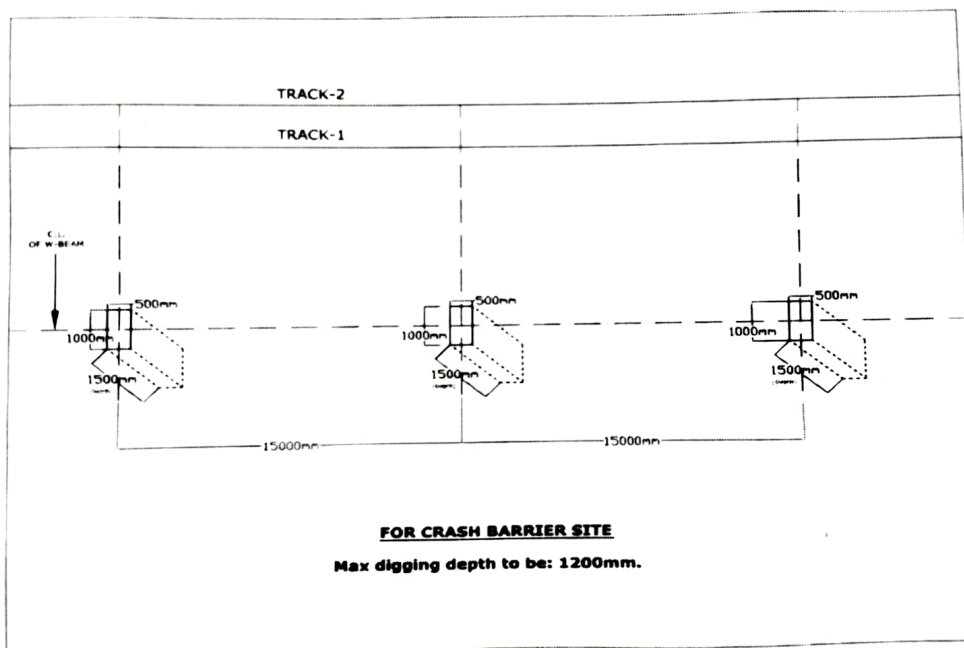
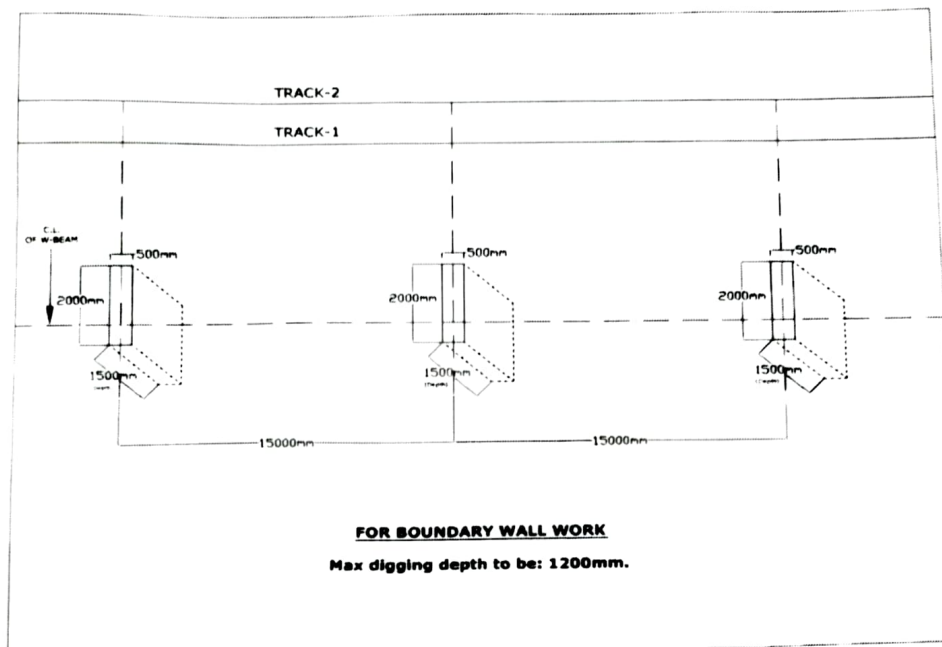


JOINT PROCEDURE ORDER FOR UNDERTAKING DIGGING WORK
IN THE VICINITY OF UNDERGROUND SIGNALING &
TELECOMMUNICATION CABLES, IN HOWRAH DIVISION.

- A. A number of Engineering works in connection with Boundary wall/gauge conversion/doubling/third line are in progress, which requires extensive digging/piling work near the running track, in close vicinity of the working S&T cables carrying vital safety circuits.
- B. However, while carrying out these works in the vicinity of working at times, S&T cable cuts take place due to JCB/Other Machine working along the track or during the digging work being done by contractors carrying out the Civil Engineering works.
- C. Henceforth, the following joint procedure shall be followed by Engineering and S&T officers, while carrying out any digging work near to existing signaling & telecommunication and electrical cables, so that the instances of cable cut due to execution of works, can be controlled and minimized.
1. S&T department shall provide a detailed cable route plan showing exact location of cable at an interval of 200 m or wherever there is change in alignment so that the same is located easily by the Engineering official/contractor
 2. Before taking up any digging activity on a particular work by any agency, Sr.DSTE/DSTE shall be approached in writing by the concerned Engg. officer for permitting to undertake the work. Sr.DSTE/DSTE after ensuring that the concerned executing agencies including the contractor have fully understood the S&T cable route plan, shall permit the work in writing within 7 days of the request by concerned department.
 3. After getting the permission from S&T, the relevant portion of the cable route plan shall be attached to the letter through which permission is issued to the contractor by concerned Engg. official for commencement of work and ensuring that the contractors have fully understood the cable route plan and precautions to be taken to prevent damage to the underground cables. The contractor shall be asked to study the cable plan and follow it meticulously to ensure that the safety of the cable is not endangered. Such a provision, including any penalty for default, should form part of agreement also.
 4. The SE/P.Way or SE/Works shall pass on the information to the concerned SE/Sig. or SE/Tele about the works being taken up by the contractors in their sections at least 3 days in advance of the day of the work. In addition Engineering control shall also be informed by SE/P.Way or SE/Works, who in turn shall pass on the information to the test room and signal control.
 5. On receiving the above information, SE/Sig or SE/Tele shall visit the site jointly with SE/P.Way or SE/Works. A cross trench (as shown below) at the interval of 15 meters has to be made at site to detect S&T cables before the date of taking up the work.





If no cable is detected in the cross trench, SE/Sig or SE/Tele will issue permission to the contractor to commence the work.

If cable is detected in the cross trench, route of engineering work may be altered in such manner to avoid the damage to the cables. The permission shall be granted within 3 days of submission of such requests.

6. The name of the contractor, his contact telephone number, the nature of the work shall be notified in the Engineering control as soon as the concerned Engineering officials issue the letter authorizing commencement of work to the contractor. Test room/Signal Control shall be given copies. Test room/Signal Control shall collect any further details from the Engineering control and shall pass it on to S&T officials regularly

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7. In case damage is caused to OFC/Quad cable/Signaling Cable during execution of the work, the contractor is liable to pay a penalty for damaging the cable. Penalty shall not be levied in case of the following:-
- Detailed cable route plan as per clause C-1 not provided by concerned department or cable is not protected as per laid down procedures.
 - The alignment of the cable does not tally with the information provided to the contractor.
 - The cable depth is found to be less than 800 mm from normal ground level.
 - No representative of S&T department/RailTel was available at site guarding the cables on the fixed pre-determined date and time.

8. Penalty to be imposed for damages to cable shall be as under:-

Cable damaged	Penalty per location
Only Quad cable or Signaling cable	Rs. 1.0 Lakh
Only OFC	Rs. 1.25 Lakh
Both OFC & Quad	Rs. 1.5 Lakh


Necessary debit in this regard shall be raised on the department undertaking the work who shall in turn levy the penalty on the defaulting contractor. S&T department shall raise the debits in case of damage to OFC or Quad or Signaling cable.

9. Railways will not lodge FIR with RPF in cases of works being executed by authorized contractors of Railways who have been duly permitted to execute the works in accordance with this JPO. Joint note by the supervisors of the concerned department shall be prepared and the responsibility of the cable cut should be decided without involving RPF. The joint note deciding the fact whether the contractor should be penalized shall be completed in a day's time from the occurrence of cable cut.

In all other cases, when the cable is cut by an agency that was not permitted to execute any work, FIR should be lodged with RPF.

10. All types of signaling & OHE bonds i.e. rail bond, cross bond and structure bond shall be restored by the contractor with a view to keep the rail voltage low to ensure safety of personnel.
11. Above joint circular shall be applicable for construction as well as open line organization of Engineering, S&T.


25.01.24
Sr.DEN(Co-ord)/HWH


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Sr.DSTE/HWH