

From  
ICF Staff Club  
AG129/18,VII Main Rd  
AnnaNagar,Chennai-40

To

# INTEGRAL NEWSST

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40,J,E: R.Lakshminarayanan, SSE/40

Stores: K.Thiyagarajan, CDMS

RT,RPF: R.Kasim, JE/48

11,23,41,TS: R.Jegathiswaran, SSE/41

Insp: J.Ananthakumar, SSE/42

Progress: M.Saravanan, SSE/PCO

CMT: G.Sivakumar, CMS-1

Electrical: D.T.Vijayaraj, SSE/45

**Fur Offices:** Harikumar.NV, SSE/MPO

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PlgF, TS: G.Muthukrishnan, SSE

Stores: V.V.Mahadevan, OS/P8

**Fur Shops:** R.Sundarrajan, SSE/30

30: Bipinkumar Karn, SSE/30

31,32,34: P.Satyanarayana, JE/34

33,CMT,38: D.R.Suresh, SSE/33

80,81,37: D.Santhakumar, SSE/80

88: K.S.Rajakumar, SSE/88

Elect: M.Devaraj, SSE/85

36,54: A.Srivijayan, SSE/54

Progress: D.Baskar, SSE/PCO

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**D&D:** Sabapathinathan.M, SSE/D&D

**Hospital:** Raju Balaji, Ch.OS

**Web:** K.Chandran, Webmaster/IT

**Advisors:**

S.Muthukumar, Dy CME/TPTY/SCR

B.Chandrakumar, SME/D-II

K.N.Mohan, WM/A/S

R.Srinivasan, APE/PR/F



Vigilance Awareness Week was observed from 29<sup>th</sup> Oct to 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov. The theme was “Transparency in Public Procurement”. Shri Abhay K Khanna, GM/ICF, released the vigilance bulletin on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.



Shri Abhay K Khanna, GM/ICF, inaugurated the Philatelic Exhibition at RRM on 7<sup>th</sup> November.



Dengue fever awareness programme was conducted by HAPC of IRTSA on 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov in which Shri Abhay K Khanna, GM/ICF, was the chief guest.









A cricket match among the officers of ICF was held on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov, which was won by the team headed by GM/ICF.



Quami Ekta Week was observed from 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> Nov and GM administered the pledge to officers and staff on 19<sup>th</sup> Nov at 11.00 hrs at Shell administrative building.



### Person of the Month

	
Aug '12: Shell K.Ambigapathy, Tech.1/41	Aug '12: Fur R.Jayakumar, Tech.1/80
	
Sep '12: Shell M.Sundararaj, Tech.1/24	Sep '12: Fur S.Amuda Ganesan, JE/30

### OFFICIAL POSTINGS

Name S/Shri/ Smt	Previous	Present
B.Narasimharao	FA&CAO/Proj	S.Rly
K.Bhuvaneshwari	S.Rly	FA&CAO/Proj
S.Bairva	RWF	DyCME/F2
D.Gajbhiye	WM/A2/S	SME/MRVC/F
U.Rajendiran	SME/MRVC/F	WM/A2/S

### STAFF INFLOW - LAST MONTH

Sl	Name S/Shri	Design	Shop
1	Kirtu Tudu	Tech-3	21
2	Malini.P	Peon	GM's Off
3	Niranjana.M	Vendor	Canteen
4	Aruldoss.K	Trainee	Canteen
5	Robin Ramesh	Tech-3	22
6	John Weslin.A	Helper	Hospital
7	Suresh babu.J	Helper	Hospital
8	Kamatchi.R	Helper	Hospital
9	Lakshmi.A	SB peon	Hospital
10	Chandra Prakash Meena	Tech-3	45
11	Rajendra Meena	Tech-3	14
12	Naresh Patil	Tech-3	14
13	Chhotu Ram Meena	Tech-3	26
14	Man Singh Meena	Vendor	Canteen
15	Chhoti Lal meena	Vendor	Canteen
16	Suleman Murmu	Vendor	Canteen
17	Janaki.A	Vendor	Canteen
18	Parmod Ravidas	Vendor	Canteen
19	Deepak Kumar Hembrom	Mali	Engg
20	Paramanand Kumar	Tech-3	TTC
21	Baranitharan.S	App Mech	TTC
22	Vanjarapu Sankar Rao	App Mech	TTC

### STAFF OUTFLOW - LAST MONTH

Sl	Name S/Shri	Design	Mode
1	Qubda uddin Ahmd	Helper/Engg	Transfer
2	Gali Prakash Babu	Helper/48	Transfer
3	T.P.Valsa Kumar	Helper/42	Transfer
4	K.Jayakumar	Tech-2/23	Removal
5	L.Murugan	Helper/10	Removal
6	D.Palani	Helper/10	Removal
7	R.Raman	Helper/11	Removal
8	Sreenu Paidi	Peon/Stores	Removal
9	Susanta Kumar Seth	Tech-3/21	Resigned
10	M.LakshmiPriya	JrClerk/stores	Resigned
11	M.Sekar	Helper/SD	Resigned
12	G.Satyanarayana	Tech-2/27	VR
13	S.A.Kumar	OS/T.O/S	VR

Your family members can now legally travel on your railway reservation ticket. Indian Railways have made changes in rules to allow people to travel on tickets reserved for their family members. Family members include father, mother, siblings and other close relatives. The process for transferring tickets needs to be done at least 24 hours before the journey. The process can be initiated 48 hours before the journey.

RBI has directed all banks to withdraw non-CTS 2010 standard cheques completely by 31-12-2012 and issue only CTS-2010 standard cheques to the customers.

**EMPLOYEES RETIRING on 31<sup>st</sup> December '12**

1	SUBBARAYALU.J	Sr Tech/FGL	11
2	CHINTALA	Sr.Tech/Weld	11
3	RAGHURAMAN .B	Sr.Tech/Serang	11
4	JAYALINGAM .R	Tech-1/Weld	11
5	KADIRVELU .N	Sr.Tech/Weld	14
6	BABU.D	Sr Tech/FGL	14
7	THARAGAN .G S	Tech-1/FGL	14
8	RAJASEKAR .K	Tech-1/MGL	16
9	VIJAYAN.S	Sr.Tech/Weld	20
10	THEOPHILUS	Sr Tech/FGL	20
11	RAJARAMAN.G	Sr.Tech/Weld	21
12	BESTWICK .A	Tech-1/Weld	21
13	AIYAPPAN.M	Sr.Tech/paint	25
14	RAMAMOORTHY .K	Sr Tech/FGL	26
15	DOYLE .MA	Ch OS	Engg
16	GOVINDAN P .	ASI/RPF	RPF
17	VENKATAIAH .J	Dresser	Hosp
18	RAJU .VT	Sr Tech/Elec	29
19	KAPALI .T	Tech-1/Elec	29
20	KUPANDIRAN.V	Tech-1/Carp	30
21	ANNAMALAIM	Tech-1/Carp	30
22	ARAVINDAKSHAN	Sr Tech/Carp	30
23	THOMAS .K	Sr Tech/FGL	30
24	MAHADEVAN .M	Tech-1/Trimmer	34
25	KRISHNANKUTTY	Sr Tech/Elec	39
26	THULASIRAM .V	Sr.Tech/paint	54

Integral News wishes them A HAPPY AND PEACEFUL RETIRED LIFE.

**WE DEEPLY MOURN THE SUDDEN DEMISE OF THE FOLLOWING EMPLOYEES**

Sl	Name S/Shri	Designation
1	M.Selvakumar	San Maistry
2	N.Chandran	Tech-1/21
3	S.Vivek	Helper/41
4	P.Shanmugam	Hosp Attendant
5	Rajagopal	JE/16

Shri S.Venkatraman, Retd CME/ICF, passed away on 14<sup>th</sup> Nov.



Smt. Vijayalakshmi Viswanathan, Former Railway Financial Commissioner, passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> Nov. She continued to advise the Railways, even after her superannuation in November 2005, till last year.

Hon'ble MoSR for Railways, Sri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury, flagged off Puducherry-Dadar Express at 4.35 pm on Nov 6<sup>th</sup> from Puducherry Railway Station. The train will leave Puducherry at 8.15 pm on Sundays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and reach Dadar on Tuesdays, Thursday and Fridays at 5.50 am.

UPA chairperson Smt Sonia Gandhi inaugurated the Rs. 1,685-crore rail coach factory in Rae Bareli on 7<sup>th</sup> Nov. Flagging off the first set of coaches in Lalganj, Mrs Gandhi said, "I want to mention those who spread rumours against the project.... But it has been completed in such a short time".

**CIRCULARS**

AC45: Revised rates of DA wef 01.07.12

AC46: Grant of privilege Pass/ PTO to dependant relatives- raising the income ceiling limit

AC47: Five days SCL for Meditation/Yoga/ Spiritual programmes would be inclusive of travel time.

- A Guest house with 8 beds was inaugurated on 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov for IRSE probationers at Perambur.

- Sri V.Venugopal, WM/A/F, has been nominated as member of safety committee/Fur in place of Sri U.Rajendiran, since he has been transferred to Shell.

- From 15th Nov, allotment of ICF Kalyanamandapams and community hall to general public has been permitted, if there is no demand from ICF/Rly serving/retired employees

- Sri K.T.Dominic, SME/I/F, has been nominated as Chairman of Workers canteen/Fur in place of Sri U.Rajendiran, since he has been transferred to Shell.

**Last date for submission of application:**

Gr-C&D Sports Quota of N.E.Rly = 17.12.12

Drivers are required (both EMUs & Diesel Locos) in the UK for various Train operating companies like London Midlands, South Eastern Railway etc. pl check [www.londonmidlandrailway.uk](http://www.londonmidlandrailway.uk). Closing date 30<sup>th</sup> Dec.

- Jawahar.R, Ex SSE/ICF (now in the UK)

Genl subjects by Shri E.Ramesh in the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of SCMs

The allotment of ICF holiday homes may be made 5 months in advance instead of 4 months, as ticket reservation period has been increased from 3 months to 4 months.

Additional Lab assistants/helpers to be posted in CMT/Fur office

Grant of third financial upgradation under MACPS on completion of 20 years of service from the first promotion.

GM/ICF has approved CUG SIM cards for 38 SSE / CDMS / CMS which were left since the posts were vacant at the time of issue of SIM cards to all SSEs.

48<sup>th</sup> foundation day of IRTSA was celebrated on 27<sup>th</sup> Nov as National Integration Day. In ICF, a brief meeting with engineers of various departments was held with lunch at Furnishing division workers' canteen. Sri M.Shanmugam, CP/IRTSA, administered the oath of solidarity to the members. In the evening, a meeting was held at TTC with high tea in which Principal/TTC administered the oath of solidarity to the App SSEs & JEs.

Railway is likely to cancel provision of food for concessional ticket holders in Shatabdi, Rajdhani and Duranto expresses.

The condition of carrying original proof of identity during travel on reserved tickets for all reserved classes including 2S,SL,3E &FC comes into effect from 1<sup>st</sup> Dec.

# ABOUT ICF

by Sri R.Srinivasan, APE/PR/F, 9003141449

## 'L' SHED

This Shed of area 3530 sq.mtr consists of Shop 15 which is also known as Spring shop. The shop manufactures around 60 varieties of open coil helical types of springs. This shop is the second largest spring manufacturer of Indian Railways next to the Spring Mfg Unit RSK at Gwalior. ICF Spring shop caters to the complete requirement of springs for our bogies and also supplies springs as spares to the Zonal Railway. These springs are manufactured from 13 different sizes of spring steel rounds supplied by firms like Mukund Ltd., SAIL, VISL etc.

NOTE: The spring shop of ICF is very old and Rly Board decided to modernise it with the latest technology and automation. The modernisation project is in the pipeline and expected to be in full swing in the years to come.

### **Spring Manufacturing**

This shop is manufacturing around 40000 Springs of which 31000 is for ICF's regular requirement and the balance of 9000 as spares to Zonal Railways. Three types of Spring such as Axle spring, Bolster outer Spring( Right hand coil) and Bolster inner spring(Left hand coil) are used in ICF.

The springs are manufactured to RDSO Specification No: WD-01-HLS-94, Rev-2 – Feb-04.

### **Raw Material Used:**

(i) 52 Cr4 Mo2 V (CM - Chrome Molybdenum) for Bar dia more than 32 mm

(ii) 60 Si7 (SM - Silicon Manganese) for bars less than 32mm dia.

### **Sequence of Operations**

#### 1) Cutting & Chamfering:

The spring bar are cut to length on a Band saw cutting M/c.

Cutting Length C.L =  $Dm (3.14 * Ne + 3.75)$ . where Dm is Mean dia of Spring and N is no. of coils

The Chamfering at the Ends for  $3mm * 450$  using Chamfering machine.

#### 2) Straightening:

The bars are straightened by sending inside the Bar straightening m/c. with the limit of out of straightness as 1mm / Metre length.

#### 3) Bar Peeling:

It is the process of removing outer layer of bar, the skin by a minimum of 1mm or 3% of Nominal dia as per spec. in Bar Peeling m/c.

#### 4) Straightening:

Peeled bars are straightened again.

#### 5) Centreless grinding:

The bars are loaded to the Centreless Grinding m/c to remove metal to a depth of 0.3mm (i.e 0.2mm in Rough pass and 0.1mm as finish pass) and to ensure proper surface finish of less than 5 microns.

#### 6) Magnaflux Testing:

This is a method of Electromagnetic crack detection for detecting the Surface & Sub-surface Longitudinal cracks . The spring bars are passed with low voltage current and there a magnetic field is set up around the bar. A solution of kerosene mixed with coloured iron powder is applied onto the surface of the magnetised bars. If there is a crack on the surface of the bar, the crack starts to act as magnet and attracts the iron powder and the colored iron powder accumulates in the crack and the cracks can be seen with the naked eye.

#### 7) End tapering:

Both ends of the bars are heated and tapered manually using Single acting Hammer. This is done to ensure proper seating after coiling. The taper formation could be achieved on a m/c (End Tapering m/c).

#### Formula used:

Marking Length (M.L.) =  $(C.L - Working coil length) / 2$

Overall length (O.L.) =  $3.14 * Dm * No. of Coils (N)$

End Tapered length =  $(O.L - Working coil length) / 2$

Working coil Length =  $3.14 * Dm * Ne$

#### 8) Coiling :

The mandrel dia equal to the inner dia of the Spring is selected for coiling. The pitch based on the no. of coil is set on the M/c. The bars are heated to  $880^{\circ}C$  to  $920^{\circ}C$  and soaked for 1 min / mm dia for uniform heating and then coiled on the coiling m/c. The springs are stamped on the dead coil with identification stampings like manufacturer, Month & year of manufacture, Matl spec (CM / SM), drawing code of the spring etc.

Then the springs are taken on to the pitching table to maintain the squareness, ensure proper seating and maintain the free height.

#### 9) Heat treatment:

The coiled springs are Hardened and Tempered.

Hardening: All the springs are heated to a temperature of  $830^{\circ}C - 860^{\circ}C$  and soaked at that temperature for 1 Minute / mm dia for uniform temperature and quenched in straight mineral oil. The springs are kept in oil for 20 – 30 min. The oil temperature should not exceed  $65^{\circ}C$ .

Tempering: The hardened springs are heated to a temperature of  $480^{\circ}C - 540^{\circ}C$  for CM and  $470^{\circ}C - 520^{\circ}C$  for SM and soaked for 1 min/ mm Dia of the spring. For CM the spring is cooled in open atmosphere to  $400^{\circ}C$  and then cooled in water and for SM the spring is cooled to room temp in open atmosphere.



10) Hardness testing:

The springs are tested for hardness by CMT. The Brinell hardness no. is checked.

415 TO 460 BHN – CM (chrome molybdenum steel)

380 TO 440 BHN – SM (Silicon Manganese steel)

The springs failed for low hardness is re-hardened.

The springs failed for High hardness is Re-tempered.

11) Scragging:

The springs are loaded to its home height three times to induce the permanent set and to ensure that further set in height does not occur during functioning. The springs that go down in height from the free height plus grinding allowance are sent for re-pitching and is then heat treated. The springs that are more than the above height is hot scragged (i.e. heated to the tempering temperature and pressed in the scragging m/c in hot condition)

12) End Grinding:

Both the ends of the springs are ground to ensure proper seating of spring. The 3/4 of the circumference of the end coils should be ground. The drawing height (free height) is maintained at this stage.

13) Shot Peening:

The end-ground springs are put into the Shot Peening M/c. Steel shots to a size of 1 mm dia are forced onto the springs surface at 80 meters/second. This impinging will create a localised compressive stress, in turn the surface becomes wear-resistant. Moreover, the surface is cleaned of oil, scale etc. making it ready for Electromagnetic crack detection

14) ElectroMagnetic Crack Detection of Springs:

The principle is similar to that of the Magnaflux testing. Here the iron powder is mixed with Fluorescent powder in water and is applied on the spring. On magnetisation the iron powder mixed with Fluorescent powder takes the shape of the crack. Now, UV light is projected on the surface of the springs and the cracks fluoresce. This M/c has an attachment called the Central conductor to detect transverse cracks. The springs thus detected with cracks are scrapped.

15) Load testing:

The springs are load tested in a Load testing M/c. The height of the springs for the three specified loads like Tare load, Gross load and Shock load is checked. The springs that pass these loads are grouped.

Colour coding (Grouping): The height for the tare load is further divided into three ranges. The springs that fall under the lowest range is classified as Soft spring - Yellow spring, the spring that falls in the middle range is grouped as Medium spring - Blue spring and the one that falls on the highest side of the height range is grouped as the Tough spring - Green spring.

16) Painting:

The springs are dip-painted with one coat of Zinc Oxide primer and Black Enamel paint.

**AUGMENTATION OF SPRING MANUFACTURING FACILITIES AT ICF**

**Objective:** Considering the current situation and future demand of Railways, the revised plan is to augment the capacity of Spring shop to 75000 springs per annum.

- Modernising the manufacturing facility / process ensuring quality of Springs manufactured and adherence to modern manufacturing practices

**Reference of Sanction:**

**Abstract sanction**

- Item no.10 of Works Programme 2004-05
- Rs. 34.66 Crs

**Sanctioned Detailed estimate**

- Rly Bd's letter No.2005/N(W)/964/55 dated 15/12/05.
- Rs.37.96 Crs.

**Summary of estimates:**

Sl.No	Dept	Abstract sanction Rs. Cr	Sanct Detailed estimate Rs. Cr	Proposed Revised estimate Rs. Cr
1	<b>Mechanical</b>	32.66	<b>35.04</b>	<b>84.46</b>
2	<b>Civil</b>	1.20	<b>1.62</b>	<b>1.54</b>
3	<b>Electrical</b>	0.80	<b>1.30</b>	<b>1.45</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>34.66</b>	<b>37.96</b>	<b>87.45</b>

Revised estimate submitted to Board during Dec'11 after GM's approval - **Awaiting sanction from Rly. Board**

**Progress so far:**

- Extension of the existing shed and its associated electrical work completed.



- One Spring load testing machine was procured owing to urgent requirement of Shop and was supplied by M/s Marwaha / NDLS - commissioned during Apr'10.
- A Global tender floated by COFMOW for the machinery was discharged during Mar '11. The indent submitted earlier was returned for review & re-validation to accommodate escalations.
- The project was reviewed considering the current scenario and revised estimate costing Rs. 87.45 Crs. was submitted to Board and is awaiting sanction from Board.

**Current Plan**

- Only finished (peeled and ground ) & tested bars shall be procured in future.
- The present Bar Machining activity will be removed and this bay (2<sup>nd</sup> bay) will accommodate the Hot zone machines (End rolling to tempering). The present hot zone bay (1<sup>st</sup> bay) will accommodate the spring finishing activities (Scragging to Painting).

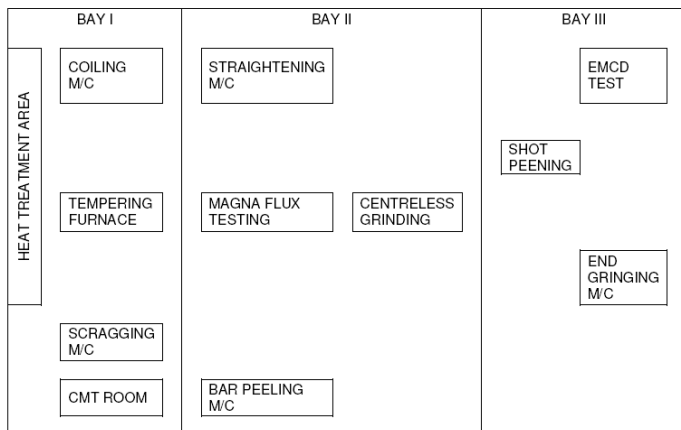
- The present finishing bay (Bay-3) shall be utilized as a covered storage for the machined bars procured from trade and finished springs.
- Machine specifications include manufacturing of LHB springs (FIAT) also.

#### Important M&P Planned

Description	Qty	cost (in Cr.)
Fully automated Coiling Lathe with walking beam furnace	1 No.	33.00
Bar End Tapering machine with walking beam furnace	1 No.	12.00
Spring End Grinding M/c	2 No.	20.00
Automated conveyerised type tempering furnace	1 No.	8.00
Automatic Spring painting System with oven	1 No.	2.50
Electromagnetic crack detector for Bars	1 No.	0.35
Shot Peening M/c	1 No.	1.00
Load testing M/c	1 Nos.	0.13
Electro magnetic crack detector for Springs	1 No.	0.25
Spring scragging M/c (for 4 springs at a time)	1 No.	0.25
5 Ton Crane	1 Nos.	0.44

A **Spring load testing machine** to cater for FIAT spring testing requirement indented under 1700 Coach project.

#### Layout of L-Shed at present



(-- to be continued)

Common symptoms of Dengue include fever with headache, severe muscle pain, joint pain and rashes on the body. A few recent studies have shown the effect of papaya leaf juice in curing dengue fever. The extract of raw papaya leaf helps boost platelets, also known as thrombocytes. Papaya leaf has also been found to possess powerful anti-malarial and anti-cancer properties.

Dengue awareness campaign was conducted in all the four colonies by ICF hospital and colony welfare associations from 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> Nov. On 25<sup>th</sup> unwanted things were collected on door-to-door basis by south colony welfare association in hands with St Johns ambulance brigade and VOC group of ICF Scouts and guides.

Regional Rail Museum, ICF celebrated the Children's Day 2012 with various events like competitions on Essay writing, drawing, elocution and quiz on Railways. Besides in the history of ICF the Philatelic Exhibition was organized in large scale with 80 frames of exhibits containing rare stamps, postal covers, post cards, miniature sheets, postal envelopes and special stamps made out of silver, gold, leather, pearls, bronze, crystals etc., are from 23 exhibitors on 30 different themes like World Railways, Scout Movement, endangered species, blood donation, hands, birds, ships, aerogrammes, lighthouses, cartoons, nature, save the tiger, army postal covers, Russian dynasty etc., collectively from the members of South India Philatelists' Association, Chennai

The exhibition was inaugurated by the General Manager, ICF Shri. Abhay K. Khanna in the presence of Ms. Sumita Ayodya, DPS/CCR, Chennai. Members from SIPA, officials from ICF and Postal department were present on that day. Addressing the visitors, GM said that he was a stamp collector in his childhood days and expressed his passion towards the hobby of stamp collecting.

Initially the exhibition was planned for 10 days and due to increased number of visitors it has been extended to 16th December 2012. During the function on 16th Nov, memento along with the appreciation certificate was presented to the exhibitors by Brig. G. Bhuyan, PMG/CCR, Chennai, in the presence of GM/ICF. SIPA was honoured with certificate and memento by the GM/ICF. Mrs. GM presented the certificate and prizes to the winners of the children's day 2012 competitions.

For the benefit of employees of ICF, Loco Works and Carriage & Wagon Works, HAPC of IRTSA organized a health programme on "Dengue Awareness & Prevention" on 2<sup>nd</sup> Nov from 17.30 to 19.00 hrs at TTC, auditorium, ICF. A small exhibition on situations which lead to the spread of the epidemic disease and simple actions that can prevent them from spreading was also displayed. Dr.N.Iyyanar, M.D, Deputy Director, Health Service, Govt. of Tamilnadu, delivered a lecture on breeding cycles of Aedes mosquitoes & their prevention. He also explained the precautions to be taken during the Dengue fever. A practical guide on Management of Dengue Fever made by Dr.N.Iyyanar, was released for the benefit of medical faculties of ICF & S. Railway by Sri.Pankaj Kumar, CME/ICF. Sri.Abhay K. Khanna, GM/ICF presided over as Chief Guest. Dr.S.Lalitha, CMD/ICF, Dr.Ram Prakash, CMD/S.Rly delivered special address. All PHODs, HODs, officers and employees participated. On behalf of IRTSA 100 mosquito nets were presented to Dr.Kanagamani. Earlier Dr.N.Iyyanar, M.D, Deputy Director, Health Service, Govt. of Tamilnadu, made a separate presentation to the Medical faculties of ICF on clinical management of Dengue.

Rates of night Duty Allowance w.e.f 01.07.12

Grade Pay	1800	1900	2000	
NDA in Rupees	116.00	116.80	117.60	
GP	2400	2800	4200	4600+
NDA Rs	120.80	124.00	210.00	213.20

Hon'ble Railway Minister Shri Pawan Kumar Bansal made a surprise visit to the New Delhi Railway station on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov to see the eco-friendly Bio-toilet developed and fitted on passenger coaches. He held an in-depth discussion on the various issues associated with the fitment and usage of the same with senior Railway officials including Sri Keshav Chandra, MM/RB. MM has explained to MR that the technology used is the same as that used for making stationary toilets for Indian troops stationed at Siachen.

The IR-DRDO bio-toilets use a technology based on specially developed bacteria by DRDO. The bacteria act upon the human waste and convert it into water, methane and carbon dioxide. It was emphasized that the success of this technology depends on proper usage by the passengers since throwing all kinds of waste material into the Bio-toilets, which does have adequate safeguards against malfunction, cannot handle non bio-degradable waste like plastic bottles, "gutkha" pouches, etc. in large quantities. Shri Bansal instructed the officials that passengers must be educated by pasting suitable, simple but strikingly catchy instructions so that proper usage becomes a habit for them.

MR has appreciated the efforts made by the department in developing the Bio-toilets and fitting the same on eight trains. The fitment of bio-toilets on new coaches is being done on a war footing and retro fitment on currently running coaches will be taken up shortly.

The Railways need Rs.147,187 crore for 347 pending projects, Railway Minister Pawan Kumar Bansal said on 30<sup>th</sup> Nov at Rajya Sabha. He added that the pending work can be expedited if state governments pitch in with land and share the cost of construction. He said that Railways had been making new announcements in response to demands of members and had landed with a humongous financial commitment. Because of the large number of projects, the financial spread has been thin. As a result, Railways found it difficult to finish work at a pace we might have liked. He said Karnataka and Haryana had come forward to share the cost of projects and it is standing invitation to all states.

Stating that the naming of some Kolkata Metro railway stations after icons has created problems for commuters, Minister of State for Railways Shri Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury on 26th Nov, proposed insertion of locality names beside those of the stations. Kolkata is a cosmopolitan city and everybody may not be aware about Uttam Kumar or Kavi Subhas. It is a big problem especially for people coming from outside the state. The names of the stations do not tell about the locality. So what is the harm if the name of the locality is inserted beside the names? I have given a proposal for the same and hope this would not inconvenience anybody, said Mr Chowdhury. He inaugurated the "New Garia Halt station" of the E.Rly, which could be used as an interface between the Eastern and the Metro Railway.

Indian Railways has increased the rate of Rail Neer, packaged drinking water supplied by the railways in trains and platforms, from Rs 12 to Rs 15 for one litre bottles and from Rs8 to Rs10 for 500ml bottles.

ICF has designed and manufactured DEMUs rakes which are already running in Kashmir Valley. These DEMUs have been specially designed to operate in sub-zero conditions and also have been furnished aesthetically keeping in view the tourist traffic in Srinagar Valley. Various features have been incorporated in these units, keeping in view all prevailing circumstances of the region to make the services passenger-friendly. Specially designed roof mounted heating units to take care of comfort of passengers during winter season and stainless steel chequered sheet below the first window of the compartment of physically handicapped passengers so as to enable visually challenged passengers to identify the coach, have been provided. This information was given by the MoSR Shri Kotla Jaya Surya Prakash Reddy in a written reply to a question in Rajya Sabha.

Indian Railways is establishing its first coal-based captive power plant of 1000 Mega Watt (MW) capacity at Nabinagar in Bihar in Joint Venture (JV) with NTPC which is under construction. Indian Railways has further planned to set up two more captive power plants in Railway land, one 1320 MW capacity coal-based power plant and Adra in Purulia district of West Bengal is Joint Venture with NTPC and another 700 MW gas power plant at Thakurli near Kalyan in Maharashtra. Fuel linkage and environmental clearance for both these plants are in process. Annual saving of about Rs. 500 crore from Nabinagar plant, Rs. 600 crore from Adra plant and Rs. 200 crore for Thakurli plant has been estimated due to reduction in electricity tariff.

India and China have signed an MoU on technical cooperation in the railway sector. The MoU, which will be in force for five years, will enhance mutual cooperation across various areas of rail technology including High Speed Rail, Heavy Haulage and Station Development. Both sides have agreed that future cooperation on railways will be carried under the Infrastructure Working Group. India requires Chinese technology for the enhancement of its ever-expanding railway sector, particularly for the development of high-speed railways. China presently has the largest bullet train network in the world. These trains run at a speed of around 300 KMPH.

The waiting tickets reserved in Tatkal category will be confirmed ahead of the general waiting tickets. Tatkal tickets get more revenue for the Indian railways. This is the reason for the decision to confirm Tatkal tickets first. These tickets cost more than general tickets. Indian Railways earn huge revenue due to this. Earlier, new coaches would be added for trains with several passengers in the waiting list. The rule to confirm Tatkal tickets first was followed for trains like Rajdhani and Shadabdi where passengers with waiting tickets are not allowed to board the train. The rule will now be applicable for all trains.

The Katra railway station would be operational by March next year helping connect the base camp of Mata Vaishnodevi shrine in Trikuta hills to other parts of the state. Around 14 passenger trains would run on the Udhampur-Katra route which is expected to meet the heavy influx of passengers.



On 03.11.2012, a Mock Court was conducted in TTC / ICF where a lecture was given by ASC / ICF to the participants on the preparation of panchanama, recording voluntary confession statement given by the accused persons, procedure for obtaining search warrant, methods of conducting house searches, case property certification by experts and later deposition of evidence in the courts by the witnesses etc. Later, Mock Court was also conducted on the trial of cases under RP (UP) Act cases. About 16 SSEs mostly faculty of TTC / ICF and 30 other RPF men had benefitted through the lecture and Mock Court.



On 24.11.2012, from 11.30 hrs to 12.40 hrs a meditation programme was arranged for the benefit of RPF staff in ICF. The programme was conducted by the members of Brahmakumaris World Spiritual University. During the meditation class RPF personnel were educated on the stress / tension management through inner vision and change in attitudes. About 93 RPF personnel attended the programme.

Sri Sushant Kumar Mishra, DRM/SC flagged off the first ever Refrigerated Container Train (REEFER) from Sanatnagar Container Depot on 7th Nov in the presence of CGM & GGM of CONCOR. The first service of the Container Train carried 7 Refrigerated Containers containing High Value and Temperature Sensitive Pharmaceutical products to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Mumbai for export.

India's famed Maharajas' Express is making select stops on the US West Coast to showcase its luxurious amenities to North American travellers who want to experience Incredible India by stepping back into time. IRCTC, which owns and operates the luxury train is hosting special events in Los Angeles (Nov 26), San Francisco (Nov 30), and Las Vegas to showcase Maharajas' Express. Awarded 'Best Luxury Train' by CNBC Travel in 2010 and named 1st runner up in the Readers Choice Award for Conde Nast Traveler in 2011, the train offers a range of five incredible itineraries between the months of September and April.

Railways will set up three bacteria generation plants as part of its effort to equip more coaches with bio-toilets in trains for eco-friendly waste disposal. Railways have set a target of installing bio-toilets designed by DRDO in 2,500 coaches in the current fiscal. Bacteria plants will be set up in Kapurthala, Chennai and Nagpur as there is a huge requirement for anaerobic bacteria for an increasing number of coaches with bio-toilets. Currently Railways are procuring bacteria from DRDO. The first train to be fitted with bio-toilets was Gwalior-Varanasi Bundelkhand Express in January last year. Field trials on these trains are successful. Corrosion costs Railways more than Rs 3,500 million every year.

Western Railway will introduce a biometric system at its Passenger Reservation System (PRS) to prevent touts from cornering tickets for long-distance trains. The modalities are being worked out. The system is being introduced on a pilot basis in two zonal railways. In the new system, a person has to give his/her left thumb impression at the time of booking the ticket. Once the person's identity is registered in the system, he/she will not be allowed to book ticket from the PRS more than twice in day.

Criteria for physical efficiency test (PET) for recruitment of staff in PB-1 of Rs5200-20200/ GP1800 has been relaxed as under for notifications issued on/or after July/12.

Existing	Revised
Male: should be able to run for a distance of 1500 meters in 6 minutes in one chance	Should be able to run for a distance of 1000 meters in 4 minutes and 15 seconds in one chance
Female: should be able to run for a distance of 400 meters in 3 minutes in one chance	Should be able to run for a distance of 400 meters in 4 minutes and 10 seconds in one chance

- Sri N.Premkumar, SSE/Shop 29, represented HMS-ICF and attended the conference of International Labour Organisation held in Indonesia from 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.
- Inter Railway Ball Badminton tournament was held at ICF South colony from 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> Nov in which ICF & Southern Railway emerged as joint winners.
- Inter Railway volleyball championship match was held at Bhubaneswar during 3<sup>rd</sup> week of Nov in which ICF team secured II place.