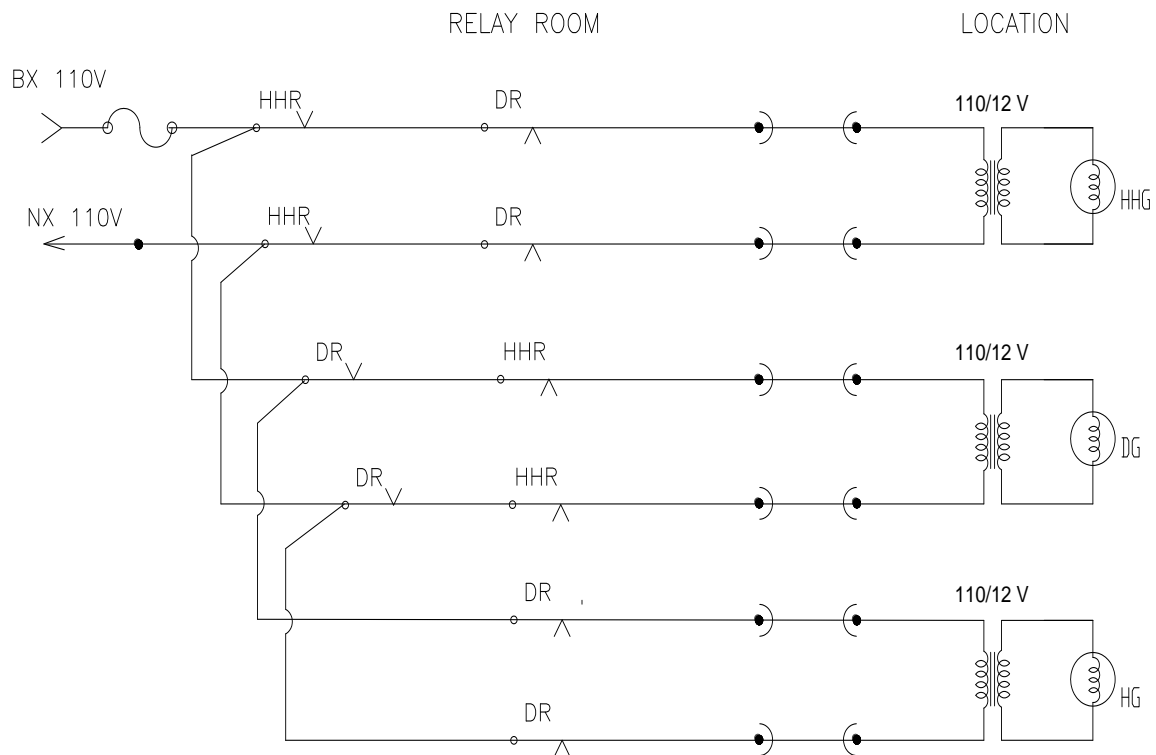
THREE ASPECT SIGNAL

## 2.4 Three-Aspect Distant Signal Control Circuit (PERMISSIVE SIGNAL)

In this case, the green aspect-controlling relay of the distant (DR) is controlled through home signal DR Relay. The attention aspect controlling relay HHR is energized whenever the Home Signal is OFF irrespective of whether the route is set for the straight or turnout (loop line). Distant signal clear aspect (Green) will lit only when run through permitted on main line. Normally, the distant signal displays yellow through DR back contact. When HHR energizes the signal displays double yellow i.e. the top yellow lamp is lit through HHR front, and bottom yellow is lit through DR back contact. The green aspect is displayed through HHR back and DR front contacts. The control circuit for a 3-Aspect distant signal is given in Fig.2.3.

**THREE-ASPECT CONTROL TABLE**

S.No	RELAY CONDITION	ASPECT
1	HHR ↑ + DR ↓	HHG
2	HHR ↓ + DR ↑	DG
3	DR ↓	HG



**Fig. 2.3 THREE-ASPECT CLS CONTROL CIRCUIT (PERMISSIVE SIGNAL)**

## 2.5 Four-Aspect Colour light Signal Control Circuit: They are two methods

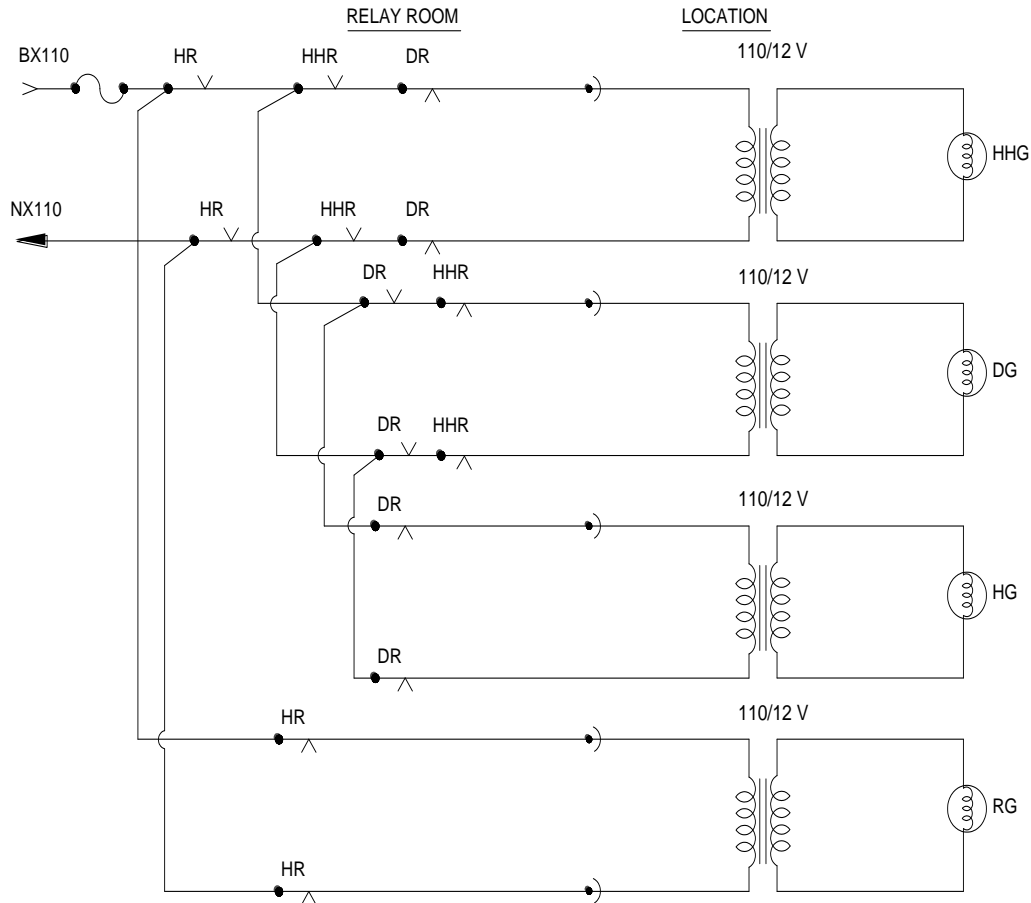
### 2.5.1 First Method

In this case, both HHR & DR are not allowed to energize at a time. HHR picks up only when the signal in advance displays Yellow aspect. DR picks up only when the signal in advance displays Double Yellow or Green aspect. When HR is up, the bottom Yellow is brought in circuit, which is maintained to given double Yellow aspect when HHR picks up. When DR is up, this Yellow lamp is disconnected and Green lamp is connected through HR-Front and DR-Front Contacts. This is shown in Fig 2.4. This method is used in Absolute Block working.



**FOUR-ASPECT CONTROL TABLE**

S.No	RELAY CONDITION	ASPECT
1	HR ↑ + HHR ↑ + DR ↓	HHG
2	HR ↑ + HHR ↓ + DR ↑	DG
3	HR ↑ + DR ↓	HG
4	HR ↓	RG

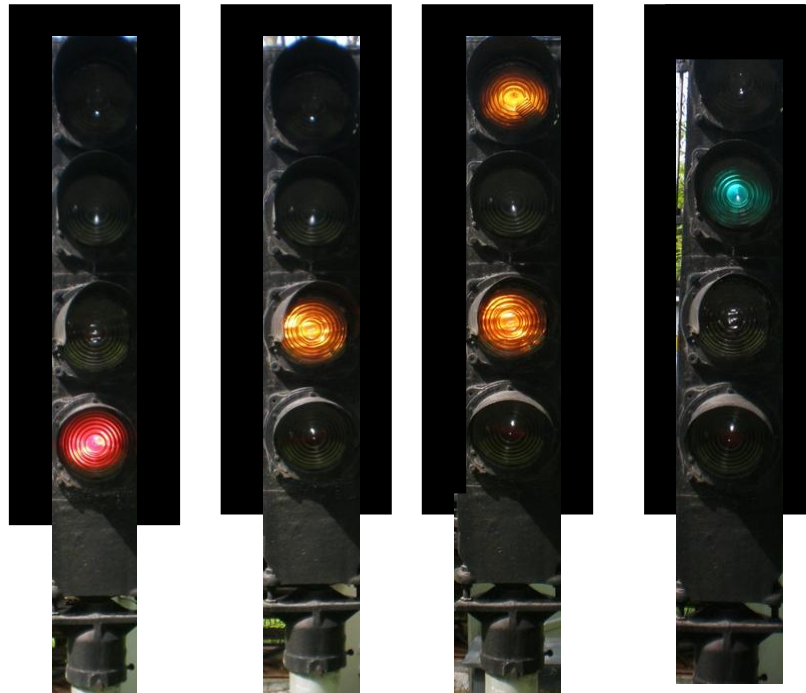
**Fig. 2.4 FOUR-ASPECT CLS CONTROL CIRUIT**

### 2.5.2 Second Method

When HR is de-energized, the signal will display Red aspect. When HR alone is energized and the next signal is at "ON" the signal displays YELLOW aspect through DR back contact. When HHR is energized in addition to HR and the next signal is showing Yellow, the signal displays attention (Double Yellow) aspect. When DR is energized in addition to HR & HHR and the next signals is showing attention (Double Yellow) or proceed (Green), the signal displays GREEN aspect shown in Fig 2.5. This method is generally used in Automatic Block signalling.

**FOUR-ASPECT CONTROL TABLE**

S.No	RELAY CONDITION	ASPECT
1	HR ↑ + HHR ↑ + DR ↓	HHG
2	HR ↑ + HHR ↑ + DR ↑	DG
3	HR ↑ + DR ↓	HG
4	HR ↓	RG



FOUR-ASPECT SIGNAL

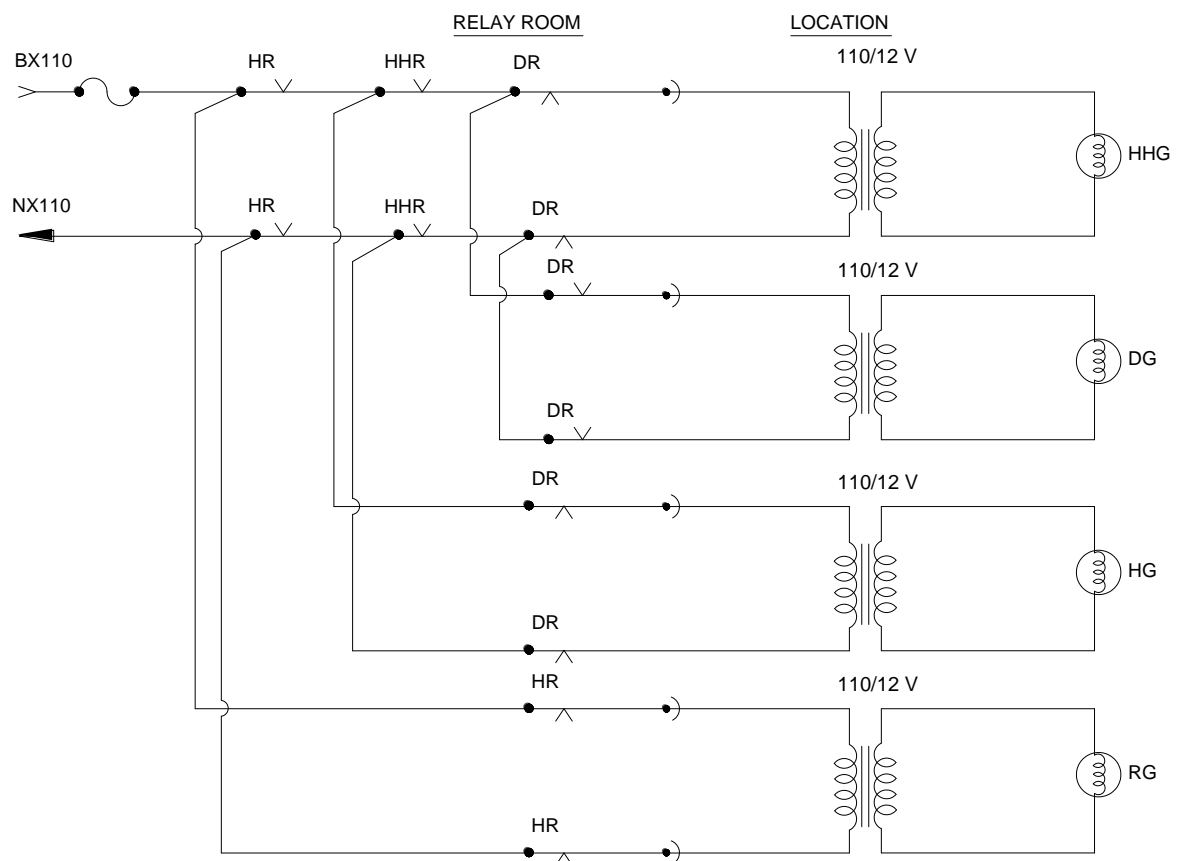


Fig. 2.5 FOUR-ASPECT CLS CONTROL CIRCUIT

## CHAPTER 3: SIGNAL INDICATION CIRCUITS

### 3.1 INTRODUCTION

As no backlight is provided on colour light signals, the aspects of the signals are repeated in the cabin when the signals are either manual or semi-automatic/Automatic. Even though in lever controlled signals all the aspects are repeated individually, it is often considered sufficient to give only two indications, one for 'ON' and the other 'OFF' indication common for all 'OFF' aspects. As cabin indicator used for lever-controlled signals is designed as a single unit so arranged that additional units can be bolted to the top of it. Any number of units (2 or 3 or 4) can thus be used to form a multi-aspect indicator. The case is of black moulded insulation and the pull off door of the same material at the back of the case provides easy access to the lamp holder. For signal repeating, it is usual to have a coloured dome glass of about 1 1/4" dia, the colour corresponding to the aspect repeated. (The same indicator can be used for repeating point indications and in such case the coloured dome will be replaced by a ground glass with stencils N or R behind it). The lamp used is SL 5, 12 V / 4 W single filament bayonet cap 2-pin type.

### 3.2 The methods adopted for repeating signal aspects are

- (a) Using current transformer method.
- (b) Using signal proving relays method.

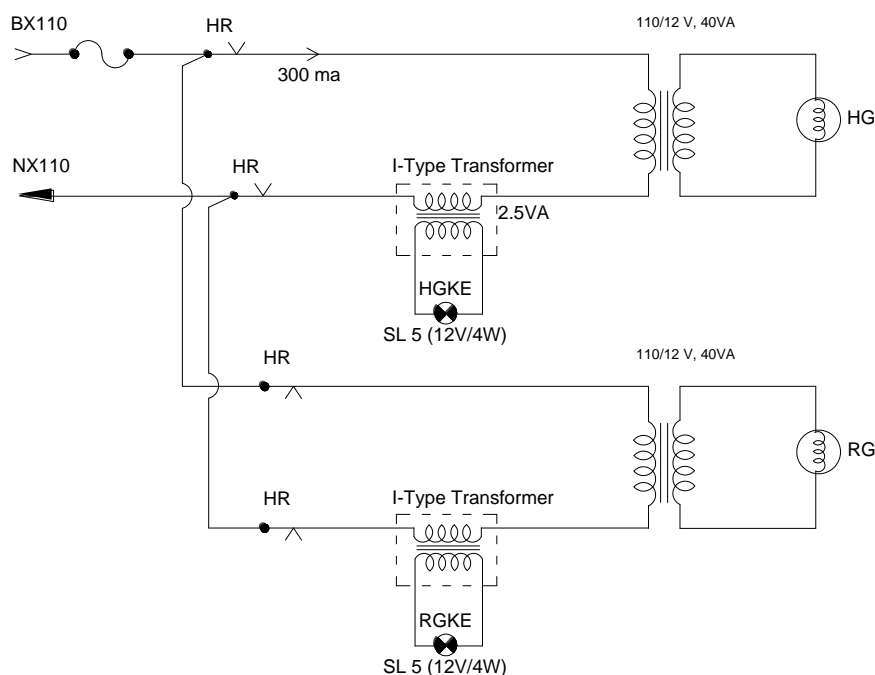
#### 3.2.1 INDICATION TRANSFORMER METHOD

The first method uses a current transformer shown in (Fig.3.1). Transformers working with the same principle are used for indication purposes and hence, they are called indication transformers.

When the signal lamp is burning the current drawn by the signal transformer primary is large to compensate for the secondary load ampere-turns. Hence, the ampere turns produced in the primary and therefore, in the secondary of the current transformer are more which gives nearly 10 V for the indication lamps to light up. When the signal lamp is fused, the signal transformer draws less current and therefore, the current in the primary of current transformer is reduced. This reduces the secondary induced emf and therefore the lamp is dim. This current transformer having the indication lamp (12 V / 4 W SL 5) directly connected is known as I type. The primary current is in the range of 0.3 A, the voltage ratio primary to secondary is 10/7 volts + 5%. The secondary load is 2.5 VA at 7 V. If the cascading arrangement is to be provided, ECR methods are used.

#### Drawbacks:

- (a) Dim glow indication may appear in case of signal lamp failures.
- (b) Not suitable for cascading arrangement.
- (c) Failure of the indication lamp affects the signal lamp voltage.



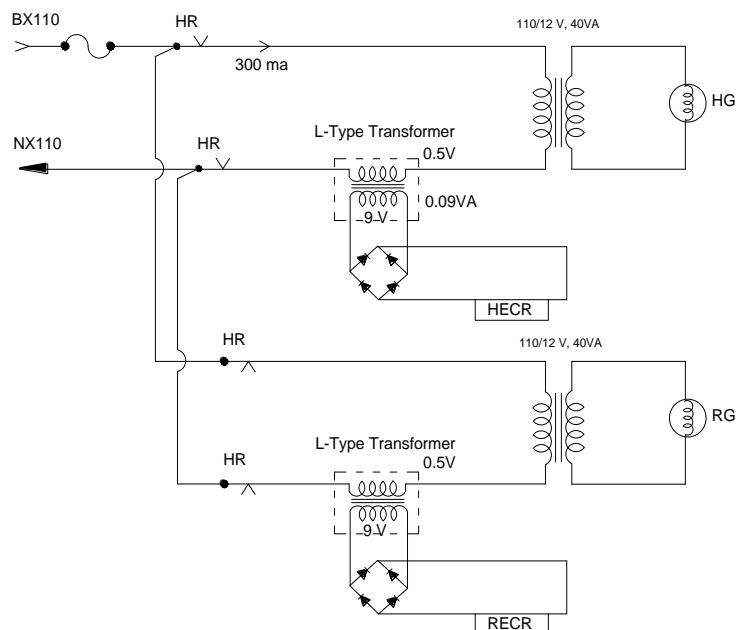
**Fig: 3.1 INDICATION TRANSFORMER METHOD**

### 3.2.2 ECR METHOD

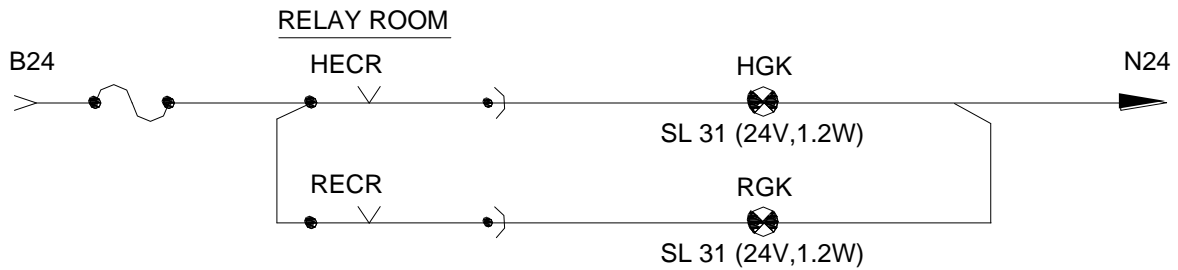
#### (a) ECR Method using 'L'-type Transformer

This method is suitable where the signal lamps are directly fed from the cabin, for AC RE area & Non-RE area. Fig 3.2 (a,b)

In this, L-type current transformer is connected in series with lamp circuit (i.e., with primary of signal lamp transformer). L-type Transformer is suitable for low current in the range of 300 mA On the primary; the secondary develops 9 V across it. The capacity of the L-type transformer is 0.09 VA. The voltage ratio is 0.5 V / 9V, +5%.



**Fig: 3.2 (a) ECR METHOD BY L - TYPE TRANSFORMER**



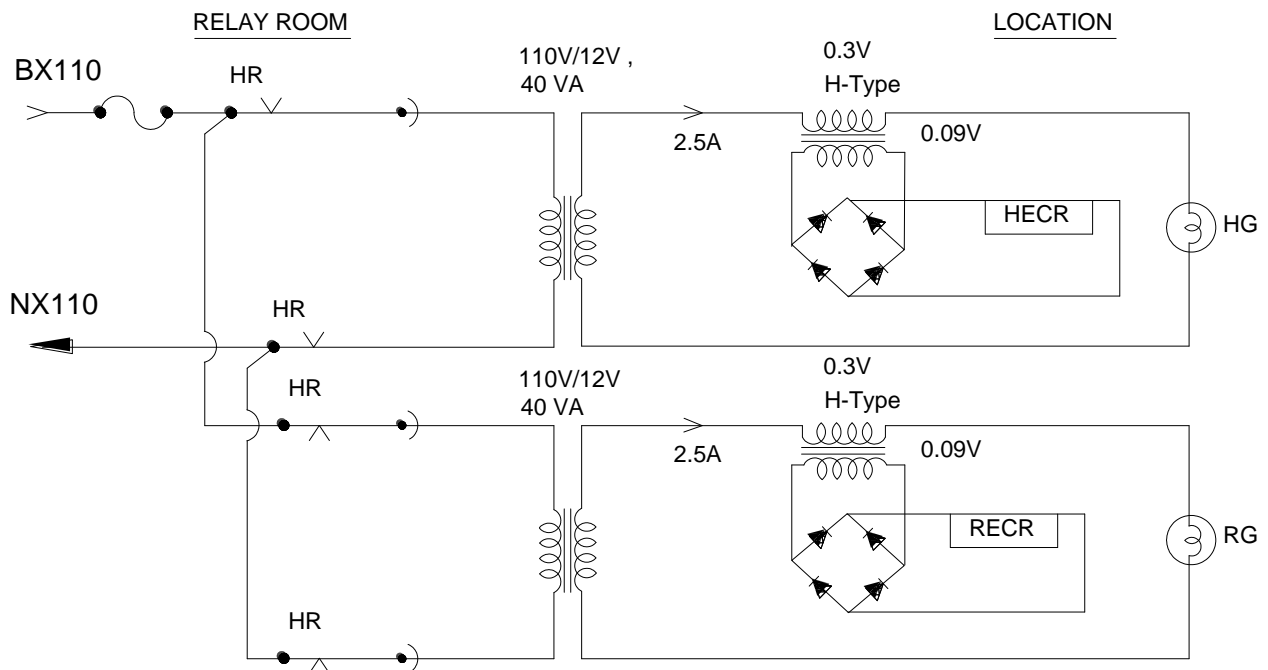
**Fig: 3.2 (b) INDICATION CIRCUIT**

The Bridge rectifier is connected across the secondary of the L-type current transformer.

If the signal lamp burning, then the ECR picks up; and if the signal lamp is fused or not glowing, then the ECR drops. Concerned indications will appear on the panel through ECR contacts.

### (b) ECR Method using 'H'-type Transformer

In this, H-type current transformer is connected in series with the secondary side of the signal transformer. H-type current transformer is suitable for high current in the range of 2.5 A on primary the secondary develops 9 V across it. The capacity of the H-type transformer is 0.09 VA. The voltage ratio is 0.3 V / 9 V; +5%. The Bridge rectifier is connected across the secondary of H-type current transformer. Lamp checking relay called as ECR is connected to the output of the rectifier. When the signal lamp is glowing the concerned ECR picks up. Then its repeater relay picks up in the cabin. When the signal lamp is fused or not glowing, the concerned ECR drops. There by its repeater relay also drops. Signal lamp indications in the cabin are given through the contacts of ECPRs. Fig 3.3 (a, b and c).



**Fig: 3.3 (a) ECR METHOD BY H - TYPE TRANSFORMER**



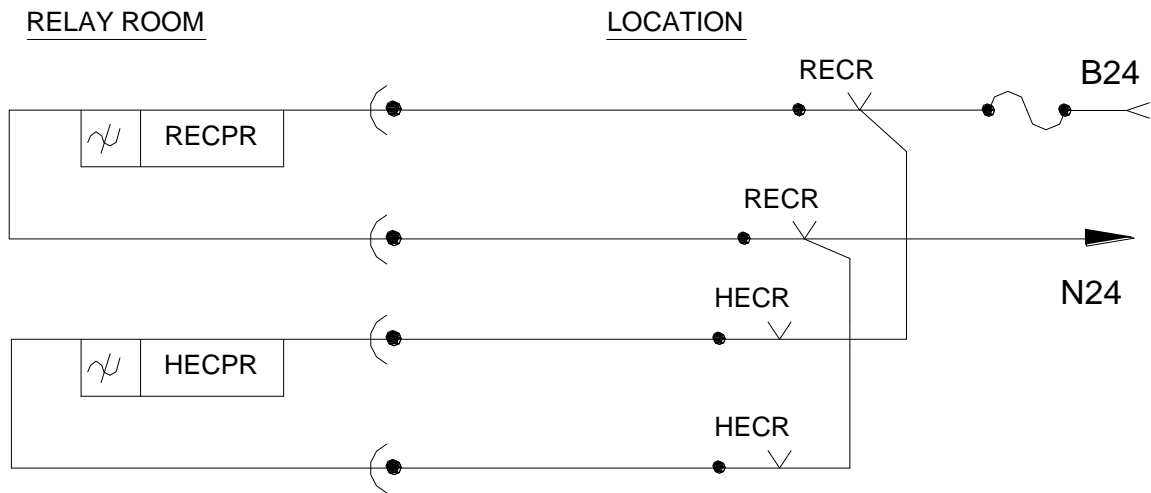


Fig: 3.3 (b) ECR REPEATERS CIRCUIT

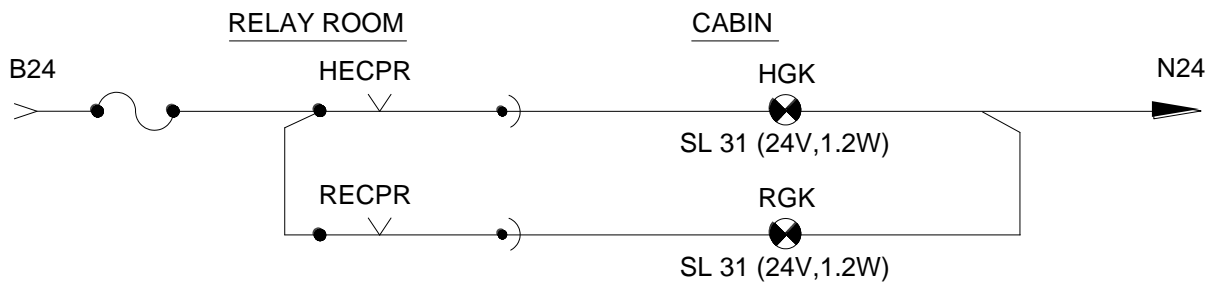


Fig: 3.3 (c) INDICATION CIRCUIT

Advantages of ECR Methods:

- (i) Less line voltage drop.
- (ii) Failure of indication lamp does not affect the signal lamp voltage.
- (iii) Contacts of ECR can be used for the circuits requiring the proving. When the signal lamp fails the supply for the indication lamp is completely cut off thus avoiding the dim glow.

Drawback:

It is costly since lamp proving unit and separate 24 VAC or 12 VAC indication supply is required.

## CHAPTER 4: TRIPLE POLE LAMPS

### 4.1 Introduction

Measures are being taken to improve the safety & punctuality of railway traffics. Signalling system plays a vital role in running the trains at higher speed with utmost safety to passengers & carrying materials in goods. One step in the direction of improving the punctuality of the train is the signalling arrangements. In signalling arrangements glowing of signalling lamps are the main tools for giving proper communication to driver through the indication in non-verbal fashion. 15 to 20 percent of the signalling failures causes due to no light of signalling lamps on account of lamp fusing or any other causes. This is hampering the punctuality of the train running.

In colour light Signalling, where there is no cutting-in arrangement, lamps SL 21, 12 V / 33 W double filament 3-pin are used. In case of cutting in arrangement, single filament 2-pole 3-pin lamps SL 18, 12 V / 24 W used for OFF aspect. But in this system there is a chance of signal going blank if ON aspect also fuses. The fusing of signal lamps failures contributes failure on account of signal. To arrest the failure due to the signal lamp fusing the schedule of replacement of signal lamp is fixed according to the aspects. (Forty-five days or thousand hours for ON aspects and 90 days for OFF aspects. It is varied railway-to-railway, division-to-division with local orders.

### 4.2 Problems with 2-filament and 2-pole lamps (Fig 4.1 (a))

- (a) The main problem is that both the filaments lit at a time & on fusing of main filament, ECR drops & even when the signal is glowing at the site. Therefore the incidences of signal failures & detention of the train on approach are more in the existing system.
- (b) Lamps are schedule to be placed periodically hence it doesn't only involve the up keeping of records but also large number of signalling lamps required annually.
- (c) To have better reliability these lamps are required to be pre-stressed for a given period before using them on site. This also bears additional burden over the signal staff.

### 4.3 Introduction of triple pole lamps

It was decided that above mentioned anomalies of conventional lamps must be removed & a more reliable signal lighting arrangement with lesser inputs is required. This decision gave a birth to the concept of "TRIPLE POLE LAMP" Fig 4.1 (b).

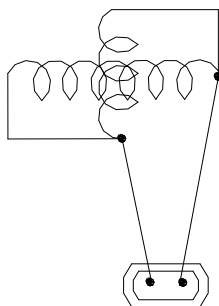


Fig 4.1(a) DOUBLE POLE LAMP

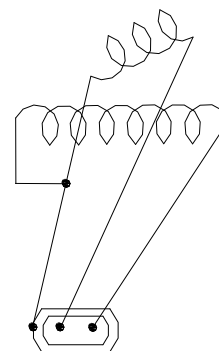


Fig 4.1(b) TRIPLE POLE LAMP

As the name suggests in this lamp, in place of 2-poles of conventional type there is an additional third pole, which is used to prevent the disconnection of lamp circuits, when the main filament fused. There are 2-filaments in this lamp. These filaments are connected to third pole with one common pole for the both the filaments. As such when the signal is lighted, auxiliary filament, which is connected to the 3rd, remains idle. The auxiliary filament lighted as soon as the main filament is fused. Simultaneously an indication regarding the fusing of the main filament is given in the cabin so that lamp can be replaced before the failure of auxiliary filament; this prevents the signal becoming no light. With these arrangements, the chances of signal becoming no light due to lamp fusing are drastically reduced.



**TRIPLE POLE LAMP WITH HOLDER**

#### **4.4 Triple Pole Lamps**

In Triple pole lamps, there are two filaments of equal wattage. The main filament lits normally and the auxiliary filament serves as a standby, to be switch ON when main filament fuses. Since both the filaments have the same ratings and lumen output, the visibility of CLS is not so affected when the main filament is fused and the auxiliary filament is switched ON. The new design of the lamp has been developed with RDSO in which the two filaments are provided in parallel configuration to avoid possibilities of hot-spot formation.

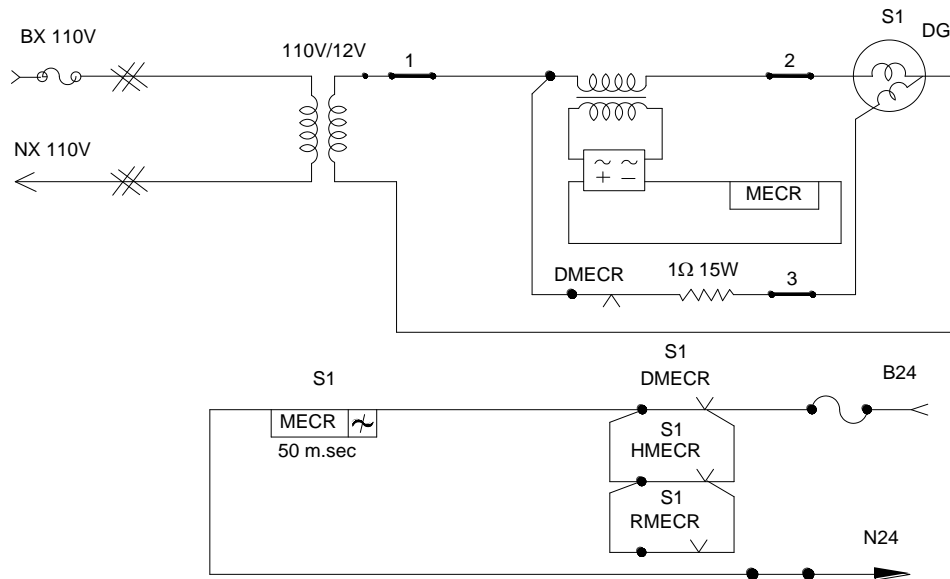
The circuit arrangement for triple pole lamp is shown as per RDSO Drg.No.SDO/RRI-263. In this H-type transformer is used as per IRS: S62 with certain modifications in the secondary side of the signal transformer MECR unit can be connected to the signal lamp circuit.

MECR unit shall be fixed inside the signal unit or in the signal location box. This MECR unit basically consists of one H-type current transformer and the transformer secondary output voltage is rectified and the rectified out voltage is connected to one miniature relay (MECR). This relay gives the condition of main filament of the triple pole lamp.

This relay picks up when the main filament is burning. It drops when the main filament is fused. Then through the back contact of this relay auxiliary filament lits. In the auxiliary filament circuit path 1 Ohm, 15 W resistor is provided in series with the MECR back contact to bring the main filament first in circuit when the aspect is switched ON.

In the new installations and in the old installations wherever possible, the railways may cater for the additional conductors required for providing the individual "Signal MECR" indication shall be provided.

## TRIPLE POLE LAMPS



**Fig. 4.2 RDSO TRIPLE POLE LAMP CIRCUIT WITH MECR**

S1 MECR is normally up and made slow to release to avoid wrong indication at the time of aspect changing. S1 MECR down indicates that main filament is fused for its aspect burning at that time. In the existing installations due to shortage of available conductors, railways may decide, to give a common indication to the maintenance staff by suitable grouping of signals.

Signal lamp main filament checking (MECR) relay circuit using triple pole signal lamp is shown in Fig.4.2

The following are the triple pole lamps used in our Indian Railways:

Bulb No.	Rating	Life	Applications
SL 35A	12 V / 24 W, 24 W	1000 hours	Normally used for OFF Aspect in CLS, with or without cascading arrangement.
SL 35AL (Longer life)	12 V / 24 W, 24 W	5000 hours	Normally used for ON Aspect in CLS, with or without cascading arrangement.
SL 35B	12 V / 33 W, 33 W	1000 hours	Normally used for OFF Aspect.
SL 35BL (Longer life)	12 V / 33 W, 33 W	5000 hours	Normally used for ON Aspect.

## 4.5 Inputs required

### 4.5.1 Materials

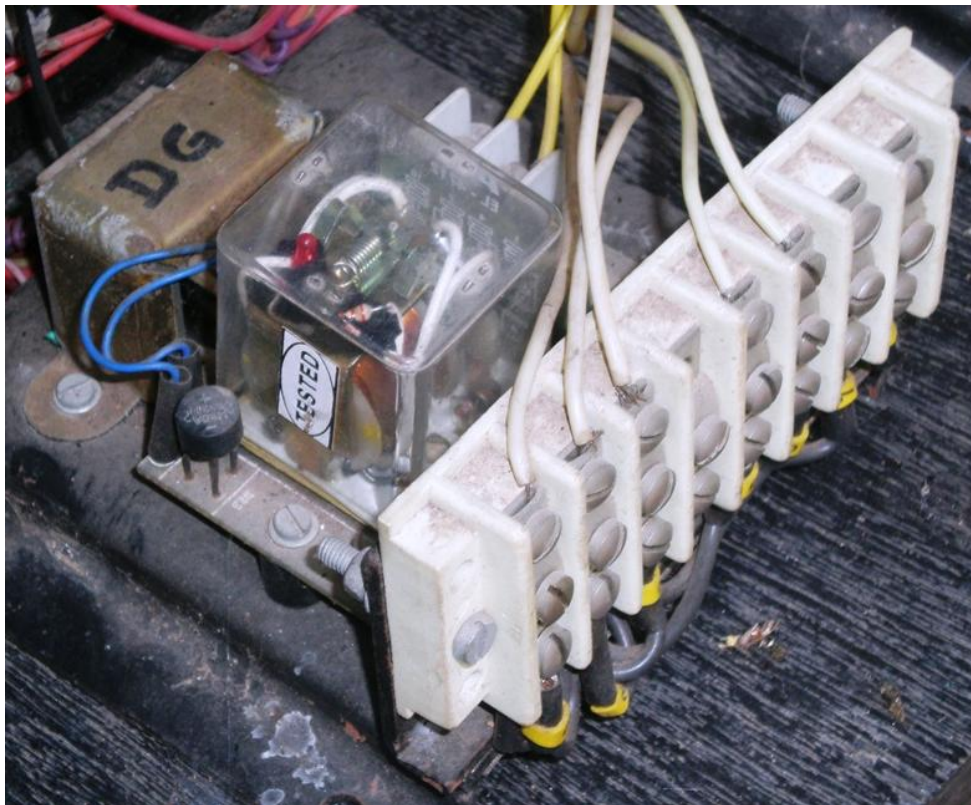
- (a) Triple pole double filament lamps.
- (b) Triple pole lamp holder with base.
- (c) Switching unit (MECR).
- (d) Push button switch.
- (e) Buzzer, indication lamps.
- (f) PVC wire.
- (g) ARA terminals & other accessories.

#### **4.5.2. Additional requirements**

- (a) 2- Spare cores from signal location to relay room for MECPR (Q-Style) is required.
- (b) 1-extra core for each aspect in tail cable form location to signal post.
- (c) If there is no space in the location for providing RMECR, HMECR, DMECR relay & indication transformers then extra location is also required.

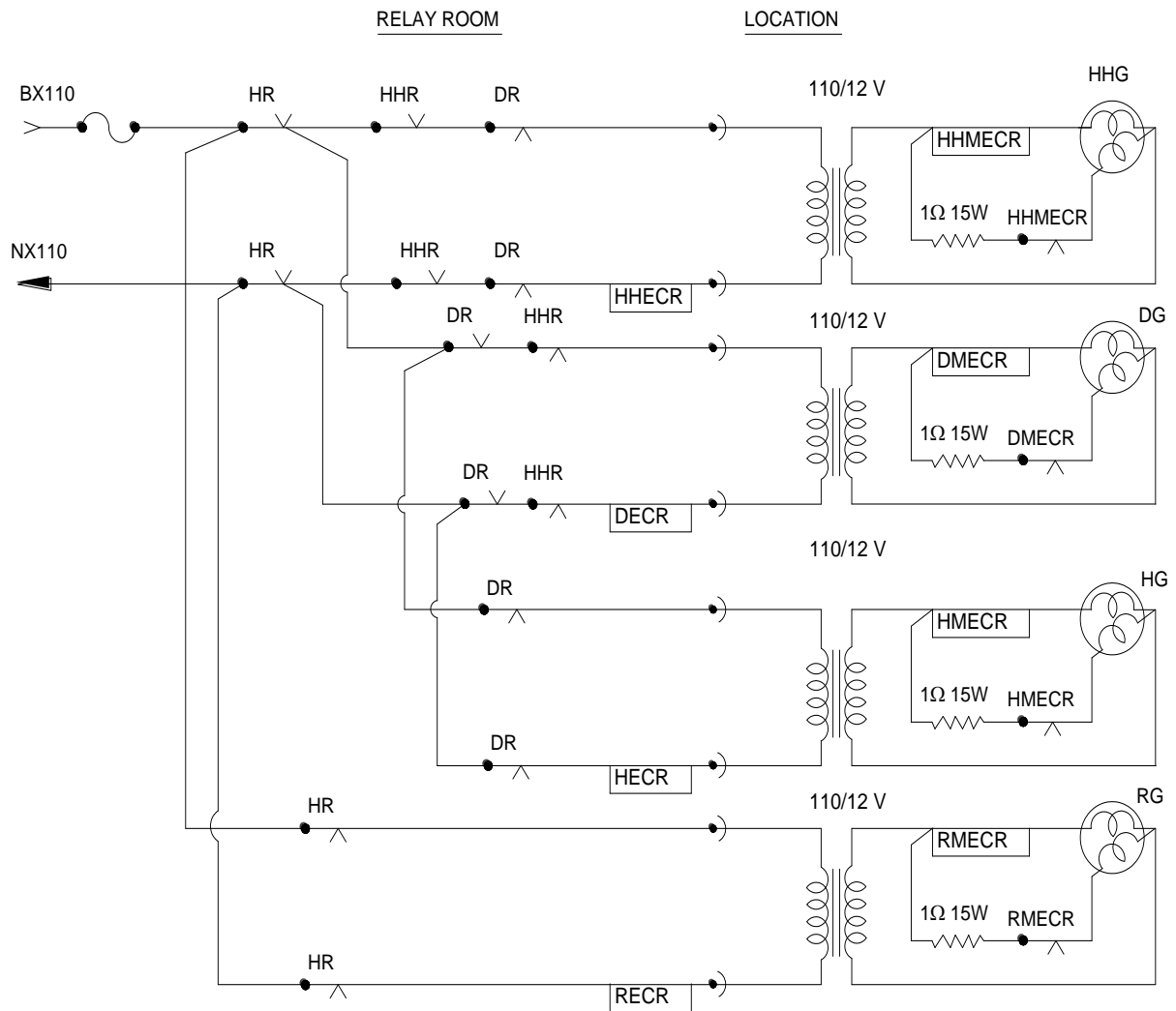
#### **4.6 Advantages**

- (a) Reduction in number of signal failures due to lamp fusing.
- (b) No detention of trains even when the main filament is fused.
- (c) Reduction in maintenance staff.
- (d) Reduction in the duration of failures as indication of main filament fusing appears in the cabin immediately.
- (e) Periodical replacement of lamp avoided.
- (f) Generally pre-stressing of lamp is not required.



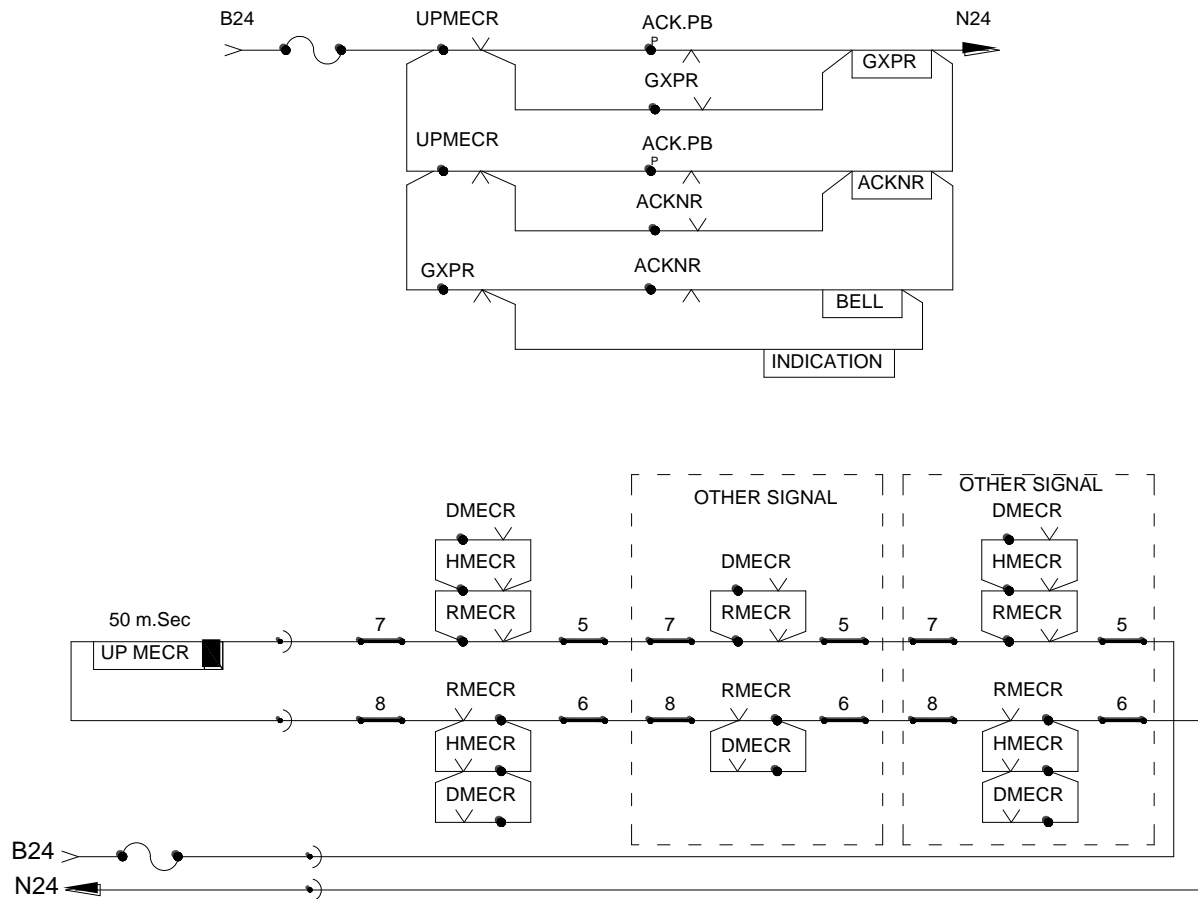
**MECR**





**Fig 4.3 4-ASPECT LAMP CONTROL CIRCUIT (TRIPLE POLE)**

A Typical four aspect signal lamp control circuit with triple pole lamps showed Fig no 4.3 which is being used in RE area with double cutting arrangement.



**Fig 4.4 SIGNAL LAMP CHECKING & ALARM CIRCUIT WITH TRIPPLE POLE LAMP**

**MECR Alarm circuit** (Fig No.4.4): Signal Lamp filament Proving Relay (GXPR) is normally up. If the main filament is fused, then the concerned aspect MECR drops. There by the concerned signal/signals group MECR in the cabin drops. In this circuit UPMECR drops. Dropping of UPMECR drops GXPR. Through GXPR back contact and ACKNR (Failure Acknowledgement Relay) back contact BELL rings and failure indication lit. BELL stops only after pressing the ACK.PB (Acknowledgement Push Button), since ACKNR picks up through UPMECR-B and ACK.PB pressed contact path. After replacing the signal lamp UPMECR picks up, results ACKNR drops. Through GXPR-B and ACKNR-B contact BELL rings again for acknowledgement of failure rectification. After pressing ACKPB through ACKPB-pressed contact, GXPR picks up. Picking up of GXPR disconnects the supply to BELL and indication.

## CHAPTER 5: INNER DISTANT SIGNAL

### 5.1 Introduction

In a multiple aspect colour light signalling system (MACLS), the driver of a train is warned of the approaching stop signal by a permissive signal. This signal, called the distant signal, is located at an adequate distance in rear of the stop signal, the aspect of which it pre-warns. An adequate distance of one Km has been normally adopted by Indian Railways. This distance together with the distance at which the warning board is located in rear of the distant signal is adequate for a driver to stop his train at the stop signal in case it is at ON. The braking distance (adequate distance) is reckoned from the warning board and not from the distant signal in the existing system of multiple aspect colour light signalling. This arrangement is considered satisfactory upto certain speeds and haulage capacity of trains.

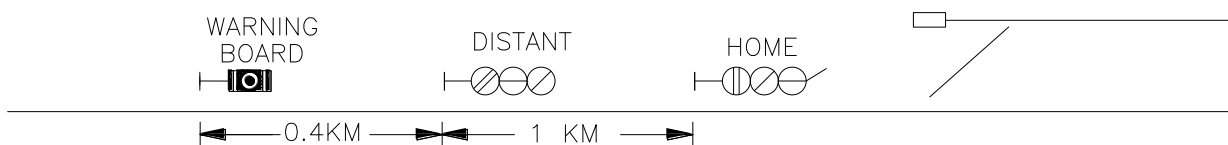


Fig. 5.1 DISTANT SIGNAL

**5.2** With increase in speed and haulage capacity of passenger and goods trains, the above mentioned distance is not sufficient, which brings out the braking distances required for some of the loads and speeds. **A general rule (GR) 3.07(6) stipulates** that "Wherever necessary more than one distant signal may be provided. In such a case the outer most signal, to be located at an adequate distance from the first stop signal shall be called the distant and the other called the inner distant signal".

From the above, it can be seen that even though in the present system of MACLS the distant signal can be placed at adequate distance in the rear of home signal, placing it more than 1 Km where higher adequate distances are required is not recommended by GR. In such cases, the GR recommends placing of second distant signal. This may be to enable the driver not to forget the aspect of the signal he has picked up in case of too much distance between subsequent signals.

### 5.3 Provision of a second distant signal

Comprehensive instructions regarding placing of second distant signals have been issued by Railway Board/RDSO. According to this, the existing distant signal shall continue and an additional distant signal shall be placed at 1 Km from the existing distant signal in rear. The warning board in such cases shall be dispensed with. This provides a distance of 2 km, which may not be sufficient in certain cases.



Fig 5.2 INNER DISTANT SIGNAL

The IB signals are also provided with second distant signals, interlocked level crossing gates which are also provided with second distant signals. With the new signalling arrangement drivers encounter a signal in the block section at every 1.5 to 2 Km approximately. At some locations, the signals such as Advance starter and IB home signal had to be combined with the second distant signal.

#### 5.4 Aspect Control Chart (Single Distant Territory)

Sl. No	Indication to Driver	Distant Signal	Home Signal	Main line starter	Adv. Starter
1	May stop at home	Yellow	RED	RED	RED
2	May stop at main line starter	Double yellow	Yellow	RED	RED
3	To stop at loop starter (or) pass via loop line	Double Yellow	Yellow with Route Indicator	-	-
4	To run through	Green	Green	Green	Green

**Note :** As per railway board letter No-2009/Safety (A&R)/19/24 dated 27-07-2010, Distant signal will display GREEN ASPECT only for run through on Main Line

#### 5.5 Aspect Control Chart (Double Distant Territory)

Sl. No	Indication to Driver	Distant Signal	Inner Distant Signal	Home Signal	Main line starter	Adv. Starter
1	May stop at home	Double yellow	Yellow	RED	RED	RED
2	May stop at main line starter	Green	Double yellow	Yellow	RED	RED
3	To stop at loop starter (or) pass via loop line	Double yellow	Double Yellow	Yellow with Route Indicator	-	-
4	To run through	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green

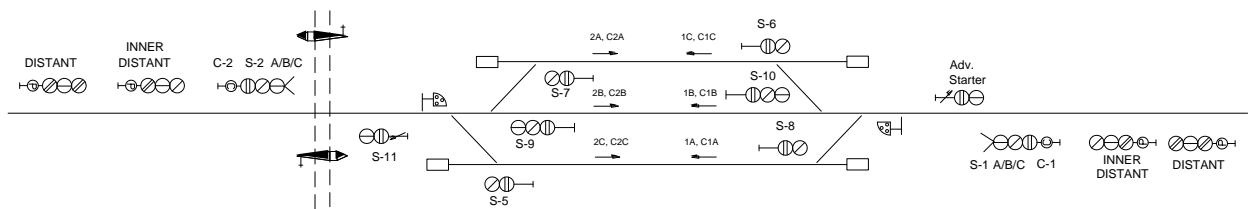
#### 5.5 Advantages

- (a) Driver can know the information of the signals ahead well in advance (2 Km in advance).
- (b) Confidence in the driver is increased since he is having sufficient breaking distance for high speeds.
- (c) Sectional average speed is improved.
- (d) Goods warning board is not required.

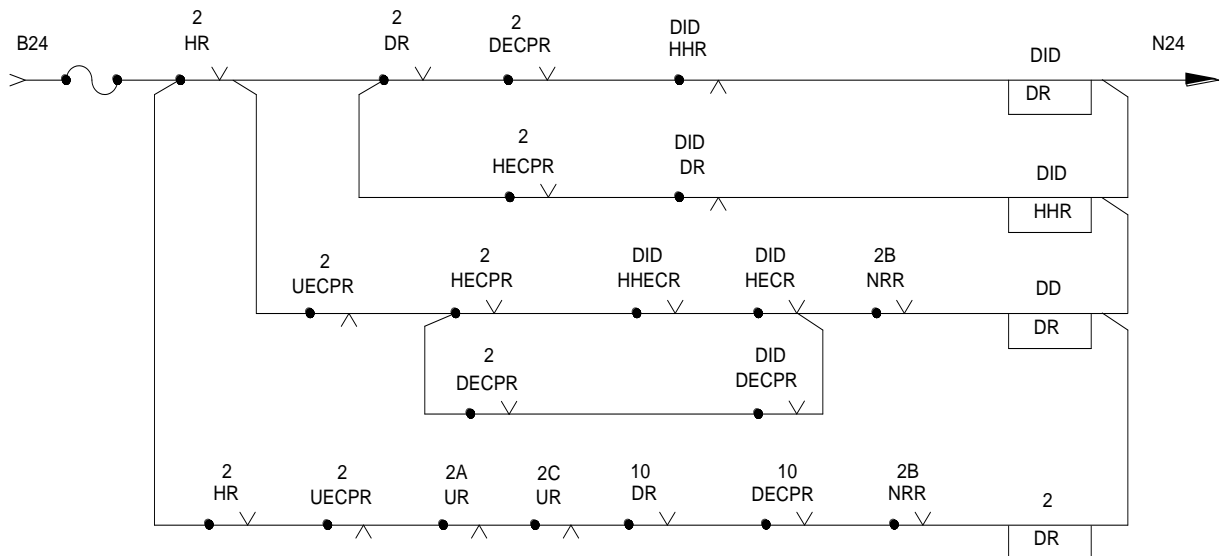
## 5.6 Inner Distant and Distant Signal Control Circuit (Fig 5.4)

INR DIST DR & INR DIST HHR are controlled directly by the Home Signal aspects. INR DIST HHR picks up when Home Signal is displaying yellow, through Home HR,HECR front and INR DIST DR back contacts, INR DIST HHR Pickup.. Inner distant DR picks up only when Home Signal is displaying green aspect (controlled by Home Signal HR, DR & Home DECR front contacts And INR DIST HHR back contact). The indication circuit is similar to the aspect control circuit.

As there are 2 yellow lamps in this signal for the display of double yellow aspect, When INR DIST HHR is picked up, both the yellow lamps will glow. Inner distant signal is normally displaying yellow aspect through INR DIST DR back contact. When inner distant DR is picks up Green aspect will be displayed by the signal. If DG lamp fuses, the signal is made to display double yellow, through inner Distant DR front contact and DECR back contact path provided.

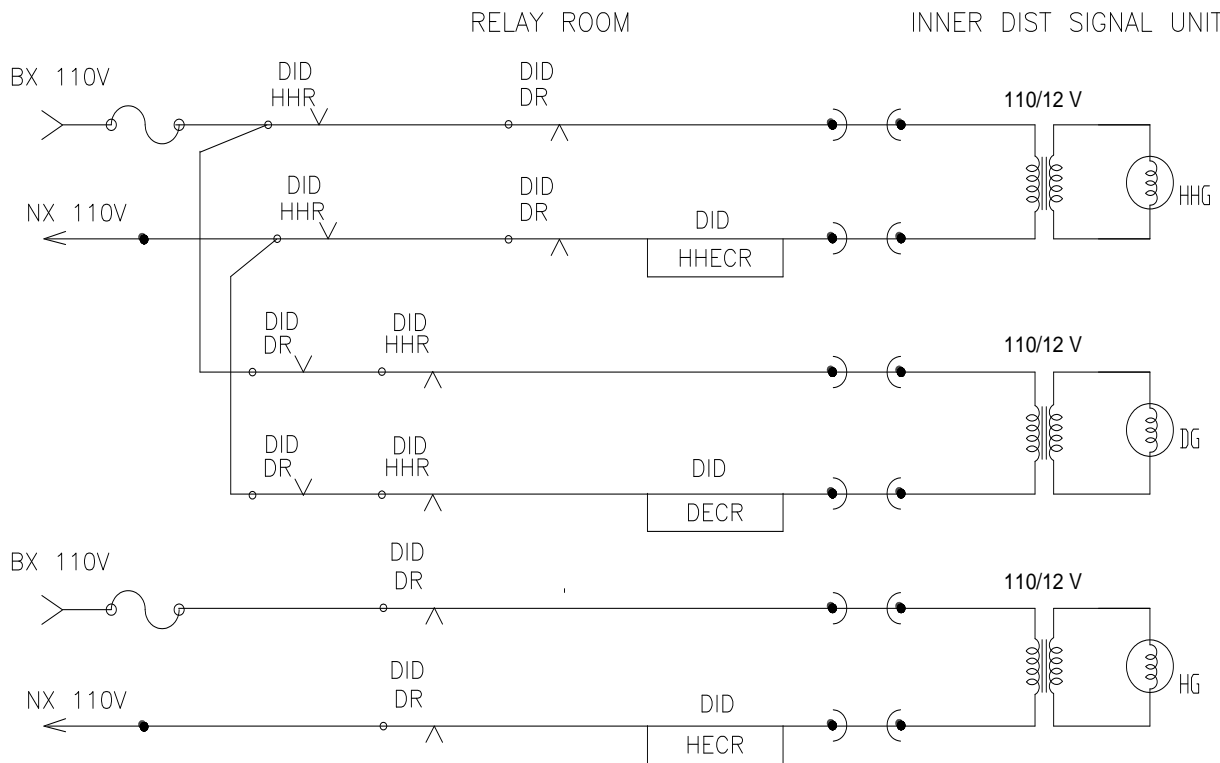


**Fig: 5.3 TYPICAL 3 ROAD STATION WITH MACLS**



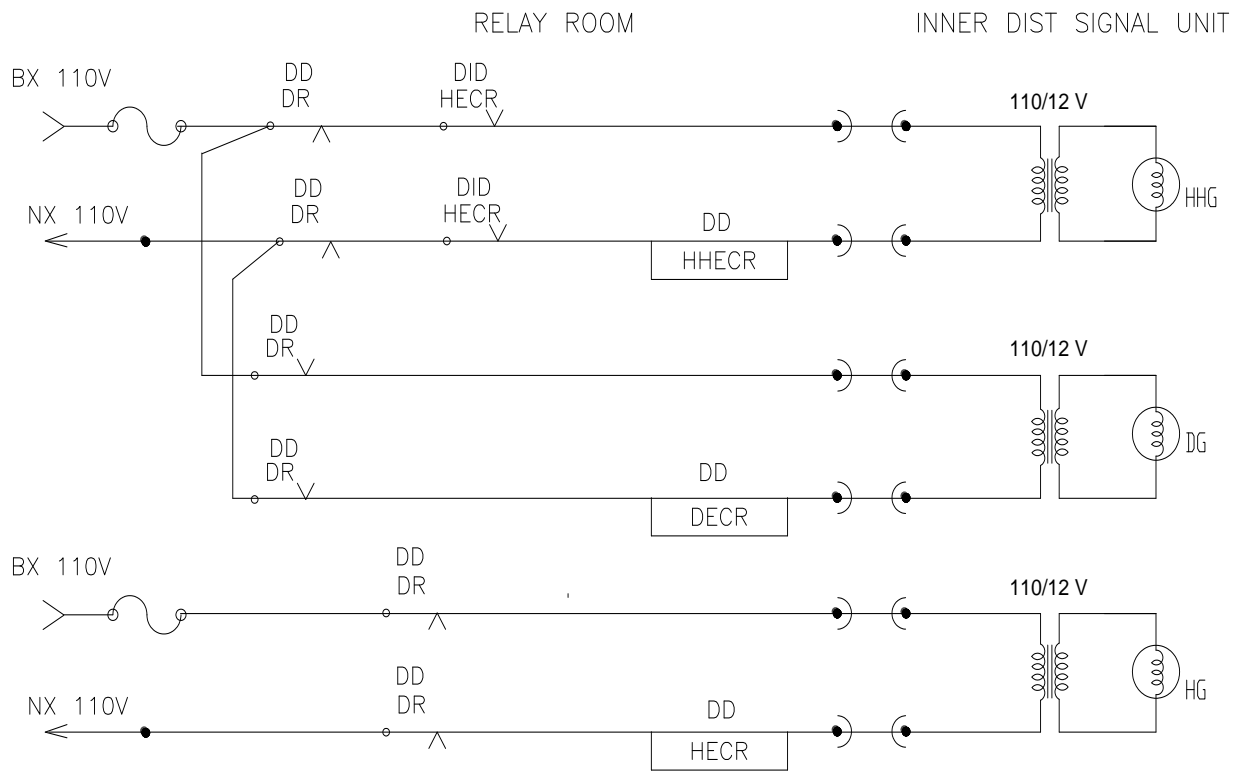
**Fig 5.4 INNER DISTANT AND DISTANT SIGNAL CONTROL CIRCUIT**





**Fig 5.5 INNER DISTANT SIGNAL LAMP CONTROL CIRCUIT WITH LED LAMPS**

**Distant Signal:** The normal aspect of this signal is double yellow. The both yellow lamps are lit through DIST DR back contact and top yellow lamp glow when INR DIST HHECR is picking up. Distant signal shall have at least one yellow lamp burning. The DIST DR picks up only when the train is either received on main line or run through on main line. HOME UECR back & HECR front contacts and INR DIST HHECR, HECR front contacts along with 2B NRR front contact proved to pick up Distant DR. There by Distant signal will display GREEN aspect.



**Fig 5.6 DISTANT SIGNAL LAMP CONTROL CIRCUIT WITH LED LAMPS**

The provision of Second Distant Signal has given more confidence to driver to run his train at maximum permissible speed thereby improving punctuality along with enhanced level of safety in train operation.

## CHAPTER 6: LED SIGNAL UNITS

### 6.1 INTRODUCTION

Signals are provided to guide the rail engine driver for safe journey. Therefore, it is necessary that signals display correct aspect. In colour light signalling territory, signal may go "blank". A blank signal is a grave safety risk as it can cause confusion to the drivers and can result in accidents if driver does not take action to control his train in time. Various CRS inquiry reports have recommended that adequate protection against blank signal must be taken. Railway Board have accepted the recommendations. Signal may go blank either due to failure of signal lamp or due to interruption in power supply. At present, filament lamps light signals. Rate life of lamp is only 1000 hours. Replacement of a signal lamp is not a simple work, as focusing is to be checked and adjusted after replacement of each lamp. With increase in signalling gears at most of the stations, signal technicians in general are not able to cope up with the huge work of adjustment of focusing. To overcome these problems RDSO developed LED Signal units, which has the life of not less than one lakh hours.



FIG : 6.1 LED SIGNAL

### 6.2 LED SIGNAL (Light Emitting Diode)

LED light sources are solid state p-n semiconductor devices. By doping substrate material with different materials, a p-n junction is formed within the semiconductor crystal. The dopant in the n region provides mobile negative charge carriers (electrons), while the dopant in the p-region provides mobile positive charge carriers (holes). Within a semiconductor crystal, when a forward voltage is applied to the p-n junction from the p-region to the n-region, the charge carriers inject across the junction into a zone where they recombine and convert their excess energy into light. The materials used at the junction determine the wavelength of the emitted light. A clear or diffuse epoxy lens covers the semiconductor chip and seals the LED. It also provides some optical control to the emitted light.

LEDs have been developed that have a luminous efficacy (lumens per watt) exceeding that of incandescent lamps. However, the relatively small lumen package that is produced by a single LED still means that dozens, if not hundreds, of LEDs must be used together to produce even a modest amount of light.

### 6.3 Salient features of LED Signal Unit

There is no Phantom effect

- (a) LED lamp is Pre-focussed and do not need external lenses or periodic focussing.
- (b) LED lamps are compatible with existing signal housings, hence can be retrofitted.
- (c) Traffic hazards while bulbs are being changed by maintenance staff are eliminated.
- (d) LED signals use less energy.
- (e) DC power feeding to signals possible, thereby eliminating transformers.
- (f) Wide voltage variation in power feed is tolerated.
- (g) One design of ECR for all LED signal lamp application including shunt signal and route indicator (universal ECR).
- (h) Maintenance costs reduced, as they don't need frequent replacement. Only occasional cleaning of transparent cover needed in dusty areas.
- (i) Power factor of LED signal lamp shall be 0.8 or better.

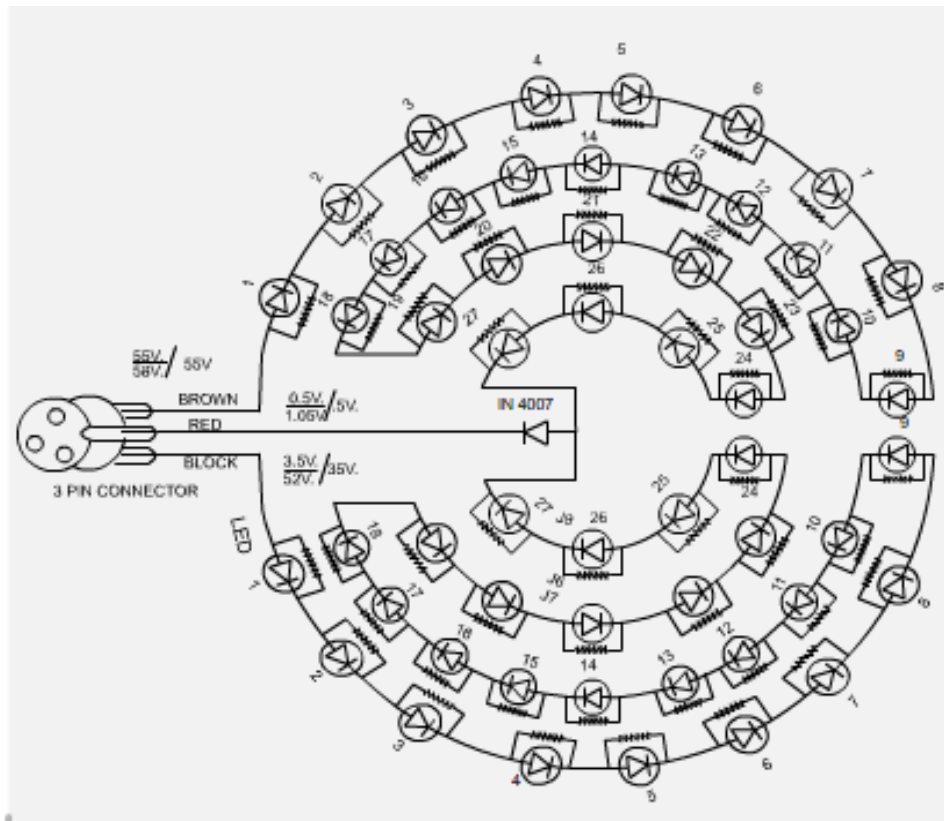
### 6.4 CONSTRUCTION OF LED LAMP

#### 6.4.1 LED Signal aspect unit

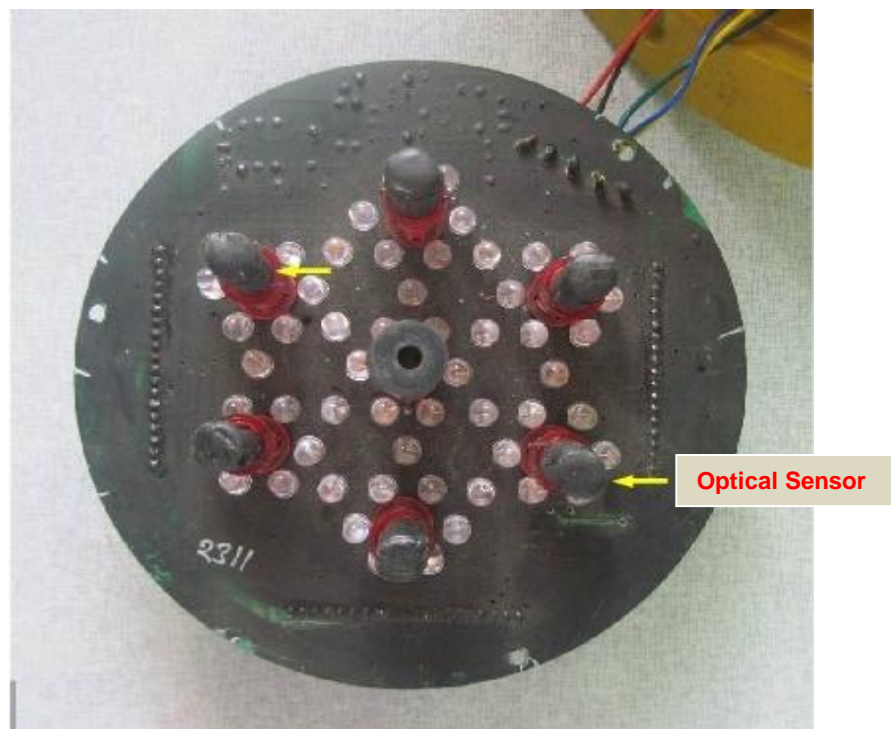
It comprises of a cluster of LEDs in series and parallel combinations. LEDs in a signal aspect are arranged in more than one array so that in the event of failure of even a single LED, whole unit does not become blank. LEDs in the arrays are interleaved so that effect of failure of any array is spread out equally to maintain uniform visibility. All aspects (except route and shunt) use two arrays for higher noise immunity and also provide the redundancy. LED's in each array are provided electrically independent path so that failure of any LED does not affect operation of other LED and the same shown in fig No-6.3. The optical sensors are provided for each aspect and output from optical sensors is given to the current regulator unit for corrective / alarm action. A few LEDs in the signal unit are so arranged as to ensure near visibility of 5 meters so that the signal is clearly visible to a driver stopping at the foot of the signal.



**FIG: 6.2 LED LAMP UNIT AND UNIVERSAL CURRENT REGULATOR**



**Fig : 6.3 LED'S CONNECTED IN SERIES IN LED SIGNAL ASPECT UNIT**



**Fig : 6.4 LED SIGNAL ASPECT UNIT**

In LED signal aspect unit number of LED's used should not be less than 60 for RED and YELLOW, 30 for GREEN main LED signal lighting unit, 16 for Route and 13 for Shunt signal lighting units. Variation from stipulated number shall be considered based on merits of the design. Signal lighting unit shall not light up to 60 V. LED signals for use of road traffic shall be used without ECR.



### 6.4.2 Current regulator unit (CR)

LED is a current driven device therefore; LEDs clusters in a LED signal lamp are fed with constant current irrespective of input voltage fluctuations by current regulator. It consists of solid-state variable resistance controlled by feedback from sensors (current and voltage for each array & optical sensor) and current regulator for each LED array.

If optical sensor detects signal blank / dim, it reduces the current less than ECR pick up current to generate alarm and cut-off the aspect. (a). Limits the current to cause low current alarm or (b) . Boosts the current to cause high current alarm.

LED signal unit housing is made either of mild steel sheet or of industrial grade plastic like ABS or fibreglass. The front cover is made of CV stabilised polycarbonate dome. LED signal unit is hermetically sealed in order to ensure that it is able to withstand the environmental severity. A gasket made of EPDM (Ethylene propylene Diene Monomer)-20 rubber shall be provided and pasted on the rim with the help of Anaerobic adhesive to the LED unit The dimension of LED signal unit is such that it can fit securely in the existing CLS units without any modification to them. An MOV or Gas discharge tube of rating 200V shall be provided at the input terminals of CR to take care of power surges.

**6.4.3 FUNCTIONAL REQUIREMENTS:** The LED lamps should satisfy the following functional requirements:

1	The colour coordinates of LED signal unit	Red, Green and Lunar white aspect.	Class 'C' of BS:1376-1974
		Yellow aspect.	Class 'B' of BS:1376-1974
2	The visibility of each main aspect of LED signal unit		600 m in clear day light
3	Visibility of Route indicator		400 m.
4	The minimum illumination of LED signal units measured at a distance of 1.5 metres in axial direction.	Red aspect.	50 Lux
		Yellow and Green aspect	100 Lux
5	LED signal lighting units display area.	Main and Calling-On signals	125 mm diameter.
		Route and Shunt signals	85 mm diameter.

## 6.5 OPERATING PARAMETERS

Parameter	Main Signal	Calling-on Signal	Route Indicator	Position Light Shunt Signal
Rated Voltage at Input terminals of C.R.	110 VAC	110 VAC	110 VAC	110 VAC
Wattage	15 W	15 W	-	-
Current at rated voltage per unit.	140mA	150 mA	25 mA	55 mA
Colour	R/Y/G	Yellow	Lunar White	Lunar White

Note: Refer Specification No- RDSO/SPN/153/2011.

### 6.5.1 LED SIGNAL UNIT FUNCTIONS

S.No	LED Signal unit		Out put	Minimum Visibility	A C immunity
1	Main Running signal	RED	150 Lux	600 m	AC Noise immunity 60 volts
		YELLOW	175 Lux		
		GREEN	150 Lux		
2	Directional type route indicator		50 Lux,	400 m	
3	Calling –on signal		50 Lux,	200 m	
4	Shunt signal		30 Lux		

Note: Refer Specification No- RDSO/SPN/153/2011.

## 6.6 Blanking & Non-Blanking failure modes of Main LED signal lighting units-

**6.6.1** In **blanking mode**, a Main Signal Lighting Unit shall extinguish when input current drawn by the current regulator falls outside specified limits of rated input current or illumination falls to a value which is not less than 40% of nominal illumination due to a failure or any other reason. In such case, current regulator should not draw input current more than 30 mA at maximum rated voltage.

**6.6.2** In **non-blanking mode**, a Main Signal Lighting Unit shall remain lit when input current drawn by the current regulator falls outside specified limits of rated input current or illumination falls to a value which is less than 40% of nominal illumination due to a failure or any other reason. In such case, input current drawn by current regulator shall be limited to less than 40 mA to ensure dropping of ECR. Limit on input current shall apply when illumination has deteriorated to a value, which is not less than 40% of nominal illumination.

## 6.7 Safety Considerations in Design of LED signal aspect as follows

### 6.7.1 Hardware failure

A filament lamp either draws current when lit or does not draw current when not lit. Filament lamp fails only in open circuit mode while LED can fail in open or short or leaky mode. Thus LED can draw current when it is lit as well as when it is not lit. Therefore following conditions have been taken into account to make sure that LED signals fail on safe side:

- (a) LED failing in short-circuit mode
- (b) LED failing in open circuit mode
- (c) LED failing in leaky mode

Design of LED array is such that with failure of one LED due to open circuit failure, no other LED is affected in the LED array. Similarly, with failure of LED due to a short, other LED is not affected and partial loss to the extent of that LED in the array (LED in series) takes place.

With open circuit failure of LED, the total array current will decrease and with short circuit failure of LED, the total array current will increase. These two variations of array current are monitored and used to generate alarm when LED fails. For leaky mode of failure of LED, an optical detector is used to detect light output of the LED signal unit. When the light output is below allowed level, alarm is generated along with switching "off" of the aspect.

### 6.7.2 Colour of LED Signals

Indian Railways follow the BS: 1376:1974 standards. In this specification colours are defined in X, Y, Z coordinates in terms of CIE Chromaticity chart. X coordinate is analogous to red, Y to green and Z to blue. The other colours are defined in terms of X, Y, and Z coordinates and represented by dominant wavelength on the periphery. The colours which do not lie on the periphery of the CIE chart have to be necessarily defined by co-ordinates and for the purpose of visual appearance to the eye are defined by dominant wavelength.

LED is a solid state device, and can fail in open or short or leaky mode. P-n junction of LED is responsible for exhibition of colour. As there can be numerous stages of p-n junction failure, it is essential to carry out the colour failure analysis of the LEDs to ensure that LED signal failure take place on safe side.

### 6.7.3 Effect of voltage variation on LED colour

The LED aspect is fed through current regulator. Current remains constant to the LEDs with input voltage variation in the specified range. Input voltage variation has no effect on light emitted within the specified range of specification i.e. 90 to 130 VAC, with current regulator working.

### 6.7.4 Effect of Current variation on LED colour

The variation of colour in LED aspect has been checked on all colours from cut-in current till burnout current. Excessive current leads to primarily heating in the LEDs causing ultimately reduction in light output.

- (a) Red aspect and green aspect have been found to be in their colour ranges, even in the transient period of burnout.
- (b) White aspect has been found to be in its colour range except during transient period of burnout where it becomes momentarily blue at current above 180 mA (7.2 times overdrive).
- (c) Yellow aspect has been found to be in its colour range except it shifts towards Red when current is in excess of 300 mA (about 2.4 times over drive). Its shift into Class 'A' red is momentary during transient period of burnout at current above 460 mA (3.7 times over drive).

Therefore, there is no chance of change of colour on unsafe side due to increase in current. At the transition stage when the colour of LED is trying to change, the LED gets burnt out within milli-seconds.

### 6.7.5 Effect of Temperature on LED colour

Red, Green, Yellow and white aspects are found to be within their ranges within the specified temperature range. Yellow aspect colour coordinate improves at higher temperature.

### 6.7.6 Effect of Aging on LED colour

The degradation in LED colour after 100000 hrs of continuous stress is approx. 5%. Sealing of units reduces effect of moisture and further improves the performance. Thus LED lamps are safe and shall not fail on unsafe side.

## 6.8 LED Signal units

LED Signal Unit, It is suitable for fitment in existing CLS units available in RE & Non-RE areas.

- (a) Main Signal - Red aspect, Yellow aspect, Green aspect.
- (b) Calling on Signal.
- (c) Route Indicator.
- (d) Position Light Shunt Signal.

For LED signals, Common ECR for all types of signals helps in reducing number of spares and hence spare parts cost.

### 6.8.1 ECR for LED Signal Unit

- (a) Universal Plug-in-type, tractive armature AC lamp proving relay is used.
- (b) ECR pickup current = 108 mA / AC, 50Hz.
- (c) ECR Drop away current = 72 mA / AC, 50Hz.
- (d) This ECR withstands for a continuous current of 250 mA / AC 50Hz.
- (e) Contact configuration: 4F-4B identically in A to D rows.
- (f) Voltage drop across R1 and R2 is less than 10V @ 125 mA /AC (normal working current).

### 6.8.2 Procedure to install Signal Aspect & Current Regulator

- (a) Sticker provided may be put on the Current Regulator to indicate the selection.
- (b) Remove both the lenses of the aspect.
- (c) Remove the bulb holder, bulb & transformer.
- (d) Install from the rear side the LED aspect on the four mounting screws of the roundel.
- (e) Your Current regulator is Universal ,field selectable mode as follows:
  - (i) Lighting supply – AC
  - (ii) Universal ECR
  - (iii) Cascading mode – **ON aspect:** Non-Blanking, **OFF aspect:** Blanking
- (f) Install Current Regulator on the mounting screws of Signal Transformer.
- (g) Connect the 4 pin & 2 pin couplers of the current Regulator to the aspect.

### 6.8.3 Jumper Selections on Current Regulator.

Jumper selections to be made on Current Regulator to work as per site requirement. As per manufacturer's instructions jumper selections to be made for blanking/non blanking mode, ECR selection etc.

### 6.8.4 ECR WORKING

#### (a) Main signal:

ECR should be pick up if aspect is fully glow and if aspect half glow and intensity are 50% ECR should be picked-up at input rated voltage 88 to 132 VAC

#### (b) Shunt Signals:

ECR should pick up with two shunt LED signal lighting units in parallel & both lit From 88 V to 132 V. ECR should drop when one shunt LED signal lighting unit is taken out from circuit.

#### (c) Route Signals:

- (i) Route ECR shall pick up (minimum 3-lamps lit).
- (ii) Route ECR shall drop on 2-lamps lit.

**DO's and DON'Ts for LED Signal**

	<b><u>DO's</u></b>		<b><u>DON'Ts</u></b>
1.	Use 600 mA fuse in signalling circuit.	1.	Don't leave loose connectors between LED signal lighting unit and current regulator. This may cause false operation.
2.	Select Blanking mode for OFF aspects and Non Blanking mode for ON aspects in current regulator of Main LED signals.	2.	Don't leave loose wires on input terminals of LED signal lighting unit and current regulator. This may cause false operation.
3.	Ensure all terminations in CT rack, Junction Box, LED signal lighting unit and current regulator are tight and clean.	3.	Don't try to interchange connections of LED signal lighting unit, current regulator.
4.	Polycarbonate cover of LED signal lighting unit may be cleaned with soft and anti static cloth periodically.	4.	Don't use fuse of more than 600 mA rating in signalling circuit.
5.	Check installation once a year by disconnecting the interconnecting cable between CR & LED signal lighting unit of main signal to check audio-visual alarm and correspondence of ECR.	5.	Don't try to give direct supply to the LED signal lighting unit of main signals.
6.	Ensure up gradation / modification, if any, as advised by RDSO.	6.	Don't carry current regulator by its cable.
		7.	Don't carry hanging LED signal lighting unit connected with current regulator.
		8.	Don't insert or remove LED units when system is ON.



## CHAPTER 7: AUTOMATIC COLOUR LIGHT SIGNALLING

### 7.0 Introduction

Automatic Block Working is a system of train working in which movement of the trains is controlled by the automatic stop signals. These signals are operated automatically by the passage of trains into through and out of the automatic signalling sections. The following are the essentials of Automatic Block System.

Where trains are worked on Automatic Block System: -

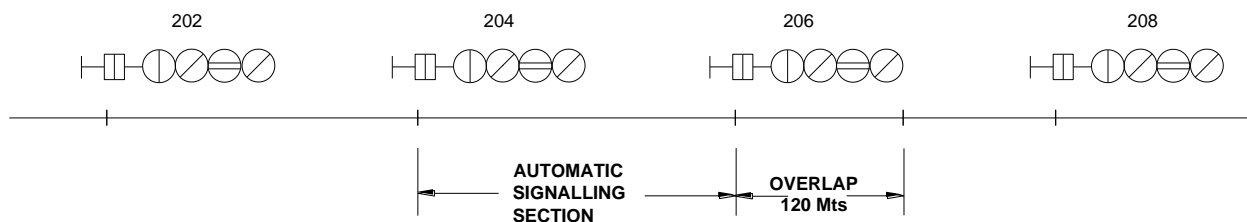
- The line is track circuited throughout its length and divided into a series of automatic signalling sections each of which is governed by an Automatic Stop Signal.
- The movement of trains is controlled by stop signals, which are operated automatically by the passage of train past the signals.
- No Automatic Signal assumes 'OFF' unless the line is clear not only upto the stop signal ahead, but also an adequate distance beyond it.

The Automatic Signalling arrangement facilitates to Increase the Line capacity without any additional Stations being constructed and maintained.

### 7.1 Adequate Distance or Overlap

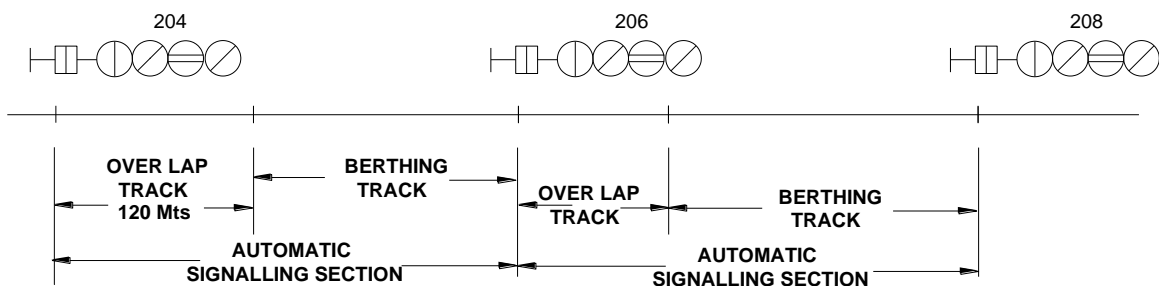
The adequate distance referred to above, which may also be termed 'overlap', shall not be less than 120 metres unless otherwise directed by approved special instructions.

The first para of the essentials require the entire length of track to be track circuited for providing automatic block working and divided into sections (as shown in Fig.7.1a) which are called the Automatic Signalling Sections:-



**Fig: 7.1 (a) AUTOMATIC SIGNALLING SECTIONS**

The automatic Signalling Section is defined as the portion of the running road between any two consecutive automatic stop signals and each of these sections is protected by an automatic stop signal. These automatic stop signals control the movement of trains into the sections and operate automatically by the passage of train past the signals as per para (b) of the essentials.



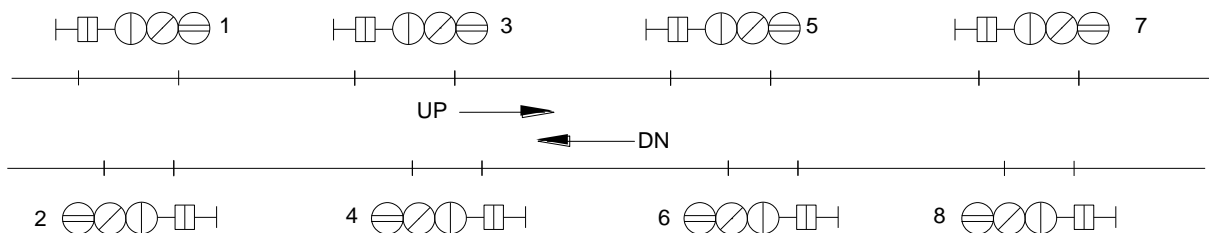
**Fig: 7.1 (b) OVERLAP AND BERTHING TRACKS**

The Para (c) stipulates that an Automatic Stop Signal can assume OFF aspect only when the line is clear not only upto the next signal but also an adequate distance beyond it. This defines an overlap of 120 metres (minimum) in advance of every Automatic Signal to be clear before the signal in rear can change its aspect from 'ON' to 'OFF' in addition to the distance between the two signals. So it becomes necessary to define the end of overlap in advances of every automatic stop signal and hence, the track circuit is bifurcated at 120 metres from the signal as shown above and this 120 metres track is called the "overlap track" and the remaining track length is called the "Berth Track" in each signalling section.

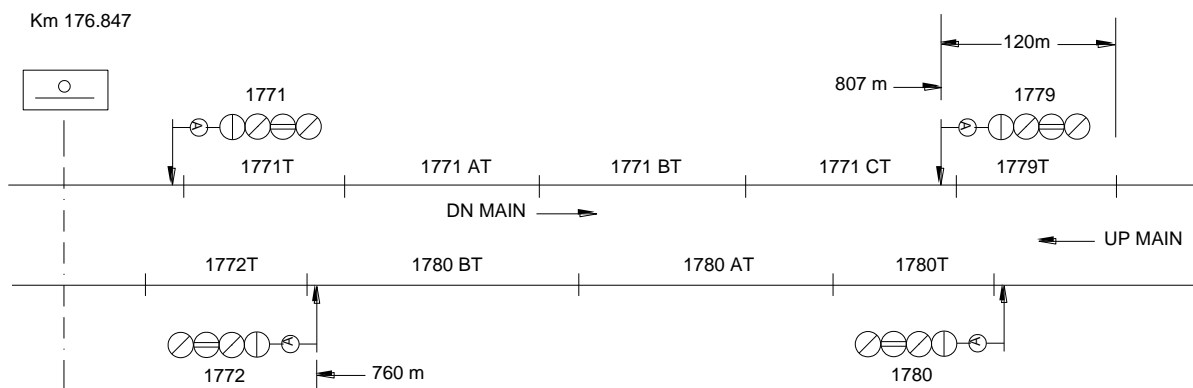
## 7.2 Automatic Stop Signal

**General Description and Numbering:** Automatic Stop Signals are multiple aspect colour light signals and are either 3-aspect or 4-aspect as the case may be. These signals are numbered serially, ODD numbers in one direction and even numbers in the other direction, for UP and DOWN lines or vice versa Fig. 7.2(a). There is an attempt at numbering the automatic signals according to their location with respect to the kilometrage. This requires a code consisting of a group of digits in which the first group of digits indicates the kilometre number last digit indicate the traction pole at which the signal is located. For example 1771 means the automatic signal located at 1st traction pole between 177 and 178 kilometre. For distinguishing UP and DN signals the last digit can be made ODD in one direction and EVEN in the other approximate to the nearest traction poles.

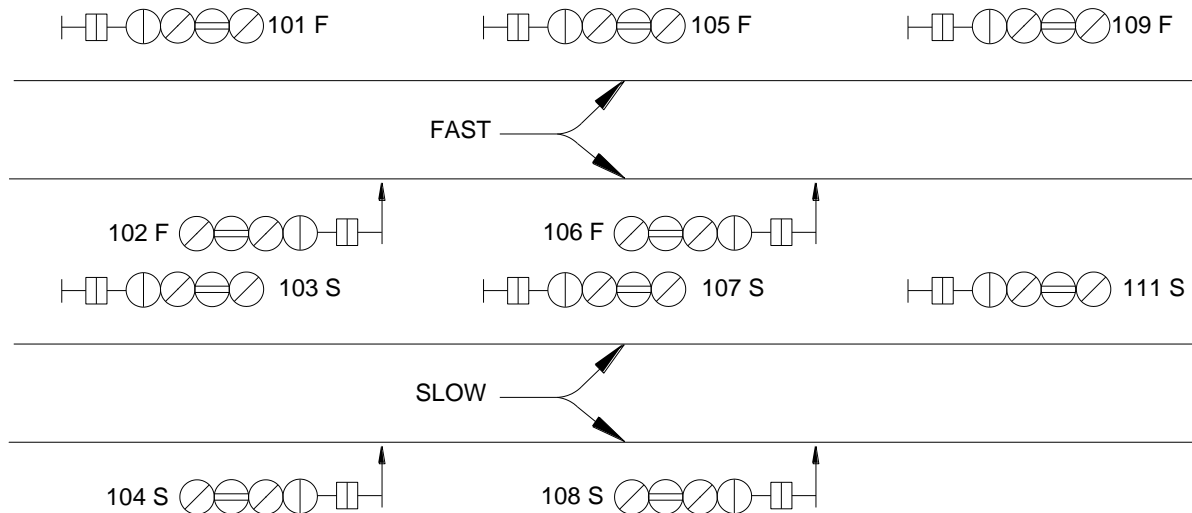
The method of numbering helps in easy identification and location of signal by maintenance staff in case of failure without referring to a layout plan. But this numbering becomes cumbersome for track circuit which are to be numbered according to the Automatic Signal governing that section. An example is illustrated in Fig. 7.2 (b). In quadruple line as there are 2 UP and DOWN lines, it becomes essential to identify each line by suffixing or prefixing alphabet to indicate 'Local' or 'through' and 'slow' or 'Fast' lines. This is in addition to the convention of using odd numbers for one direction of traffic and even numbers for the other direction. An example is given in Fig.7.2 (c). If the lines extend to two different destinations, alphabets corresponding to the first letter of the destination station or the name of the section may be used.



**Fig: 7.2 (a)**



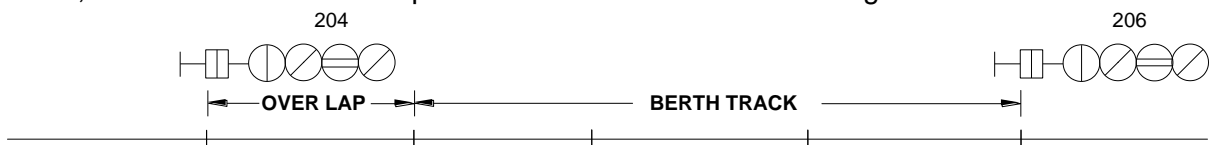
**Fig: 7.2 (b)**



**Fig: 7.2 (c) NUMBERING OF AUTOMATIC SIGNALS**

### 7.3 Track Circuits

**Arrangements and Numbering:** The track circuiting between any two automatic signals follows the principle of "Overlap" and "berth track" as explained earlier. The overlap track circuit is normally of 120 meters length. Since this track is included in the control of the automatic signal in rear, its condition has to be repeated at the location of the rear signal.

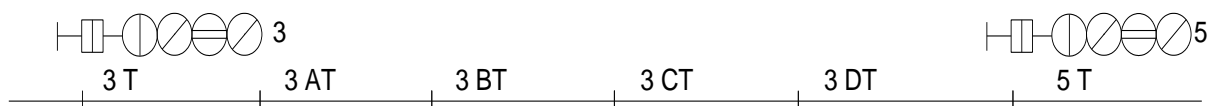


**Fig: 7.3 (a) BERTH TRACK CIRCUIT**

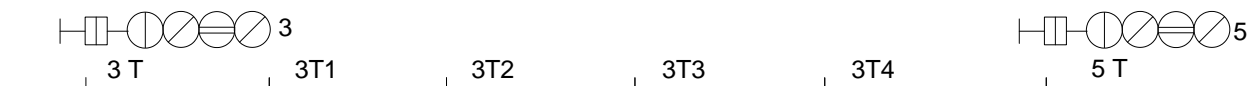
The length of berth track depends upon the distance between two automatic signals. If it cannot be made into one track circuit, it can be divided into two or more track circuits. The type of track circuits can be DC (Neutral or Polarised) or AC and single rail or double rail (with 2 or 3 position) relay as the case may be to suit the local conditions taking into consideration the type of electric traction if present. In case of DC traction arise, double rail AC track circuits with 50 cycles per second supply can be used including impedance bonds for traction return. In case of AC 25 KV electrification, one of the following types of tracks circuits can be used:-

- (a) DC single rail track circuits.
- (b) Electronic track circuits like JEUMONT, specially where the track circuits have to be compatible for both DC and AC traction with impedance bonds.
- (c) Joint less track circuits (AFTC)

The track circuits within the automatic signalling section carry the number of the Automatic Signal governing the movements over them. But to differentiate between the track number of each track in the berth section, e.g., A,B,C, etc., as shown in Fig.7.3. (b).



**Fig 7.3 (b) TRACK CIRCUIT NUMBERING BY ALPHABETICAL ORDER**



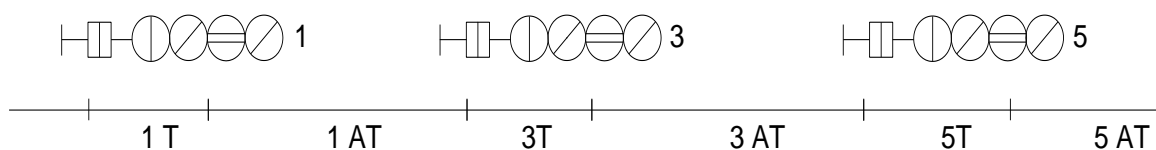
**Fig 7.3 (c) TRACK CIRCUIT NUMBERING BY NUMERICAL ORDER**

Instead of using the alphabetical prefixes, tracks can also be numbered serially 1,2,3 etc as shown in Fig.6.3.(c).

## 7.4 Automatic Signal Control Circuits



































































The following layout illustrates the arrangement of track circuits and automatic stop signals of three consecutive sections in one direction. Each of the signalling sections having one overlap track and atleast one berth track. Fig.7.4(a).

Normally when the entire section is clear all the automatic signals will display clear aspect (Green). When a train passes a signal (say signal 1) the signal is replaced to danger (red) automatically. After the train clears the section upto the next signal (Signal 3) and an overlap 3T) in advance of its, the signal will change its aspect automatically from danger (Red) to caution (yellow) and as the train clears two sections ahead (upto signals 5) and the overlap (5T) the signal (No.1) will change its aspect from caution (yellow) to clear (green) automatically.



**Fig 7.4 (a)**

## AUTOMATIC COLOUR LIGHT SIGNALLING

TRAIN ON	1 TR	1A TR	3 TR	3A TR	5 TR	5A TR	SIGNAL No: 1	SIGNAL No: 3	SIGNAL No: 5
① 1T							R	G	G
② 1T & 1AT							R	G	G
③ 1AT							R	G	G
④ 1AT & 3T							R	R	G
⑤ 3T							R	R	G
⑥ 3T & 3AT							R	R	G
⑦ 3AT							Y	R	G
⑧ 3AT & 5T							Y	R	R
⑨ 5T							Y	R	R
⑩ 5T & 5AT							Y	R	R
⑪ 5AT							G	Y	R

**Fig 7.4 (b)**

The same principles are illustrated by the table and the diagrams in which the sequence of track occupation and change of aspects with the movement of train is indicated in the order in which they occur. From the table Fig.7.4 (b) and diagram Fig. 7.4 (c), it is clear that when the tracks 1T, 1AT and 3T are clear, signal No.1 will display caution and if tracks 1T, 1AT, 3T, 3AT and 5T are clear, then signal No.1 will display clear aspect.

The same sequence will follow for other signals also. But at the same time if track 3T, 3AT and 5T are clear, signal No.3 will display caution and hence, if signal No.3 is displaying caution, then signal No.1 can display clear aspect provided 1T, 1AT and 3T are clear. If signal No.3 changes from caution to clear aspect then also signal No.1 must display clear aspect provided 1T, 1AT and 3T are clear.

So, the aspect control of Signal No.1 will be as follows: -

If,

- (a) 1TR, 1ATR and 3T picked up, then signal No.1 displays caution if signal No.3 is displaying Red.
- (b) Signal No.3 is displaying caution or clear then signal No.1 displays clear (When 1TR, 1ATR and 3TR pick up condition).

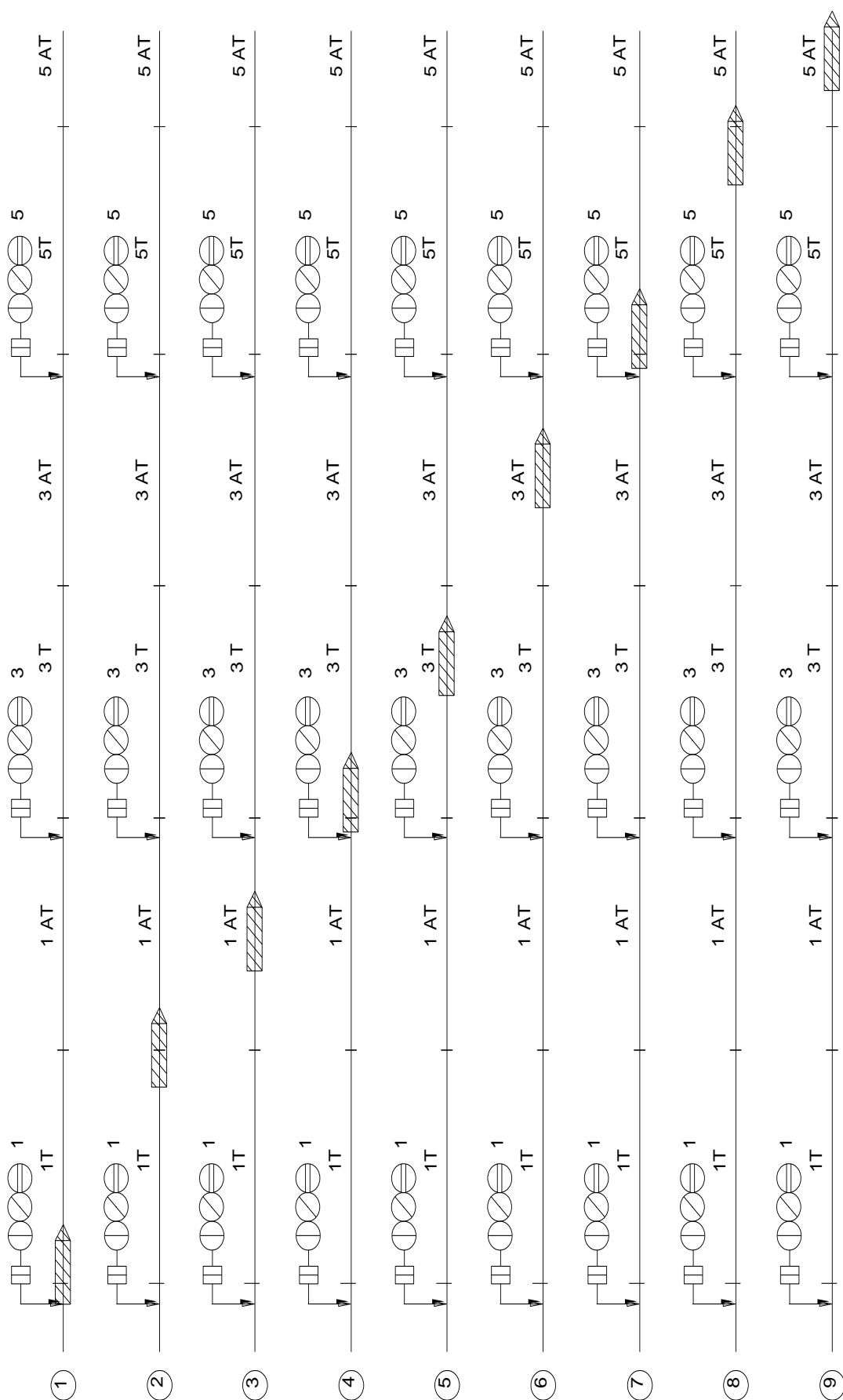


Fig: 7.4 (c)



## 7.5 Four-Aspect Automatic Signalling

Generally when the automatic signals are provided with distance between the signals not less than breaking distance, then 3-aspect signals will serve the purpose. But if the distance between two consecutive signals is less than breaking distance On account of stations being very close or to improve the section capacity by reducing the headway between trains and reducing the automatic signalling sections, then the automatic signals have to be provided with 4 aspects. In this case, the sequence of aspects, when a train passes a signal is Red, Yellow, double Yellow and Green as the train occupies the section after passing a signal and clearing one section, two sections and 3 sections ahead of the signal respectively. The arrangement of signalling is shown in Fig.7.5 (a).

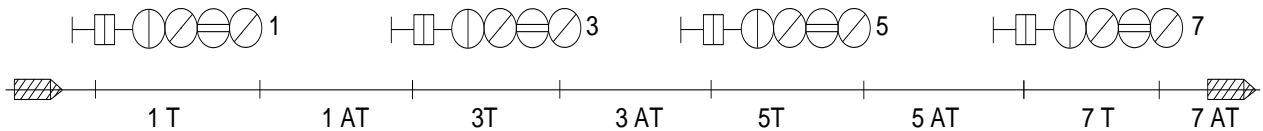


Fig 7.5 (a)

When a train passes signal No.7 and is occupying the section 7AT then signal No.7 displays Red (danger) and the signals in rear display the aspects as indicated below: -

- Signal No.5 - Yellow (Caution)
- Signal No.3 - Double Yellow (Attention)
- Signal No.1 - Green (Clear)

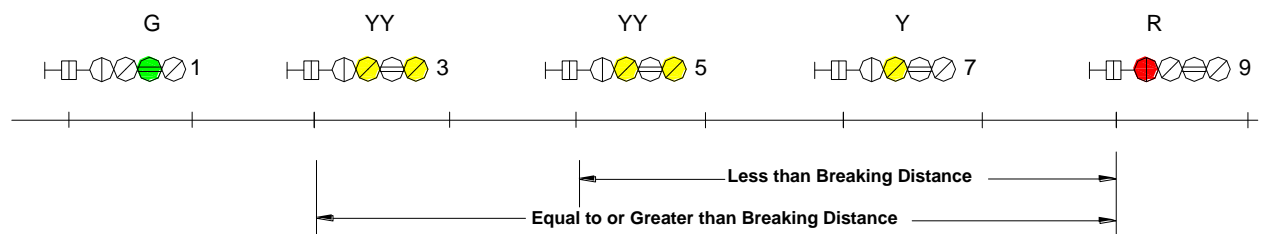


Fig 7.5 (b)

As these signals have one, two and three sections ahead clear. In this system of 4 aspects signalling, it is customary to ensure that the distance between the signal displaying red and a signal displaying caution aspect is at least equal to breaking distance. If this distance is not available then SEM part I Para 7.33.2 has to be followed.

## Automatic Signal Circuits

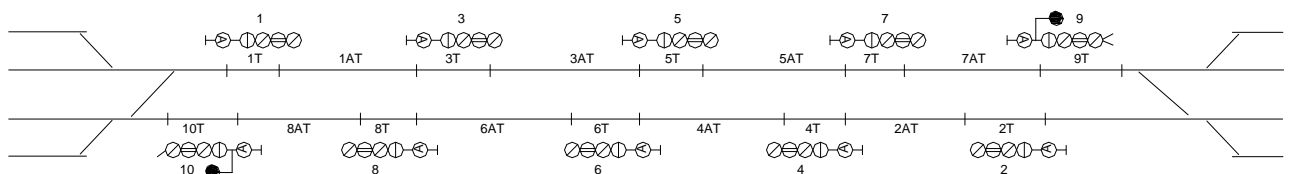
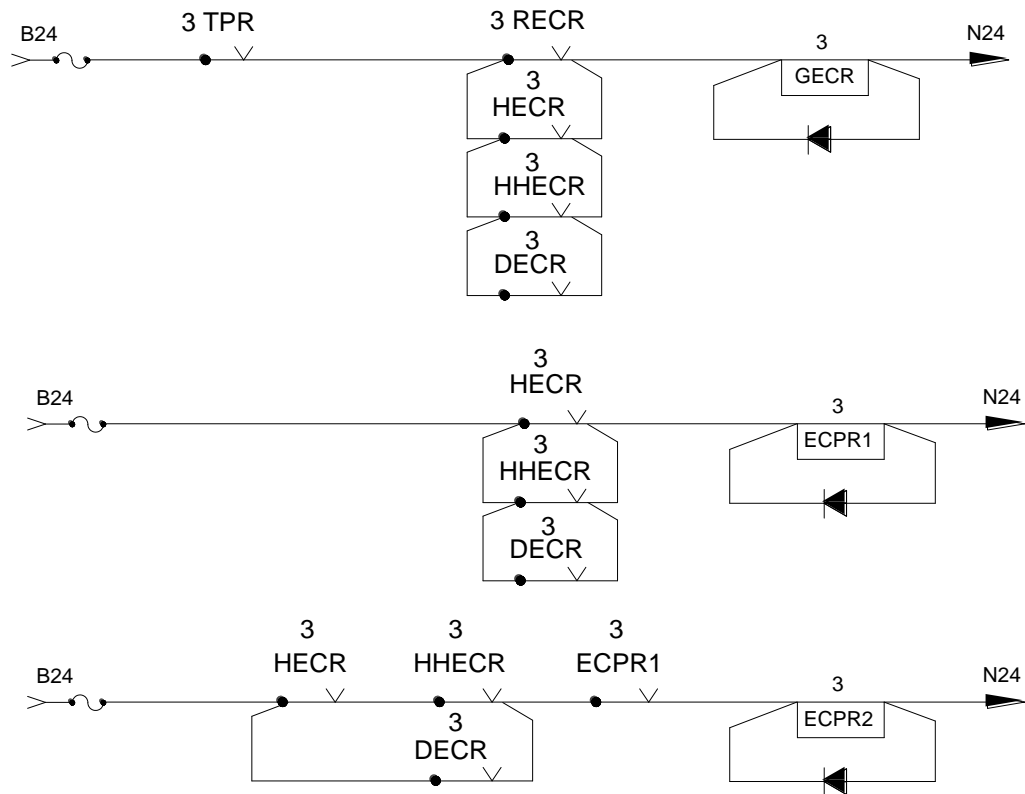


Fig 7.6 (a)



3 GECR pick up condition proves Signal not blank and its front contact proved in HR circuit of rear signal (Red Lamp Protection).

**Fig 7.6 (b)**

### Controlling Circuit for Signal No 1

3 GECR relay picks up when it is displaying any one of the aspects namely Green, Double yellow, Yellow or Red. This relay is repeated as 3GECPR relay at signal No.1 location. 3GECPR relay pick up contact is proved in 1 HYR and 1 HR circuits, to prove **Red lamp protection** for signal No.3.

3 ECPR1 picks up when Signal No.3 is displaying any one of the OFF aspects namely Green, Attention aspect or Caution aspect Yellow. This relay Pick up contact is used to control 1HHR for proving signal No.3 Attention Aspect.

3 ECPR2 picks up when it is displaying either Green or Double yellow aspect. This relay Pick up contact along with 3 ECPR1 are used to control 1DR relay for displaying clear aspect.

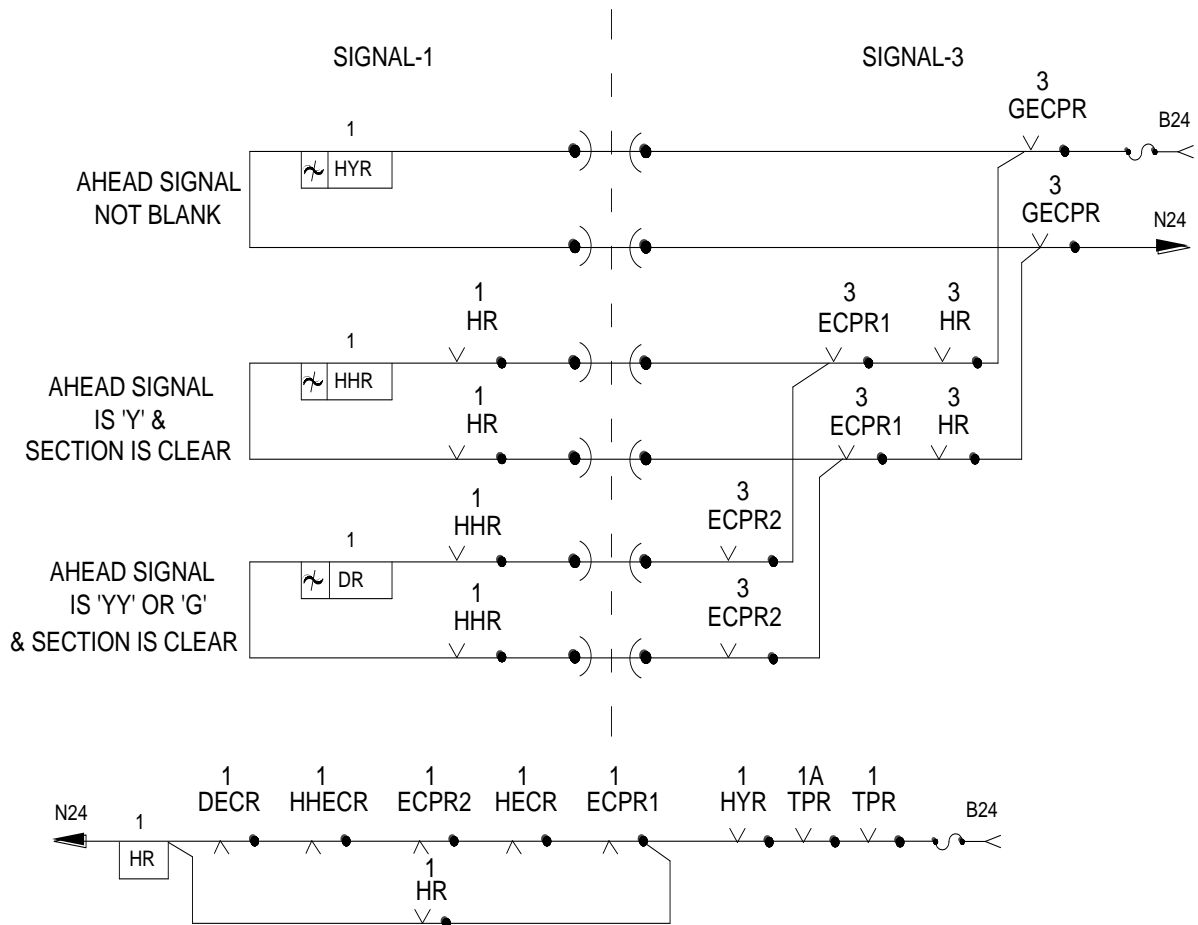


Fig 7.6 (c)

When 3 GECR relay picks up at signal No.3 location, proving Sig No.3 is displaying any aspect and 3TPR is up there by 1HYR relay at Sig No.1 location will pick up. With 1HYR relay pick up 1HR relay will pick up proving 1TPR. 1ATPR up and signal No.1 OFF aspect lamp proving relays are down that is 1 DECR ,1HHECR ,1HECR along with 1ECPR1 and 1ECPR2 is down makes 1HR to pick up, it has a stick path with its own front contact by passing 1DECR, 1HHECR,1HECR,ECPR1 and ECPR2.

Once 1HR is up, proving ahead signal No.3 HR and 3ECPR1 are up thereby 1HHR relay picks up. By proving 3HR, 3ECPR1 and 3ECPR2 pick up contacts 1DR will pick up.

All three controlling relays of signal No.1 HR, HHR and DR remain picked up when the entire section is clear. As soon as train passes signal No.1, 1HR will drop and replaces the signal No.1 to danger.

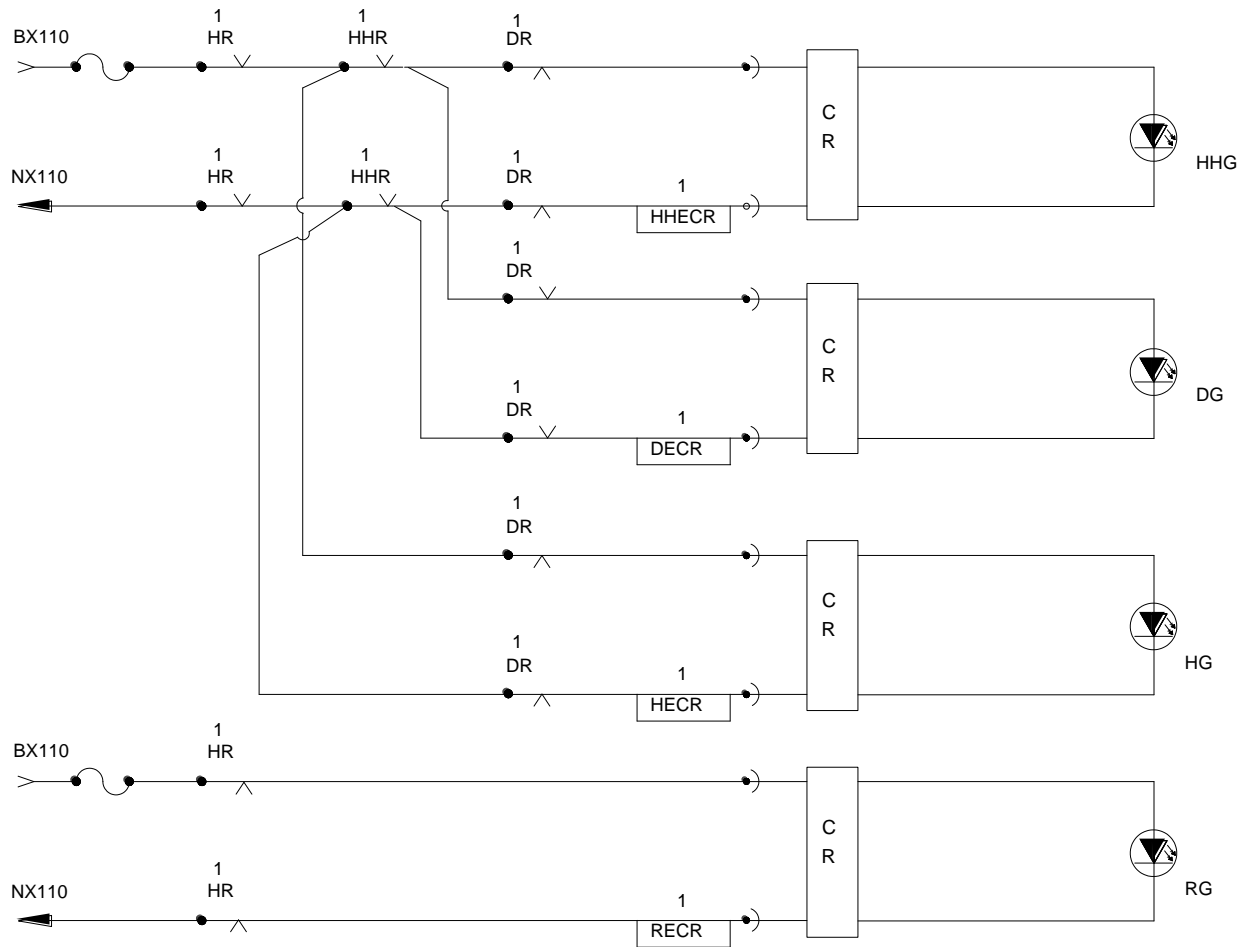


Fig 7.6 (d)

### FOUR ASPECT AUTOMATIC SIGNAL LAMP CONTROL CIRCUIT

When train clears one section ahead including overlap, 1HR will pick up but 1HHR and 1DR will drop as the signal No.3 in advance displaying Red. Through HR pick up the signal No.1 will change its aspects from Red to Yellow.

When signal No.3 in advance changes its aspects to Yellow, then 1HHR will pick up in signal No.1 location and changes signal No.1 aspect from Yellow to Double Yellow through 1 HR and 1HHR pick up contacts.

Similarly if the signal No.3 in advance changes from Yellow to Double Yellow and subsequently to Green, then 1DR will pick up in rear signal location then signal No.1 changes its aspect to Green through 1HR, 1HHR and 1DR pick up contacts.

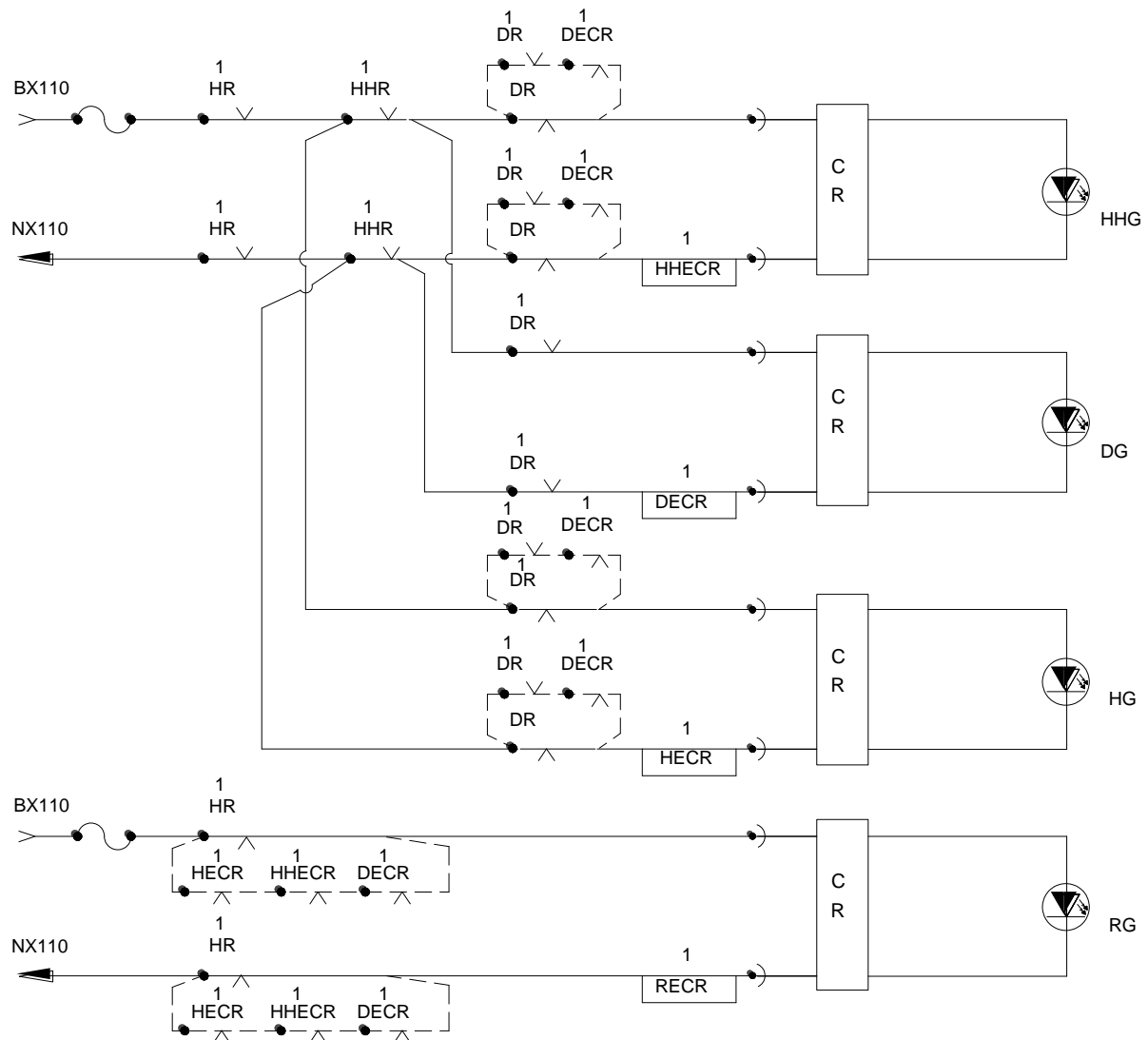
## 7.6 CASCADING (Cutting in) Arrangement

Whenever the lamp fuses with the signal displaying a particular aspect, then the signal becomes blank and there is a chance that the driver may miss the blank signal and overshoot. Even if the driver observes the signal, the signal with no light has to be treated as a defective signal and General Rules 3.74 will have to be observed.

This will have a deleterious effect on capacity, so if a lamp of clear aspect fuses the signal should display a more restrictive aspect than no light which is equivalent to 'Red'.

To avoid these conditions, an arrangement in the lamp control circuit can be adopted in such a way that if a lamp fuses the signal can be restored to a more restrictive aspect. If green lamp fuses (when signal is displaying clear aspect) then the signal is restored to double yellow, when one yellow fails, the other will remain in case of attention and if both yellows of attention or single yellow of caution fails, the signal is restored to more restrictive aspect (danger). This arrangement is called the "cascading (cutting-in) arrangement".

In 4-aspect automatic signalling arrangements can be provided to restore the signal to a more restrictive aspect when a less restrictive aspect fails due to lamp fusing etc. The circuit shown in dotted line shows the "cascading" arrangement in such a way that when Green lamp fuses, the signal is restored to double yellow, when one yellow fails, the other will remain in case of attention and if both yellows of attention or single yellow of caution fails, the signal is restored to danger.

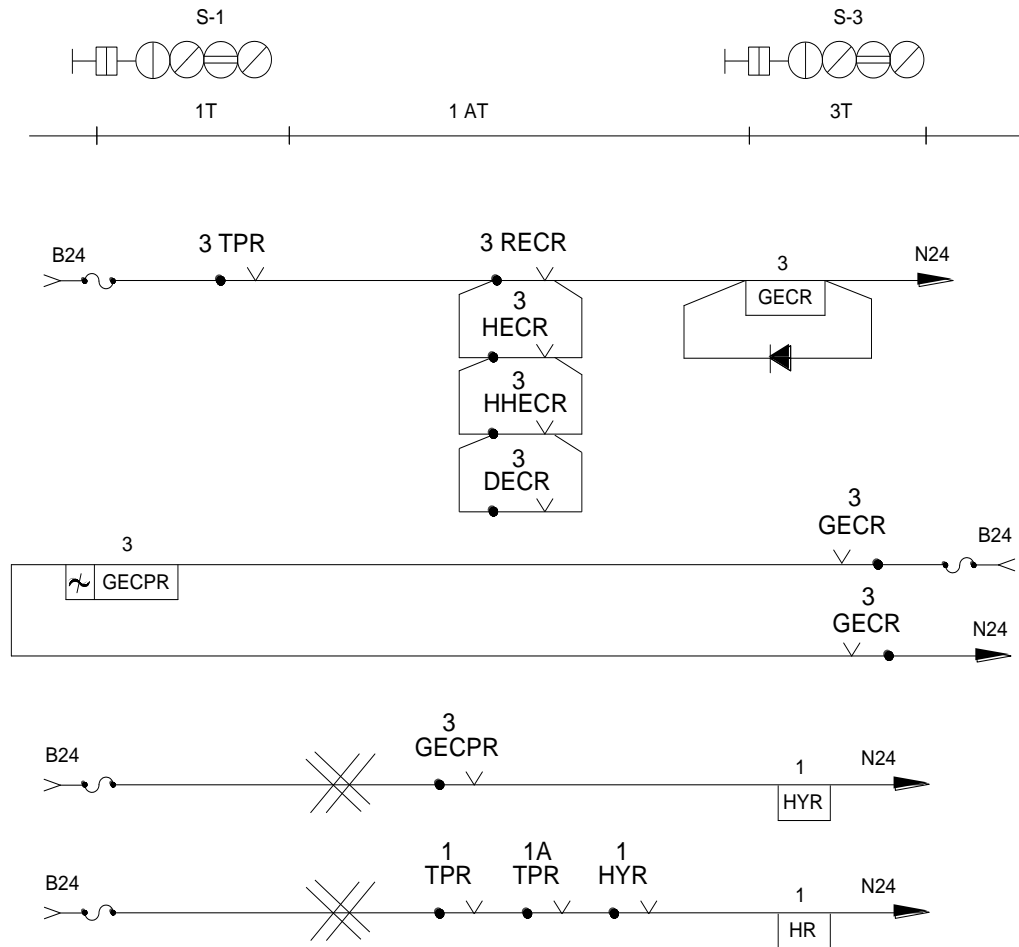


**Fig 7.7 FOUR ASPECT AUTOMATIC SIGNAL LAMP CONTROL CIRCUIT (Cascading)**

## 7.7 Red Lamp Protection

The above 'cascading' arrangement is safeguarding the signal from going blank when the lamp for green or yellow aspect fuses by automatically restoring the signal to a more restrictive aspect. But when red lamp in the automatic signal fails, the cutting in arrangement cannot restore the signal to a more restrictive aspect, as there is no other restrictive aspect than Red in the signal. Hence, the signal goes blank aspects not in a position to protect the automatic signal section especially when a train occupies this section.

Under these conditions, the usual practice is to force the rear signal to danger so that it assumes the protection of not only its section, but also the section in advance and as a result the rear signal will remain at red till the train clears two sections ahead.



**Fig 7.8**

In this method, the lamp checking relays (3 RECR/HECR/DECR) front contacts are included in series with 3TPR front contact, to pickup 3 GECR relay when it is displaying any one of the OFF aspects. This relay is repeated as 3GECPR relay at signal No.1 location. 3 GECPR relay pick up contact is proved in 1HYR, and 1HYR pickup contact in 1HR relay circuits, to prove **Red lamp protection** for signal No.3.

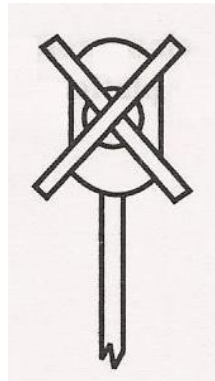
When the entire section is clear Automatic signal will display clear aspect. If automatic signal No.3 is not displaying red with the train in its section due to lamp failure, then red lamp checking relay (3RECR↓) drop causes to drop 3GECR. The 3GECR dropping in turn causes to drop 1HYR, and 1HYR causes 1HR to drop. There by signal No-1 display Red .But when the section is clear and the automatic signal No-3 is displaying yellow or green then the signal in rear can also display green. So, 3 HECR and 3 DECR front contacts are provided to bypass 3 RECR contact so that when signal No.3 is displaying any OFF aspect there by 3GECR energised causing signal No.1 to display respective OFF aspect.



## ANNEXURE - 1

### SIGNAL TUBULAR POST AND BASE

1. A signal post consists of a tube of section 140 mm outer diameter, having each a thickness of 5 to 9mm. The height of signal post is 3.5M, 4.5M, 5.5Meters. The maximum height is about 10.5M.
2. Signal Base is made of cast iron and dia 160 mm. The height of the base is 550mm.
3. When a fixed signal is not in use, it shall be distinguished by two crossed bars, each bar being not less than one metre long and 10 centimetres wide, as illustrated below:-



4. Foundation for signal post should be of cement concrete in the ratio of 1:3:6 using stone Ballast of 25 X25 mm size.
5. Signal Ladders are provided on all signal posts. If any part of signal fittings e.g. ladder erected at distance of less than 2360 mm from centre of adjacent track, it should be blanked off to a height of 300 mm between 2060 mm and 2360 mm about rail level.

### SCHEDULE OF MAINTENANCE

S. No.	Description	Technician	JE/SE	SSE
1	Check the cleanliness of Lenses, Housing shall be kept clean	Fortnightly	Monthly	Quarterly
2	Check the lamps are replaced as per extent instructions	Fortnightly	Monthly	Quarterly
3	Check the lamps are working at 90% of rated Voltage	Fortnightly	Monthly	Quarterly
4	Check the lamps used are tested prior to replacement	Fortnightly	Monthly	Quarterly
5	Check the bulbs are seated properly	Fortnightly	Monthly	Quarterly
6	Check the focusing of signals	Monthly	Monthly	Quarterly
7	Check all adjusting nuts are properly tighten	Fortnightly	Monthly	Quarterly

## **DO'S AND DON'TS**

### **DO s**

- (a) please ensure signal post is plumb.
- (b) Ensure proper focusing of signal before it is put in service.
- (c) Carry out pre-heat test the signal lamps before they are provided on the signal.
- (d) Avoid any bright light in rear of the signal. If unavoidable, provide sheet to obstruct false light to have clear visibility of signal.
- (e) Proper gasketing of signal units, calling-on units, A-markers etc should be done to avoid phantom indications.

### **DON'T s**

- (a) Never keep un-commissioned signal unit facing approaching train without cross.
- (b) Never open the rear cover in face of approaching train for doing adjustments.
- (c) Never commission green aspect LED in blanking mode.

## REVIEW QUESTIONS

### Subjective questions

1. Write advantages of CLS over semaphore signals.
2. Prepare signal Indication circuit with L&H type current transformers.
3. Prepare Signal aspect control circuit for 2 aspect/3 aspect signal and discuss in detail.
4. Write short notes on triple pole lamps.
5. Prepare MEER Buzzer circuit and Explain.
6. Write short notes on Double Distant Signal.
7. What is cascading/cutting-in arrangement? Prepare lamp controlling circuit of 2/3 aspect signals with cascading arrangement?
8. What is Red Lamp protection? Explain Red lamp protection circuit.
9. Write short notes on the followings
  - (a) LED Signal unit
  - (b) Universal current Regulator
  - (c) Advantages of LED Signals over Conventional CLS.

### Objective questions

1. When cascading is used in aspect control circuit then signal lamp to be used is/are-----(d)
  - a) SL18
  - b) SL21
  - c) SL35
  - d) a&c both
2. The signal lamp terminal voltage shall not be more than ----- of rated voltage.(a)
  - a) 90%
  - b) 98 %
  - c) 80 %
  - d) 12 %
3. The proceed aspect is displayed in four aspect automatic section when \_\_\_\_\_ automatic sections ahead and overlap are clear.(b)
  - a) 4
  - b) 3
  - c) 5
  - d) 2
4. The signal lamps are triple pin lamp to avoid ----- (b)
  - a) Lamp theft
  - b) out of focus after replacement of lamp
  - c) use for domestic purpose
  - d) loose grip
5. The no load current of signal transformer shall not be more than ----- (d)
  - a) 5 mAmp
  - b) 15 Amp
  - c) 40 mAmp
  - d) 15 mAmp
6. The power rating of signal transformer is ----- (b)
  - a) 400VA
  - b) 40VA
  - c) 4KVA
  - d) 40KVA
7. The tapping on secondary side of signal transformer is/are ----- (d)
  - a) 13 volt
  - b) 14.5 volt
  - c) 16 volt
  - d) a,b &c
8. When MEER & Signal transformer are placed in side two aspect unit then number of cable conductors required in tail cable (with double cutting) are ----- (b)
  - a) 10
  - b) 8
  - c) 12
  - d) 6

9. Lamp to be used in ON aspect of signal is/are (a)  
 a) SL21                      b) SL35A                      c) SL35B                      d) a & c
10. When Distant in double distant territory displays proceed aspect then indicates ----- (d)  
 a) Run through on main line                      b) run through on loop line  
 c) Train going to be received on main line b.                      d) a & c
11. When inner Distant in double distant territory displays proceed aspect then indicates -----(a)  
 a) Run through on main line                      b) run through on loop line  
 c) Train going to be received on main line band.                      d) a & b
12. Red lamp protection provided to----- (a)  
 a) Protect blank signal                      b) prevent blanking of signal  
 c) Replacement of signal to ON                      d) a & b both
13. -----ECR can be used for LED AC signal. (d)  
 a) Conventional ECR                      b) LED AC ECR                      c) LED ECR                      d) a & b
14. Normal working voltage of LED signal unit is / are ----- (a)  
 a) 110 volt AC                      b) 110 volt DC                      c) 230 AC                      d) None
15. \_\_\_\_\_ relay back contact shall be provided across DR back contact to ensure cascading arrangement in 3- aspect signal circuit. (b)  
 a) HECR                      b) DECR                      c) RECR                      d) HR

**Match the Following:**

- |    |           |     |                              |
|----|-----------|-----|------------------------------|
| 1. | SL-5      | (e) | a) 12 V / 33 W               |
| 2. | SL –17    | (d) | b) 12 V / 24 W               |
| 3. | SL – 21   | (c) | c) 12 V / 24 W & 16 V / 12 W |
| 4. | SL – 35 A | (b) | d) 12 V / 4 W                |
| 5. | SL – 35 B | (a) | e) None                      |