GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS



Instruction for cleaning of 25 kV Composite Insulators used in Indian Railways Traction system

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ISSUED BY

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2.11.19	2/11/19	2.11.19
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1.0 Scope:

This instruction covers the guidelines for cleaning of 25 kV Composite Insulators used in Indian Railways Traction System. By cleaning of Composite Insulator failure on account of external reason may be avoided.

This instruction has been prepared on the basis of comments/suggestions received from the manufactures of Composite Insulators and Zonal Railways.

2.0 Objective:

Composite insulator performs service in OHE system under significantly adverse condition like higher degree of surface contamination including open environmental stresses such as rain, fog/ mist, UV and humidity. Surface contamination adversely affects the electrical properties of Composite Insulators which stimulates external Flashover.

This Instruction will be helpful in avoiding external failure of Composite insulators on account of surface contamination.

3.0 General Instruction:

For cleaning of 25 kV Composite Insulators installed in polluted/heavily polluted area, following schedule shall be followed:

SN.	Type of Insulator	Pollution level	Periodicity
1.	Stay Arm Insulator	Polluted Area/ Heavily Polluted Area	Once in a year
2.	Bracket Tube		
3.	9-Tonne		
4.	Sectioning		

4.0 Method:

(i) Composite Insulator shall be cleaned with DRY SOFT COTTON CLOTH to remove the dust/pollution from the insulator.

(ii) No water, detergents, any solvents and abrasive materials should be used for cleaning as use of such material leads to deterioration of electrical properties thus causing failure.

5.0 Precautions:

Please note that purpose of cleaning of Composite Insulator is only removal of dust/pollutants or any other deposition that adversely affects the electrical properties of Composite Insulators hence Care should be taken that during dry cleaning, the insulator should not be rubbed excessively to make it bright.

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