

CHAPTER VII

SCHEDULE OF POWERS, MEDIA MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIMENTARY PASSESS

701 Facility for Non-Railway officials for reaching the site of Accident:

Whenever any accident has occurred in the course of working a railway, the Head of the Railway Administration concerned shall give all reasonable aid to the District Magistrate or the Magistrate appointed or deputed or to the Commission of Inquiry appointed under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 or any other authority to which all or any of the provisions of the said Act have been made applicable and to the Commissioner of Railway Safety, Medical Officers, the Police and others concerned to enable them to reach the scene of accident promptly and shall also assist those authorities in making inquiries and in obtaining evidence as to the cause of the accident.

701.1 Non-Railway Officials (Civil and Police) to be given facility to proceed to site of serious Accident :

The Sr.DOM/DOM shall also advise the non-railway officials of the movement, of Medical Relief Train, Accident Relief Trains, other relief trains and trolleys to the site of accident. They shall be given every facility to proceed to the site of accident by the relief trains and trolleys. However, relief trains shall not be delayed on this account.

702 Schedule of Powers of Officers to requisition for Helicopter/Aero planes to reach the site in case of Serious Accident:

General Managers / Divisional Railway Managers are empowered for requisition of helicopter / aircraft to reach the site of accident in the following cases.

- i. Where more than 10 casualties (death / serious injuries) are feared and it is difficult for these officers to reach the site within reasonable time.
- ii. Where heavy damage is caused to Railway installations in sensitive and tension filled areas (e.g. wreckage of track, bridges etc., through bomb blast, other means of sabotage etc.)
- iii. Where public reaction in case of late arrival of senior officers at site is likely to be highly adverse.
- iv. The GM / DRM should exercise the above powers personally.

NOTE: GM has full Powers and DRM to the extent powers as delegated by GM.

703 Medical Aid to the Persons Grievously Hurt in Accident:

Whenever any accident, occurring in the course of working a railway, is attended with grievous hurt, it shall be the duty of the Head of the Railway administration concerned to afford medical aid to the sufferers, and to see that they are properly and carefully attended to till they are sent to their homes or handed over to the care of their relatives or friends. In such case, or in any case in which any loss of human life or grievous hurt has occurred, the nearest available local Medical Officers shall be sent for, if such Medical Officer is nearer at hand, than the Railway Medical Officer.

a) Procedure to be adopted by Station Master when a passenger or a trespasser is injured within Railway premises:

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 - i. In all cases in which a passenger or a trespasser is injured within railway premises, the Station Master shall arrange to render First-Aid immediately. Efforts made to ascertain if any doctor is available in the train or on the platform and obtain medical assistance.
 - ii. If the case is a serious one, arrange to summon medical aid from the nearest source available, whether Railway, Civil, Military or Private.
 - iii. If necessary, arrange for transport, and send the patient at the earliest opportunity to the nearest hospital whether Railway, Civil, Military or Private.
 - iv. Where the Police are available and there is reason to suspect that case is one of a trespasser , inform the Railway Police and, after due medical aid has been rendered, ask the Police to arrange for the disposal of the case.
 - v. In case of a serious accident and also in cases where the attendance of the Railway Medical Official in-charge and the Divisional Medical Officer in-charge is likely to be delayed, the Station Master shall send a telephonic message calling for medical assistance, to the Divisional Medical Officer of the adjoining division and all the Railway Medical Officials stationed between the two Divisional Headquarter stations on either side of the station. On sections where control is in operation, the Station Master, shall, in addition to sending the telephonic advise the control to inform them.
 - vi. In calling for medical assistance from the Local, Civil, Military or Private Hospital or dispensary and local Doctors, the Station Master shall send the requisition by the quickest possible means. If the requisition cannot be sent by telephone, the Station Master shall send a messenger with a message. The message shall be written legibly and sent through suitable staff who are well acquainted with the location of the hospitals and dispensaries and with the residence of the doctors.
 - vii. A list of Private Medical Practitioners, Railway and non-Railway hospitals and dispensaries including Government, Municipal, Mission, Military or Private Medical Institutions available at, or in the vicinity of the station, and qualified First Aiders available at station, should be painted on a board and exhibited in a conspicuous place outside Station Master's Office, or painted on the wall outside the Station Master's Office at each station for the guidance of all concerned in case of emergency. In addition, lists as shown in Proforma in Appendix VI should also be exhibited in conspicuous place in the office of Station Master at each station for the guidance of all concerned. The Station Superintendents / Station Masters should make certain that the particulars furnished therein are kept up-to-date. The Medical Officer in-charge of the section should periodically inspect the same to ensure that they are properly maintained and kept up-to-date.

b) Schedule of Powers of Officers to incur expenditure towards relief measure in case of Serious Accident:

Item No	Nature of Power	Headquarters officers			Extent of powers delegated to	Divisional officers		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Note:	To sanction expenditure on ambulance/transport of injured employees/ passengers involved in accidents and movement of officers and staff to site of accident.	Full powers	Full powers	Sr. Scale only Full power up to Rs 500 in each individual case subject to a maximum of Rs. 5000 on each occasion.	Full powers	Full powers	Full powers	Sr. Scale same as in Col. 5. Jr. Scale-full powers up to Rs. 200 in each individual case subject to a maximum of Rs. 2000 on each occasion.
	To incur expenditure on setting up camp lighting and transhipment arrangements on breaches and accidents.	full powers	Full powers up to Rs. 10,000 on each occasion.	Sr. Scale only Full powers up to Rs.5000 on each occasion,	Full powers	Full powers	Full powers	Sr. Scale same as in Col. 5. Jr. Scale-full powers up to Rs. 200 in each individual case subject to a maximum of Rs. 2000 on each occasion.
					Full powers	Full powers	Same as in Col. 4	Sr. Scale – Same as in Col. 5, Jr. Scale –Full powers up to Rs. 2500 on each occasion.

Note: - For the exercise of the power, the Senior most Sr. Scale officer at the site of the accident is empowered to withdraw the amount from station earnings.

c) Supply of Food and Drink:

- i. At the site of accident, refreshments, food and beverages may be supplied free of cost to the affected passengers. These may be arranged from the railway and /or outside sources if necessary.
- ii. The Senior most Official at the site shall have the powers to arrange conveyance of affected passengers free of cost by any available mode of transport and also incur expenditure for carriage of passengers' luggage etc

Note: Proper account should be kept of the expenditure incurred duly supported by the vouchers to enable post audit of the expenditure. A statement of the expenditure incurred should be signed by the Senior most Officer at site and put up to Divisional Railway Manager within a period of one month after the accident.

d) Employment of large body of Workmen to handle heavy machinery:

When as a result of an accident, a large body of workmen are utilized to handle heavy machinery, etc., in connection with clearance of wreckage, the first Officer of the Engineering, Mechanical or Transportation Department, who arrives at the site of accident shall send a requisition to the Railway Divisional Medical officer concerned to arrange for medical assistance with First Aid and other equipment, for attending to workmen.

e) Slight injury to railway employee which turns out to be serious : In case of injury to Railway employees, if the injuries originally diagnosed as slight, eventually necessitates absence from duty for 20 days or more, the Divisional Railway Manager shall advise the Chief Safety Officer. In case of injury to staff of the Railway Protection Force and the Fire service, the Chief Security Commissioner shall advise the Chief Safety Officer.

704 Media Management at Site:

The electronic media is in the forefront of reporting train accidents even before the details reach Divisional Control / Central Control due to leap in information dissemination. As per extant instructions, only DRM or the senior most Official present at the site of disaster / accident shall be the Chief spokes person. First hand information should be as accurate as possible to face the media effectively. The following duties by concerned Officials are listed below:

704.1 Duties of CPRO / PRO:

- a) On getting the information, proceed to the Emergency Control Room.
- b) Collect the details on real time basis from the Emergency Control.
- c) Only the reliable details as confirmed by the site Manager is to be given to the Print / Visual Media.

704.2 Objectives of Media Management Plan:

- a) To post the public with factual information.
 - b) To create a positive public opinion.
 - c) To create a healthy relationship with the media.
- i. Any accident, shall be reported to Public Relations Branch by Central Control. It should be ensured that CPRO / PRO is informed of all the available details.
 - ii. Depending upon the gravity of the situation, CPRO or his representative will immediately position himself in the Central Control.