

Minutes of the Meeting held under the chairmanship of Secretary, Coal on 7th February'2022 on implementation of 14 Rail projects identified for Coal evacuation.

List of Participant attached in Annexure-I

At the outset Secretary Coal welcomed all the participants from Railways , IRCON ,SCCL and CIL .In his opening remark he stated that almost 8% of the thermal power generation used to come from imported coal based plant which has fallen to 3% due to higher coal prices .This is most likely to drop further in future, this will bring stress on railway for transportation of domestic coal in order to eliminate/ substitute import of thermal coal. He mentioned that this issue is linked with necessity of energy of the country. He further mentioned that Cabinet Secretary will be specially reviewing capability of Railways for transportation of coal upcountry as most of the imported coal based thermal power plant are located on coast and far off. CHP /SILO and other FMC projects will help in reducing turnaround time of wagons/rakes which is very important. Commissioning of these 14 rail projects is pivotal to faster and efficient transportation of coal.

2. A presentation was made by Director (T)/CIL on the present status/progress since the last review meeting held on 06.09.2021. All the 14 (fourteen) critical coal evacuation railway projects were discussed individually and following decisions were taken:

1. Tori- Shivpur Railway Line (on Deposit Basis):

EC Railway informed that execution of this project is in full swing and likely to be completed by March 2023.

CIL raised concern that this rail line is on deposit basis, and they are losing money approx. CCL is losing Rs.190000 per rake as the approval of inflated mileage for Tori-Shivpur line is still awaited from Railway. It was informed by the Railways that the issue of inflated milage was taken up and in final stage of approval.

Secretary, Coal asked representative of M/o Railway to expedite this issue.

2. Jharsuguda-Barpali-Sardega Rail Link at Ib-Valley Coalfield of MCL in Odisha (on deposit basis):

SE Railway informed that land acquisition is under progress and widening of Sardega siding will start after acquisition of land and it will take 4–5months time. CIL requested SE Railway to expedite the land acquisition works.

Secretary, Coal asserted that all effort should made to complete the widening work before onset of monsoon. Secretary, coal agreed to talk to Chief Secretary Orissa to resolve land matter if Railways commits to complete the work .Railway committed to finish the work in 4-5 months.

Issue of inflated mileage remained unresolved for this project as well. Decision is expected soon on the issue, Railway assured.

3. Rail connectivity of Lingaraj SILO with existing Deulbeda Siding at Talcher Coalfield of MCL in Odisha (on deposit basis):

MCL mentioned that this Line has been commissioned and loading is going on. Lingaraj Silo has the potential to load 22 rake/day but due to shortage of rake availability the average is presently about 14-16 rakes/ day.

4. Railway line from Bhadrachalam to Sattupalli (on deposit basis):

SCCL informed that 1st section of Rail line is completed, 2nd& 3rd Section are expected to be completed by February 2022 and March 2022 respectively. He further added that fewer approach road works are to be constructed by March 2022. SCCL added that on completion of this line, 10 MT coal will be evacuated from this railway line.

Secretary coal congratulated team of SCCL and Railways for commissioning this project on time.

5. Shivpur Kathautia Railway line (through SPV):

JCRL informed that project is in final stage of financial closure. Financial closure expected by 25.02.2022. CCL also informed that full time CEO has now been appointed in JCRL to steer the SPV forward. Work has started on this project. All tenders are lined up. One tender has been awarded. It is Rs.1799.00 crore Project. Secretary coal commended the team on good progress.

6. East Corridor- Korichapar-Dharamjaigarh through SPV by IRCON:

IRCON informed that as per present progress, Chhal feeder line is expected to be ready by Feb 2022, Baroud feeder line by April 2022 and Durgapur feeder line by June 2022. Land acquisition and construction activity to be expedited by IRCON in second block section of spur line. Balance electrification and signalling work in Korichapar–Dharamjaigarh section has been completed in January 2022.

Secretary, Coal asked to complete this Corridor by April 2022.

SECR is to issue Safety Certificate for opening of first block section of spur line i.e., from Gharghoda to Bhalumuda.

Commercial Notification for Dharamjaigarh Good shed has been issued on 11.11.2021. Coal loading is to be started from Dharamjaigarh Good shed by RCR mode by taking coal from Jampali Mine.

It was informed that only two MT of coal are coming because of bad road condition despite 6.0 MT coal Production. CMD, SECL informed that road will be completed before June, 2022.

Secretary desired that CMD/SECL should hold a meeting with all stake holders to ensure adequate coal traffic in CERL Project so that financial viability of CERL project is well sustained. It should be quantified how much road coal transport gets shifted to Rail with commissioning of the Project.

7. East- West Corridor-Gevra Rd- Pendra Rd through SPV by IRCON:

Secretary, Coal appreciated that MAHAGENCO and CSPGCL deposited their share of additional cost of re-routing to CERL.

SE Railway informed that the issue of introduction of 22 elephant passes to the cost which is approx. 430 Crores, but the project remained viable. Moreover, this caused large scale revision in already approved drawings, which would ultimately lead to time overrun.

It was also mentioned that revised L-section have been submitted to Bilaspur Division, SECR in December 2021 and this needs to be expedited. Due to non-approval of revised L-section, GADs of Bridges are held in SECR/Construction.

Secretary, Coal advised SECL and SECR to resolve this issue at the earliest for timely completion of the project.

8. Angul – Balram rail link as part of Inner Corridor through SPV by IRCON:

It was informed that with completion of MCRL Ph-I in Jun'2022, incremental evacuation capacity of about 20 MT of coal would be added.

SCCL showed interest in equity participation in MCRL Ph-II as Naini Block is depended on this line for evacuation.

IRCON was advised to look an opportunity to construct MCRL Ph-II line merging with Subhadra railway line proposal so that its construction may be expedite. Also, IRCON was asked to submit revised timeline for the MCRL Ph-II line in next meeting.

9. Doubling of Rail line from Singrauli to Shaktinagar via Karaila Road (45kms):

Expedite construction works and ensure commissioning of the Karaila Rd-Singrauli section of 12 km by July 2022 and next 11 km by December 2022.

NCL informed that this line will smoothen the coal evacuation with incremental increase of 5 rake /day. It was also informed that this line is very important for coal transportation of NRS.

10. Doubling of Singrauli to Mahadiya and Mahadiya to Katni (260 km) by IRCON:

IRCCON informed Forest / Wildlife clearance (72.83 Ha) is awaited in one online proposal. Complete Permission to work received for one proposal of 46 Ha on 22/10/2021. In another proposal, partial permission to work in 44.37 Ha out of total 67.45 Ha received on 27/9/2021. The work in these sections have been taken up.

IRCON provided timeline as 2021-22 for 69.94 Km, 2022-23 for 70.1 Km and 2023-24 for 76.91km.

11. Third line Barkakana-Garhwa Road-Son Nagar (291 km) by RVNL:

RVNL provided timelines as 2021-22: for 38.45 km; 2022-23: for 169.34 km, 2023-24: for 83.16 Km

12. Third & Fourth lines between Jharsuguda to Bilaspur (206 kms) Funded by Railway:

For the balance portion of the 4th line SEC Railway provided Timelines as 2021-22: for 31.7 Km; 2022-23: for 74 km, 2023-24: for 82.3Km.

13. DFC- Dadri to Sonenagar & extension upto Koderma by DFCCIL:

Proposal for Extension of DFC terminating at Sonenagar upto Koderma for JCRL Project of Shivpur- Kathautia has been submitted to PPPAC on 18-10-2021 and approval obtained on 27.12.2021. Process for requisite approval of Cabinet has been initiated.

14. Third and Fourth lines from Talcher to Budhapank (10 km) and Third & Fourth lines from Budhapank to Rajathgarh (124 km) by ECo Railway-

Delay in acquisition of Private Land has resulted into time overrun of target of Budhapank-Rajathgarh 3rd/4th line project.

MCL requested ECo Railway to expedite the construction of the 3rd and the 4th lines from Talcher to Budhapank on priority basis.

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

List of Participants

Ministry of Coal –

1. Shri Anil Jain, Secretary Coal
2. Shri M. Nagaraju, Addl. Secretary
3. Smt. VismitaTej, JS
4. Shri Anandji Prasad, Advisor Projects
5. Shri R.S. Saroj, DS
6. Shri Arvind Kumar, CM
7. Shri Hitlar Singh, US
8. Ms. Poonam Singhal, Manager

Ministry of Railway –

1. Shri V. Shankar, ED (Plg), Ministry of Railways and zonal officers from Railways

Companies –

1. Chairman CIL
2. Director (Technical), CIL
3. CMD, CMPDIL
4. CMD CCL
5. CMD SECL
6. CMD NCL
7. Dir (T) (P&P), MCL
8. Dir (T), SCCL
9. GM (PM), CIL
10. CEO of Rail JV Companies (JCRL, MCRL, CERL & CEWRL)
11. ED, IRCON
12. CMD, RITES, Bhubaneswar