

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)**

No. 2021/Sec (Cr)/Firing/45/75

New Delhi, Dated: 02/02/2022

**The Principal Chief Security Commissioners/RPF,
All Zonal Railways,
RPSF, ICF, KRCL, CORE, RDSO and all PU's,
Director/JR RPF Academy/LKO, TC/MLY & KGP.**

(SECURITY CIRCULAR NO- 02 /2022)

Sub: Remedial measures against accidental firing by RPF/RPSF staff.

In the recent days, several incidents of accidental firing by RPF personnel have been reported across Indian Railways. Even though no fatality or major injury has been reported in these incidents, chances of fatalities/injuries cannot be ruled out if such incidents continue to recur with alarming regularity in future too. During the outcome of the Courts of Inquiry constituted in this regard, it was established that these incidents were mainly due to carelessness in handling fire arms, by RPF personnel, particularly at the time of issue/deposit of Arms/Ammunition in Kote. There may be some incidents of accidental firing, attributable to lack of sufficient training, non-adherence to prescribed safety precautions, lack of supervision and lack of interest/mindfulness. Incidents also occur due to unprofessional handling of weapon by our staff. It is high time to focus on taking steps to avoid such incidents in future.

2. In view of the above guidelines/instructions in succeeding paragraphs are issued in addition to the safety instructions already available. All the members of the Force are instructed to follow them in letter and spirit to avoid any scope for occurrence of accidental firing. Negligence towards or non-compliance of these guidelines should be dealt with appropriately by the controlling and disciplinary authorities.

A. Infrastructure:-

- (i) A safety zone of 5ft length, 3ft depth and 3ft breadth should be constructed near armoury which should be filled with sand. Straight rubber tube/pipe should be used for further safety, in which the barrel should be inserted while loading/unloading. In case of paucity of space, a plastic water tank filled with sand may be provided with rubber tube/pipe having bigger diameter than the barrel.
- (ii) Readable Notice Boards/Posters of safety precautions and of drill for issue and deposit of weapons should be properly displayed in Armoury, Mess, Barracks, etc so that all persons can read and refresh their memory and skills in this regard. The same should also be read for the staff while mounting and dismounting once a week at the level of RPF Post and Out Post.

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- (iii) Suitable arrangements of CCTV recording should be made so that IPF can check if the drills & guidelines are followed or not by the staff near kote.

B. Drill after issue of Arms & Ammunitions:-

This drill should be conducted with the command of party commander if Arms & Ammunitions are issued to a party. If A&A are issued to an individual, he should conduct the drill for himself.

- (i) On issue of Arm & Ammunitions to a person, that person shall count and check the ammunitions to ensure that they are live and correct in caliber and number in the Kote itself in the presence of the issuing authority. He shall not check the weapon inside the 04 walls of Kote.
- (ii) After that he shall come out of the Kote and inspect his weapon, only from outside, to ensure that it's outer parts are clean, intact and not damaged.
- (iii) Then after he shall fill the rounds in the magazines as per the scale and keep them in his pouches.
- (iv) Then after party commander takes his position and commands others to fall-in line with command "Toli Line Ban" or "Duty Party Fall-in Line", obeying the command, all members of the party fall in the line on his left side in Baju Shastra position. Then he commands "Nirikshan Ke Liye Janch Shastra". The members take the taught position of "Janch Shastra" and take/hold the recoil parts backwards by using HOC/hand so that the commander can inspect the inside of barrel from muzzle end. The commander gets his own weapon's barrel inspected by the first member in line and then inspects others' weapon's barrel to ensure that it is clean and there is no round in the chamber. After the commander's inspection of barrel, each individual shall check and ensure that his weapon's inner visible parts like ejector, extractor and firing pin are in normal condition. Each member, then takes / allows to go the recoil parts forward. Then he goes to the Safety Sand Box, inserts the barrel in the Pipe as taught, operates the trigger, takes the barrel out, puts the safety catch to "S", goes to a safe place, loads one magazine in housing of his weapon and again ensures that the safety catch is put to "S" only. All members then disperse for duty.

Provided that, where there is no Safety Sand Box, after checking of inner visible parts by each member, the commander commands "Chalwale Purje Age Kar". The party members obey the command, then direct the barrel 45° up towards safe direction in the sky, operate the trigger, put the safety catch on "S" and come to "Baju Shastra Position". Then the commander commands "Ek Magazine Bhar". The members obey the command by loading one magazine in the housing of their weapon and again ensure the safety catch is put on "S". Then the commander commands "Duty Ke Liye Line Tod". The members obey the command and disperse for duty.

C. Drill before deposit of Arms & Ammunitions:-

This drill should be conducted with the command of party commander if Arms & Ammunitions are to be deposited by a party. If A&A are to be deposited by an individual, he should conduct the drill for himself.

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- (i) Once the armed party returns to deposit Arm & Ammunitions in the Kote, the party commander takes his position outside the Kote and commands the party to fall-in. With his command "Toli Line Ban", Or "Duty Party Faill-In Line", the members fall-in line in Bajju Shashtra position on his left side. The commander commands "Khada Morcha Le". All members including the commander take their left leg 12" apart on left side and lift the Rifle up from the floor and keep it standing on right thigh, Then the commander commands "Utaar Magazine". All members unload the magazines and put it in their respective pouches. The commander commands "Nirikshan Ke Liye Janch Shashtra". All members take the position of "Janch Shashtra" and take/hold the recoil parts backwards by using HOC/hand so that the commander can inspect the inside of barrel from muzzle end. The commander gets his own weapon's barrel inspected by the first member in line and then inspects others' weapon's barrel to ensure that it is clean and there is no round in the chamber. After the commander's inspection of barrel, each individual shall check and ensure that his weapon's inner visible parts like ejector, extractor and firing pin are in normal condition. He, then takes / allows to go the recoil parts forward. Then all go in queue turn by turn to the Safety Sand Box and each inserts the barrel in the Pipe as taught, operates the trigger, takes the barrel out and puts the safety catch to "S" position. All members then disperse to clean and deposit their A&A.

Provided that, where there is no Safety Sand Box, after checking of inner visible parts by each member, the commander commands "Chalwale Purje Age Kar". The party members obey the command, then direct the barrel 45° up towards safe direction in the sky, operate the trigger, put the safety catch on "S" and come to "Bajju Shashtra Position". Then there are dispersed by the commander to clean and deposit the A&A.

- (ii) Thereafter, the weapon will be cleaned with dry cloth. Inside of the barrel will be cleaned with dry chindi and oiled with oil chindi before depositing. Oil will also be applied on the outside steel parts of the weapon. Thereafter every member shall unload the rounds from magazines, ensure rounds are correct, inspect his weapon, only from outside, to ensure that its outer parts are clean, intact and not damaged, enter into the Kote in a queue and deposit the A&A.

D. Do's & Don'ts for Armed Man

Do's:-

- (i) Always consider a weapon as loaded.
- (ii) Make it a habit, not to put finger on the trigger unless it is required to fire or press the trigger to make the weapon safe.
- (iii) Duty staff shall draw/deposit Arms & Ammunition properly from kote, only for themselves.
- (iv) Remove the magazine from housing before depositing the weapon in kote or before keeping at any other place and keep it safe in pouch.
- (v) Ensure keeping safety catch at "S" position while moving with a loaded weapon.
- (vi) Before moving the loaded arms from one place to another, the Make Safe operation

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