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पूर्वोत्तर सीमा रेलवे
NORTH EAST FRONTIER RAILWAY

मुख्य सतर्कता अधिकारी का कार्यालय
U/o Chief Vigilance Officer
मालीगांव, गुवाहाटी - 781 011
Maligoan, Guwahati - 781 011

No. Z/VIG/68/05/A

Date: 03-11-2020

PCSTE,
CSTE/CON/I & II,
N.F. Railway, Maligaon.

Sub: System Improvement regarding defining 'Rocky soil' in tender document/Contract agreement involving laying of underground cable

During a preventive check conducted on a contractual work involving laying of S&T cables, it is found that cable trenching executed in soils filled with ballast was accounted to the CA's schedule item of "**Trenching in Rocky soils**". In one instance, even loose soil filled with few pieces of ballast was also accounted as Rocky soil. Since the cost of trenching in Rocky soil is much higher as compared to that in normal soil (in the instant case Rs. 338 per mtr in rocky soil as against Rs. 19.37 in soft soil), it is unjustified to account trenching in 'ballast filled soil' as in Rocky soil. It is further observed that the classification of soils and procedure for trenching in rocky soil are not defined in the contract agreement/tender document (neither in the item description nor in the technical specification). In the absence of such definition of rocky soil in the contract agreement, there may be situation of wrong accountal of soil types attracting considerable financial implication as the cost of trenching in Rocky soil is much higher than that in normal soil.

In view of the above, a system improvement is being suggested to incorporate classification of soils in the tender document/contract agreement where the item of "**Trenching in Rocky soils**" is included in the schedule of work, clearly defining what constitutes Rocky Soil and the procedure to be adopted (i.e. chisel cutting, blasting etc.) for trenching in rocky soil. The procedure for trenching in Rocky soil should justify its higher cost and should be rationalized accordingly. Action taken in this regard may be intimated to this office for record.

[Handwritten Signature]
03/11/2020

(B. Lakra)

SDGM & CVO/NFR

3/11/2020
DESPATCHED
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