

31**STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS****(2007-08)****FOURTEENTH LOK SABHA****MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)**

**[Action taken by the Government on the recommendations/
observations contained in the 21st Report of the Standing Committee
on Railways (Fourteenth Lok Sabha)
on 'Terminal Facilities in Metropolitan Cities']**

THIRTY FIRST REPORT**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

September, 2007/Bhadrapada, 1929 (Saka)

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Presented to Lok Sabha on 07.09.2007
Laid in Rajya Sabha on 07.09.2007



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

September, 2007/Bhadrapada, 1929 (Saka)

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COMPOSITION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS (2007-08)**Shri Basudeb Acharia - Chairman****MEMBERS****LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Prasanna Acharya
3. Dr. Dharendra Agarwal
4. Shri Atiq Ahamad
5. Shri S. Ajaya Kumar
6. Shri Bapu Hari Chaure
7. Shri H.D. Devegowda
8. Shri Kishan Lal Diler
9. Shri Giridhar Gamang
10. Shri Anwar Hussain
11. Shri Mahesh Kumar Kanodia
12. Ch. Lal Singh
13. Shri Ananta Nayak
14. Shri Laxmanrao Patil
15. Shri A. Sai Prathap
16. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
17. Shri Iqbal Ahmed Saradgi
18. Shri Manik Singh
19. Shri K. Subbarayan
20. Shri C.H. Vijayashankar
21. Vacant

RAJYA SABHA

22. Shri Karnendu Bhattacharjee
23. Maulana Obaidullah Khan Azmi
24. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
25. Shri Lalit Kishore Chaturvedi
26. Shri Shreegopal Vyas
27. Shri Tarini Kanta Roy
28. Shri A. Elavarasan
29. Shri Isam Singh
30. Shri Harendra Singh Malik
31. Shri Abani Roy

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------------|---|----------------------|
| 1. | Dr.(Smt.) P.K. Sandhu | - | Additional Secretary |
| 2. | Shri A. Louis Martin | - | Joint Secretary |
| 3. | Shri V.S. Negi | - | Director |
| 4. | Shri Hoti Lal | - | Deputy Secretary |
| 5. | Smt. Sunita | - | Under Secretary |

INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Railways (2007-08), having been authorized by the Committee to present the Report on their behalf, present this Thirty First Report of the Committee on Action Taken by the Government on the Recommendations/Observations contained in the Twenty First Report of the Standing Committee on Railways on 'Terminal Facilities in Metropolitan Cities'.

2. The Twenty First Report was presented to Lok Sabha on 25.07.2006. It contained 11 recommendations/observations. The Ministry of Railways have furnished their Action Taken Replies on all the recommendations/observations on 27.02.2007.

3. The Committee considered and adopted the Draft Action Taken Report at their sitting held on 06.09.2007.

4. An analysis of the action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the Twenty First Report of the Standing Committee on Railways (Fourteenth Lok Sabha) is given in Appendix-II.

NEW DELHI;
6 September, 2007
15 Bhadrapada, 1929 Saka

BASUDEB ACHARIA
Chairman,
Standing Committee on Railways

CHAPTER I

REPORT

The Report of the Committee deals with the Action Taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in the 21st Report of the Standing Committee on Railways on 'Terminal Facilities in Metropolitan Cities'. The Report was presented to Lok Sabha and laid in Rajya Sabha on 25.07.2006.

2. Action Taken Notes have been received from the Government in respect of all the 11 recommendations/observations contained in the Report. These have been broadly categorized as follows:

- (i) Recommendations/observations which have been accepted by the Government:

Para Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11.

- (ii) Recommendations/observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government's replies:

Nil

- (iii) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee:

Para No. 7.

- (iv) Recommendations/Observations in respect of which final replies are still awaited:

Para Nos. 3 & 8.

3. The Committee desire that final replies in respect of the recommendations for which only interim replies have been given by the Government should be furnished to them expeditiously.

4. The Committee will now deal with the action taken by Government on some of their recommendations/observations.

A. INTEGRATED TRANSPORT PLANNING - (Para No. 2)

5. Taking note of rapid increase in population and increasing inbound and outbound traffic, the Committee recommended that an integrated transport planning should be undertaken for Delhi in consultation with the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi, Ministry of Urban Development and other civic agencies. The Committee also desired that Narela Railway Station should be expanded and all the terminal facilities should be provided there.

6. In their action taken reply, the Ministry of Railways have stated the recommendation regarding integrated transport planning has been noted and follow up action will be taken by Northern Railway in this regard. It has also been stated that at present there is no proposal for developing terminal facilities at Narela. Proposals for a directional terminal at Bijwasan and at Holambi Kalan are stated to be under examination.

7. Nothing has been mentioned in the report as to what initiatives have since been taken to integrate transport planning. The reply is also silent about the recommended expansion of Narela Railway Station. The Committee would await details in this regard.

B. AUGMENTATION AND CREATION OF TERMINAL FACILITIES – (Para No. – 3)

10. The Committee would like to be informed whether the Committee of Executive Directors has since presented its report and if so, what are its major recommendations.

C. CONNECTIVITY BETWEEN CHENNAI CENTRAL AND CHENNAI EGMORE - (Para No. 5)

11. The Committee had been informed that a feasibility study for connecting Chennai Egmore and Chennai Central had been entrusted to M/s. RITES. The Committee had desired that the study should be completed within a fixed timeframe and the action taken in this regard be intimated to them.

12. In their Action Taken Reply, the Ministry of Railways have stated as under:-

"The project was sanctioned by Railway Ministry on 08.04.2003 based on the Preliminary Report. M/s RITES who have been engaged for carrying out detailed study and technical feasibility of the Project have submitted the draft report. Due to certain development with regard to urban transportation in Chennai city the State Government has proposed construction of elevated Highway from Chennai Fort to Maduravoil for an estimated cost of Rs. 800 Crores under Jawaharlal Nehru Urban Road Mission, which will run parallel to Poonamallee High Road. Besides, there is a proposal to have elevated Metro rail connecting East and West corridor, for which DMRC has already taken up preparation of detailed Project Report.

Two projects proposed by State Govt. were not envisaged when the project of Chennai Central & Chennai Egmore was proposed.

Since the proposed alignment of BG link involves crossing of Poonamallee High Road, RITES have been engaged to carry out a feasibility study for the proposed link taking into consideration the proposals of the State Govt. This work is in progress. GM/Southern Railway has also addressed Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamilnadu to expedite the clearance of the above Project."

13. In a further communication, the Ministry of Railways have stated that

"M/s. RITES had submitted the final report on 22.01.2007. However, the proposals of State Government to construct an elevated highway from Chennai Fort to Maduravoil and another proposal for elevated Metro Rail connecting East & West corridor are likely to foul with the Broad Gauge

connectivity between Chennai Central and Egmore and hence State Government is not in a position to convey its clearance for this Rail connectivity.”

- 14.** The Committee would like to be apprised of the recommendations contained in the final report submitted by RITES in January 2007 and the action taken or proposed to be taken thereon.

D. CROWD MANAGEMENT AT STATION PREMISES - (Para No. 7)

- 15.** The Committee suggested that some concrete action should be taken for crowd management at the station premises particularly in metropolitan cities. They desired that only genuine passengers with the restricted number of accompanying persons should be allowed at the platforms as is being done in the case of airports.

- 16.** In their action taken reply, the Ministry of Railways have stated as under:-
 “In 1989 efforts were made to restrict platform tickets to reduce congestion on the platform. However, the scheme had to be withdrawn soon because of criticism in the Press and representations from various quarters in pressing the need to accompany senior citizens, ladies, children or sick/handicapped passengers to help them to board the train or receive them on arrival. The modality for restricting a person is difficult to implement since platform ticket is used not only for seeing off passengers but also to receive them.

Unlike Airports, at Railway stations passengers are required to carry luggage over FOB and on to the trains. Moreover, volumes and the clientele traveling by air and rail are totally different, therefore, not comparable.

Another approach can be to increase the fare for platform ticket to reduce its sale. This was attempted in June 2005 when rate of platform ticket was raised from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 but it was withdrawn the next day because of public resentment. Under these circumstances, efforts are being made to have consensus view on the subject so as to achieve reduction in the number of persons to the platforms.”

- 17. The reply of the Ministry that efforts are being made to have a consensus view on crowd management at the platform into general.**

The Committee would like to be apprised of the specific steps taken in this regard and the outcome thereof.

E. PLATFORMS - (Para No. 9)

18. The Committee had noted that the Railways were planning to switch over to use of 24-26 coach length trains in a big way. Appreciating the initiative taken by the Railways in this regard, the Committee had recommended that in future all platforms should be made to handle a minimum of 24-26 coach trains. They had also suggested that with regard to the existing platforms, wherever feasible, the length of the platforms should be suitably increased.

19. In their Action Taken Reply, the Ministry of Railways have stated as under:

“The recommendation that in future all platforms should be made so as to handle 24-26 coach trains is noted for examination. As regards extension of existing platform is concerned, about 526 stations have been identified to be extended to accommodate 24-26 trains. Work on 179 stations has been completed and on 268 stations is in progress. Out of remaining 79 stations, some stations require yard remodeling. At other stations where extension of platforms is feasible, proposals are under consideration for sanction.”

20. The Committee are happy to note that out of 526 stations identified for extension to accommodate 24-26 coach trains, Railways have been able to complete the work of extension on 179 stations and on another 268 stations work is in progress. The Committee hope that on the remaining stations, wherever extension is feasible, the work will be taken up and completed expeditiously.

**H. PREVENTION OF CONGESTION AND POLLUTION AT FREIGHT
TERMINALS**
(Para No. 10)

1.27 The Committee had been informed that there were 15 freight terminals in Delhi, 31 in Mumbai, 31 in Kolkata and 17 in Chennai. The Committee had observed that Railways had been taken a number of steps to develop the terminals. They had been further informed that these terminals were regularly monitored at different level so that the detention of wagons at these terminals did not remain for long. The Committee had found that little action has been taken by the Railways to prevent congestion and pollution in these terminals. The Committee desired that while considering the proposals for providing of more freight terminals, railway should ensured that nuisance to general public is not caused due to pollution and congestion.

1.28 In their Action Taken Reply, the Ministry of Railways have stated as under:-

“Railways have taken number of steps for reduction of terminal detentions through one or more of the following measures:-

- (a) Investment in or augmentation of infrastructure for mechanised loading and unloading such as increase in number of pay-loaders, tippers, in motion weigh bridges, loadings chutes etc.
- (b) Provision of Warehousing through Central Warehousing Corporation and other operators.
- (c) Invest in yard layout of their sidings.
- (d) Introduce round the clock working in terminals to save detention to wagons.
- (e) Introduction of terminals incentive for Engine-On-Load-Scheme.

1.29 The Committee, while appreciating the efforts made by the Railways to improve and reduce congestion at freight terminals, feel that a lot of action is still to be taken to reduce pollution and ensure healthy working conditions in these terminals. The Committee, therefore, reiterate its earlier recommendation to prevent congestion and pollution at these terminals. The Committee would also like to be apprised of the action taken in this regard.

APPENDIX-II

**ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON THE
RECOMMENDATIONS/OBSERVATIONS CONTAINED IN THE 21st REPORT
(14TH LOK SABHA) ON 'TERMINAL FACILITIES IN METROPOLITAN CITIES'**

Total number of Recommendations/Observations	11
(i) Recommendations/observations which have been accepted by the Government (<i>Vide</i> recommendations/observations) Para Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10 and 11	09
Percentage of total 81.8%	
(ii) Recommendations/observations which the Committee do not desire to pursue in view of the Government replies (<i>Vide</i> recommendations/observations) Para No. NIL	--
Percentage of total --	
(iii) Recommendations/observations in respect of which replies of the Government have not been accepted by the Committee which require reiteration (<i>Vide</i> recommendations/observations) Para Nos. 7	01
Percentage of total 9%	
(iv) Recommendations/observations in respect of which final replies of Government are still awaited (<i>Vide</i> recommendations/observations) Para No. 8	01
Percentage of total	9%

**MINUTES OF THE FOURTH SITTING OF THE STANDING
COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS (2007-08)**

The Committee sat on Thursday, the 6th September, 2007 from 1000 hours to 1030 hours in Committee Room 'E', Parliament House Annexe, New Delhi.

PRESENT

SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA - CHAIRMAN

MEMBERS

LOK SABHA

2. Shri Prasanna Acharya
3. Shri Giridhar Gamang
4. Shri Anwar Hussain
5. Shri Mahesh Kumar Kanodia
6. Ch. Lal Singh
7. Shri Manik Singh
8. Shri Kishan Singh Sangwan
9. Shri K. Subbarayan

RAJYA SABHA

10. Shri Satyavrat Chaturvedi
11. Shri Lalit Kishore Chaturvedi
12. Shri Shreegopal Vyas
13. Shri Tarini Kanta Roy

SECRETARIAT

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. Shri Louis Martin | - | Joint Secretary |
| 2. Shri V.S. Negi | - | Director |
| 3. Shri Hoti Lal | - | Deputy Secretary-II |

2. The Committee considered and adopted the following draft Action Taken Reports without any amendment:-

(i) xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

(ii) xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

(iii) xxxx xxxx xxxx xxxx

(iv) Draft report on action taken by the Government on the recommendations/observations contained in 21st report on 'Terminal Facilities in Metropolitan Cities'

The Committee then adjourned.