

भारत सरकार/ GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
रेल मंत्रालय/ MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(रेलवे बोर्ड/ RAILWAY BOARD)

No. 2021/W-I/Genl./Policy(e-3360817)

New Delhi, Dated: 08.09.2025

**The General Managers,
All Indian Railways**

Sub.: Amendment in powers to sanction Feasibility Studies and Final Location Surveys (FLS) by Zonal Railways.

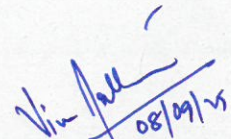
Ref : Railway Board's letter No. 2021/W-1/Genl./Gati Shakti dated 28.10.2022 and 26.05.2023

Vide letters under reference, Zonal Railways are empowered to sanction feasibility studies and Final Location Surveys (FLS) .

2. It has been observed that Zonal Railways after sanctioning feasibility studies and Final Location Surveys are not timely communicating the sanction orders to Railway Board which has led to delays in reply to parliament questions and other VIP References. Moreover, it has also been noticed that Zonal Railways are approaching Railway Board frequently for grant of additional funds after sanction of feasibility studies and Final Location Surveys.

3. Therefore, it has been decided that in partial modification of the letters under reference, the powers to sanction feasibility studies (PET/RET Surveys) and Final Location Surveys given to Zonal Railways vide letters under reference may be withdrawn and restored to Railway Board. All other provisions in the above mentioned letters would remain the same.

This has the approval of Board(CRB & CEO, MI and MF).

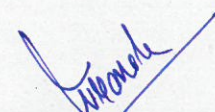

08/09/25

(Vivek Mathur)
Joint Director/Works(G)
Railway Board

No. 2021/W-I/Genl./Policy(e-3360817)

New Delhi dt. 08.09.2025

1. The PFAs, All Indian Railways & Production Units.
2. Dy. Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Railways), Room No.224, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.



(For Member Finance)

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New Delhi dt. 08 .09.2025

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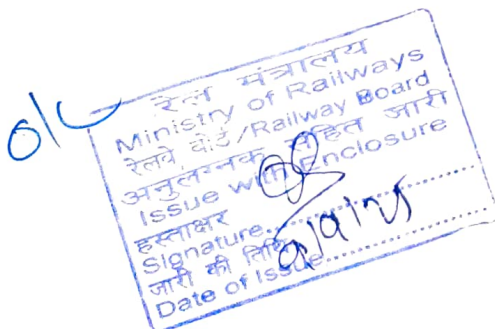
1. The ADAI (Railways), New Delhi.
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11. The Secretary, Railway Rates Tribunal, Chennai.
12. The Chairman, Railway Recruitment Board, Ahmedabad, Ajmer, Allahabad, Bangalore, Bhopal, Bhubaneswar, Chandigarh, Chennai, Gorakhpur, Guwahati, Jammu & Srinagar, Kolkata, Malda, Mumbai, Muzaffarpur, Patna, Ranchi, Secunderabad and Trivandrum.
13. Managing Director, CRIS, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi

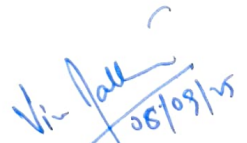
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2. PSO/ Sr. PPS CRB, Member (Finance), Member (Infra), Member (TRS), Member (O&BD), Secy., DG (RHS), DG (RPF).
3. All AMs, Principal Executive Director & Executive Directors of Railway Board.




(Vivek Mathur)
Joint Director/Works(G)
Railway Board

भारत सरकार (Government of India)
रेल मंत्रालय (Ministry of Railways)
रेलवे बोर्ड (Railway Board)

No. 2021/W-1/Genl./GatiShakti

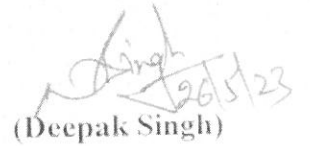
New Delhi, dated: 26/05/2023

The General Managers,
All Indian Railways

Sub: Sanction of Final Location Survey (FLS) for preparation of DPR(PH-11, 14 & 15)

Ref: (i) Railway Board letter No 2021/W-1/Genl./GatiShakti dated 28.10.2022.

1. Zonal railways are empowered to sanction feasibility studies and works for preparation of DPRs vide letter ref.(i).
2. Railways can sanction Final Location Surveys (FLS) for feasible projects with the approval of GMs.
3. Proposal for sanction of FLS involving more than one zonal railway shall continue to be dealt by Railway Board as per extant provisions.
4. Zonal Railways should inform details of FLS sanctioned by them to EDGS/Civil-I, railway Board on e-office and at email IDs: edprojm@gmail.com, dir.w2@gmail.com, dirgs2rb@gmail.com for record.


(Deepak Singh)

Director/Gati Shakti (Civil)-I
Railway Board

Copy to:

Chief Administrative officer/Con., All Indian Railways



No.2021/W-I/Genl./Gati Shakti

New Delhi, dated: 28.10.2022

The General Managers

All Indian Railways/PUs, NFR(Con), CORE

DG/RDSO/Lucknow, DG/NAIR/Vadodara

Sub.: Fast tracking the sanction & execution of Projects.

Ref.: Office Order No.37 of 2022 dated 26/05/2022 - Creation of Gati Shakti Directorate.

Railway Board has prepared mission 3,000 MT master plan to enhance the existing carrying capacity of about 1,400 MT to 3,000 MT within next 5-7 years. This requires planning, sanction and consequent execution of a large number of capacity enhancement works like Doubling/Multi-tracking/Traffic facility works/ Yard re-modeling as well as setting up of new lines. To achieve the required pace of work the existing systems need to be re-engineered to enable fast tracking of Project Delivery. Accordingly the following has been decided for fast tracking sanction & execution of projects:

1. The RET/PET surveys will be called as **feasibility studies** from now onwards. Necessary correction in Engineering Code in this regard is being processed separately.
2. DRMs/GMs are empowered to sanction feasibility studies for required projects in their Division/Zonal Railway considering coal, port connectivity, revenue potential for cargo loading, etc. subject to availability of funds. The proposal of conducting feasibility studies shall be put up for DRMs/GMs approval through Divisional/Zonal Finance, as the case may be.
3. Feasibility study of projects shall be carried out by Gati Shakti units of Divisions in the Division and CAO/C for inter Division and inter Zonal Railway projects (for NL, Doubling, GC, etc.) as per coverage of length and jurisdiction using resources & capability available on the "PM Gati Shakti" portal, designed/hosted by BISAG-N, and engagement of expert agency.
4. Each Division and Zonal Railway Headquarter will have a Network Planning Group (NPG) for selecting feasible projects for the preparation of DPR to improve mobility, throughput/loading in the Railway. The constitution of NPG will be as given below:
 - 4.1. **Zonal Level:** Under PCOM/CTPM of Railway (PCOM/CTPM & SAG officers of Engineering, Electrical, S&T & Finance) as approved by GM.
 - 4.2. **Division Level:** Under CPM/GS (Dy. CPM/GS/T or equivalent with SG/JAG officers of Engineering, Electrical, S&T, Operating, Mechanical & Finance) as approved by DRM.

- 4.3. The feasibility study for projects lying exclusively within the Division can be approved by DRM.
- 4.4. Similarly, feasibility study of inter-divisional projects within the Zonal railways jurisdiction can be approved by General Manager.
- 4.5. Feasibility study of Inter Railway projects will continue to be approved by the Board as at present.
5. Approval of the DRM/GM will be obtained for preparation of DPR for feasible projects required to be executed by Zonal Railway for improving mobility, throughput, and loading in the Railway. DRMs/GMs are empowered to sanction works for preparation of DPRs for such projects (whose feasibility study was approved by them) that are found feasible.
6. The details of all feasibility studies & DPR sanctions shall be advised to ED/GS (Civil)-I, Railway Board as and when sanctioned for records.
7. DPR will be prepared by Gati Shakti unit of Division for Divisional projects and CAO (for NL, Doubling, GC etc.) projects in Zonal Railway for inter Division/inter Zonal Railway projects after approval of the proposal for DPR by the DRM/General Manager as per the standard template laid down by Gati Shakti directorate of Railway Board. DPR should be prepared by executing agency of the project as decided by GM and guidelines issued from time to time.
8. The rates for feasibility study and preparation of DPR shall be as per prevailing rates and guidelines communicated by Railway Board from time to time. The current guideline is issued vide letter no.-2020/W-I/Genl./Survey Rates (E-3334464) dated 16.06.2021. Rates for feasibility study are ₹ 50,000/Km, DPR preparation are ₹2.5 lakh/Km for NL & ₹2.0 lakh/Km for DL and multi-track).
- The cost of preparation of DPR can be increased (wherever required) with the personal approval of GM depending upon the type of terrain within the limits as mentioned in the circular No 2020/W-I/Genl./Survey Rates (E-3334464) dated 16.06.2021, to make the project ready at the time of sanction.
9. DPRs will be submitted by DRM to Gati Shakti Directorate of Railway Board with finance concurrence of Divisional Gati Shakti Unit through PCOM/NPG and approval of GM.
10. DPRs of inter-division/inter Zonal Railway works will be submitted to GS Directorate of Railway Board by CAO/C with the concurrence of FA&CAO/C through PCOM and approval of GM.
11. Budget Provision: The expenditure limit for each Zonal Railway for feasibility study/DPR will be authorized by Railway Board at the beginning of the financial year. The Budgeting and accountal of feasibility studies and DPRs shall be as under:

Once work to undertake feasibility study/DPR is approved, Railways will project the requirements under Revised Estimates for the current year and Budget Estimates for next year

under M11 3001 Minor Head 005 Surveys (erstwhile Demand No 2). Expenditure will be incurred by Zonal Railways against the budget provision. Zonal Railways are authorized to re-distribute funds among sanctioned feasibility study / DPR works. If the construction of a project is undertaken, the expenditure on the Survey is transferred to Capital or other appropriate heads by Credits to Revenue, irrespective of the year in which the expenditure was originally incurred (Para 634 IREC).

12. Notification in the local Government gazette should be given before DPR works are taken up as per Indian Railways Code for the Engineering Department para E-253 before field survey and site investigations are taken up.

Consultation with Irrigation department, Civil authorities, Military authority etc to be done as per Indian Railways Code for the Engineering Department para E-254 to E-266 before final DPR is cleared by NPG of Division/Zonal Railway. This should be part of DPR preparation.

13. Help of "PM Gati Shakti – National Master Plan" (BISAG-N portal) should be taken for feasibility study to fix alignment duly avoiding wildlife sanctuaries, water bodies etc. depending on topography of terrain or geographical features.

14. Guidelines for the preparation of a Detailed Project Report (DPR) including detailed estimates are given in Indian Railways Code for the Engineering Department. DPR should cover all items given in Indian Railways Code for the Engineering Department and should additionally include project-specific items depending upon nature of project as per standard format circulated vide letter dt 02.09.2022 by Railway Board.

15. DPRs will be submitted by Division/Zonal Railway to Gati Shakti Directorate of Railway Board along with all check lists/proforma etc and a copy of power point presentation for NPG/EBR.

16. Standard yard layouts and standard SIPs issued by Board may be adopted in DPRs, to the extent feasible. Any deviation from Standard layouts may be brought out with proper justification as to why it was unavoidable. Any item processed through RSP should not be part of the DPR Estimate. 2x25KV OHE system should be part of electrical estimate, as conveyed by Railway Board vide letter 2022/RE/161/4 dtd. 27/05/2022.

17. The traffic survey details with calculation of FIRR and EIRR considering all social & economic development in the area and network effect should be submitted as per Indian Railways Finance code Volume-I, Chapter-II. The guidelines for calculation of EIRR for Railway projects have been issued vide letter dtd 19.08.2022.

18. To enhance accuracy, reduce time & cost, Surveys and alignment fixing should be done using latest survey technologies/tools available such as satellite images, drone Photogrammetry, LiDAR and "PM Gati Shakti- National Master Plan portal" created by BISAG.

19. The following activities shall be carried out at the time of preparation of DPR:

- 19.1. Identification of Govt. land, Private land, Forest land, wild life or any other category of land and process for obtaining NOC/clearances of authorities as required.
 - 19.2. Topographical survey, Preparation of Longitudinal section and Plan, Survey for trees, soil investigation, etc.
 - 19.3. Hydrological survey and waterway calculation for the design of bridges wherever required.
 - 19.4. Indicative type and span arrangements of bridges & tunnel details wherever needed.
 - 19.5. Field, Traffic, and other surveys are required for the calculation of Financial IRR and Economic IRR (including Network Effect).
20. Evaluation of DPRs in Boards office shall be done by the NPG/ nominated EDs committee of Railway Board in a time bound manner, normally within 10 days of DPR receipt (normally on alternate Tuesday/Wednesday). Zonal Railway or CPM/GS of Divisions will make a presentation through VC or in person along with their team to the NPG/Committee.
21. Minor corrections pointed out by the NPG/Committee/Railway Board are to be done immediately by the field team & DPR is to be resubmitted within 3 days.
- If major corrections are to be done in DPR by Division/Zonal Railway, CPM/GS of Division or Zonal Railway to carry out corrections and corrected DPR to be submitted within 20 days to Railway Board.
22. Where DPR is accepted by NPG/committee/Railway Board, minutes will be drawn on the same day, and then after firming up the RoR of the Project, necessary In-Principle Approval (IPA) of MF shall be processed.
23. For the Projects with FIRR more than prevailing hurdle rate or as decided by competent authority, as pre construction activities, following items shall be taken up by railways once IPA is granted by the competent authority to avoid/minimize delay in commencement of main construction work once project is sanctioned:
- 23.1. Preparation of all Revenue & Forest land plans, submission to authorities, uploading of Forest clearance documents on PARIVESH portal, field verification of land & forest plan with revenue & forest official during Joint Measurement Survey (JMS). Field verification by forest officials may be combined with Revenue verifications in JMS to avoid repetition & loss of time. However, payment should be made only after sanction of the project by the competent authority.
 - 23.2. Preparation of GAD/Plans for shifting of utilities like HT line crossing, sewage line, etc., and necessary application to authorities for shifting/clearances. However, payment should be made only after sanction of the project by the competent authority.
 - 23.3. Preparation of GAD of bridges/ROBs/RUBs/Tunnels, station building plans, ESPs, SIP etc and obtaining approval of Competent Authority.

- 23.4. Detailed Geotechnical investigations at all critical locations such as formations, Bridges, ROBs, Tunnels etc.
- 23.5. Packaging and preparation of draft EPC Bid documents. A separate package may be planned for works on Govt. land and for long lead items.
- 23.6. EPC bids may be invited with approved ESP/SIP as attached document as per powers delegated under SOP and bids can also be opened, however, finalization and LOA shall not be issued until the project is sanctioned by the competent authority. Bids should be called for on the basis of Detailed Estimate (DE) or on the basis of Abstract Estimate (AE) if DE is same as AE. LoA may be issued when competent authority DRM/CAO is of the opinion that work can be taken up without any break. No change shall be allowed in approved ESP/SIP after invitation of tender.
24. After obtaining IPA, the project shall be further processed for approval of competent Authority after appraisal by Board/NITI Aayog/EBR depending upon the cost of the project as per the prevailing delegation of powers.

This is issued with the approval of Board (CRB & CEO, MF, MoBD and MI).

Encl.: As above.

OK 28/10/22
Joint Director/GS(Civil)-II

No.2021/W-I/Genl./Gati Shakti

New Delhi dt. 28.10.2022

1. The PFAs, All Indian Railways & Production Units.
2. Dy. Comptroller and Auditor General of India (Railways), Room No.224, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi.

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3. All AMs, Principal Executive Director & Executive Directors of Railway Board

Ab
28/10/22
Joint Director/GS(Civil)-II