

Western Railway Employees' Union

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To General Manager, Western Railway.

Sub: Split/scatter working hours and precautions to be taken during humid heat wave situation for the Trackmen/Keymen/Patrolmen/TMC/S&T and OHE staff working on Open field to avoid health hazard.

It has been brought to the notice of the organization that the State and Central government has issued appropriate guide lines for the protection of employees of various categories working on Open field from the heat wave/sun stroke during the peak summer season by introducing split/scatter working hours.

The government has issued stringent instructions even to the construction field workers to follow scatter working hours by regulating and to avoid Open field working and to avoid field working during after-noon peak period from 11.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. to avoid sun stroke. According to the IMD the intense spell of humid heat wave will be continued.

Experts pointed out that there are two kinds of heat strokes, (i) Non-exertional heat stroke, which occur over several days due to exposure to heat waves. (ii) Exertional heat stroke happens in few hours especially if a person is performing strenuous physical activity in a hot and humid condition.

It is obvious that, Trackmen/Keymen/Patrolmen/TMC/S&T and OHE staff working on Open field during after-noon peak hours without split/scatter working hours will be badly affected with heat wave/sun stroke and they may be badly affected with Exertional or Non-exertional heat stroke and health hazard.

You are therefore requested to advise DRMs to issue appropriate guidelines to implement split/scatter working hours by exempting open field working from 11.00 hrs. to 15.00 hrs. and requisite safety precautions for the staff working on open field, especially Trackmen/Keymen/Patrolmen/TMC/S&T and OHE staff for their safety and protection from heat wave/sun stroke during the peak humid wave situation.

General Secretary