No: 2015/RS(M)/PL Unification  New Delhi, Dated: 26-07-2018

The Principal Chief Materials Managers,  
All Indian Railways & PUs,

Sub:- PL unification

Ref.-  
(ii) Railway Board’s letter No. 2001/RS(IC)/Misc./165/1 dated 13.10.2015.  

During the Review Meeting of PCMMs of all Indian Railways and PUs with Railway Board held on 06.07.2018 & 07.07.2018, PL unification was one of the agenda items. It is observed that in spite of detailed policy instructions on allotment of PLs by Railway Board vide letter under reference (ii) & (iii) above and repeated stress on adoption of unified PLs, Railways are still running their own PLs and even temporary PLs. It has also been reported by CRIS that time to allot unified PL by nominated PL unifying Railway is very long.

Considering above, following instructions are issued:

1) Requesting Railway should:

   i. Thoroughly check the existing PLs in the regular as well as in 98 Sub-Group of PL List, enquire the similar/closely resembling description and check if request of PL unification for the same item is placed by any other Railway.

   ii. Ensure that no temporary/non-unified PLs are operated on its Railway and for all such PLs, if any, request for unified PL must be made to the nominated Railway within 10 days of issue of this letter. All the temporary PLs must be closed immediately on allotment of unified PL by nominated Railway.

   iii. Certify in the PLUS utility that no Temporary/Regular PL is running for the requested item, while sending request for allotment of unified PL for newly stocked item.

   iv. Ensure that Unified PL descriptions are generic and common for all railways. That is, it does not include Railway specific requirement of marking, sample, etc. e.g. for Bedroll items, Photocopier Papers, Computer Papers etc. and any other special requirement/condition. If necessary, these should be made part of special conditions so that there is consistency in description and specification of item across Railways.
2) **Nodal Railway should:**
   i. Crosscheck the declaration by the requesting Railway regarding non-availability of PL for requested item & any previous request and Issue/allot fresh PL within 7 days, if required.
   ii. Never allot any PL in 98 Sub-Group of its own Group.

3) **The system should:**
   i. Not permit allotment of 98 Sub-Group by Nodal Railway.
   ii. Generate alerts for nodal railways for requests pending for more than 3 days and also send SMS alerts to PCMMs of Nodal Railways for requests pending for more than 7 days.
   iii. Develop an appropriate search engine to facilitate identification of item/PL.

This is issued with the approval of DG(RS), Railway Board.

(Vinod Kumar)
Director RS(M)

**Copy to:**
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GM/EPS, VIMS / CRIS – For information and necessary action please.