

The Progress Report of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Railway Project

7 October 2016
New Delhi, India

The Japanese side and the Indian side (hereinafter referred to as 'both sides' collectively) had intensive consultations in the Joint Committee on High Speed Railways (hereinafter referred to as 'the Joint Committee') for three times after the signing of the Memorandum of Cooperation between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of India on High Speed Railways last December, 2015. Both sides welcomed the fact that the consultations have been conducted in a constructive manner and substantial progress has been achieved. This Progress Report intends to report to the Prime Ministers of Japan and the Republic of India on the details and the progress of the implementation of the Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Railway Project (hereinafter referred to as 'the Project').

1. The Detailed Schedule:

Both sides confirmed the target schedule of the Project as follows;

- the General Consultant (hereinafter referred to as 'the GC') will start its work in December 2016
- the construction work will commence in 2018
- the operation will start in 2023

Both sides shared the view that they will make necessary efforts to implement the Project in line with the schedule.

2. Fully Elevated Corridor:

The Indian side explained the need for building the Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed railway corridor as a fully elevated corridor, and the Japanese side noted the view expressed by the Indian side.

3. Adoption of Design Documents, Technical Standards and Specification:

The Indian side stated that design documents, technical standards and specification for the Project, upon predetermined technical review, will be adopted expeditiously by National High Speed Railway Corporation (NHSRC), which is a new agency in charge of the implementation of the Project.

4. The Procurement Conditions:

Both sides shared recognition on the procurement conditions for the Project at the second Joint Committee in order to ensure safety required for a high speed railway (HSR) system.

5. Progress on Transfer of Technology and “Make in India”

The facilitation mechanism for Transfer of Technology (ToT) and “Make in India” with Japan External Trade Organization (JETRO) representing the Japanese side and the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) and Ministry of Railways (MoR) representing the Indian side will be established in line with the discussion in the second Joint Committee and as per the spirit of the MOC signed by the two Governments on 12th December 2015.

With the aim to accelerate interaction between rail industries of both countries toward ToT and contribution to “Make in India” initiative, the “Japan-India Rail Industry Networking Meeting” was held on 17 May 2016. Moreover, the “InnoRail India” to be held in Lucknow in December 2016 is expected to create further business opportunities for rail industries of both countries, since the Japanese side is planning a large-scale HSR exhibition as a partner country.

ToT on high speed rail systems, in particular, the formulation of technical standards and specifications and preparation of fundamental documents (GAD/FAD) for designing HSR among others, will be achieved through the ongoing study and GC work both expended by the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA). ToT will continue to be further promoted through human resources development, and planning for manufacture of HSR rolling stock, equipment and machinery in a phased manner. For this purpose, a task force will be set up comprising representatives of both sides in order to:

- a) facilitate identification of Indian companies with potential to participate in the ToT and “Make in India”;
- b) bring together relevant Indian Industry and Japanese Industry for discussion and facilitate various forms of cooperation such as Joint Ventures, consortium and subcontracting to manufacture HSR’s rolling stock, equipment and machinery in India.
- c) develop a concrete roadmap for phased ToT and “Make in India”.

Both sides also confirmed that the mechanism of TOT/ “Make in India” will be reflected in the tender documents, based on the discussion in the task force.

6. The GC for the Project

Both sides confirmed that the expenses for the preparation of design, draft bidding documents and tender assistance, which are the part of the GC work will be covered by JICA in a consented manner to ensure smooth implementation of the Project. In this respect, JICA initiated procurement procedures in September 2016 and will begin negotiation on the details of the GC contract in late October 2016, and the award of the GC contract is anticipated to take place by the end of 2016 in order for the GC to commence its work in December 2016. The Japanese side requested to ensure proper implementation of the undertakings of the Indian side such as exemption of income tax and charges and the Indian side confirmed it.

7. Financing

With the aforementioned schedule in mind, both sides confirmed that they will take appropriate measures to ensure timely flow of funds for the Project.

8. Human Resources Development

Both sides reaffirmed the implementation of comprehensive training programmes for Indian officials referred to in the MOC of December 2015 for strengthening the institutional capacity of NHSRC urgently, and welcomed the outcome of 2016 and the following schedule:

- Overseas study programme
Nine MoR officials have joined graduate schools under the Japanese Government Scholarship Program since April 2016 as part of overseas study programme in Japan for personnel relevant to HSR. This programme is expected to continue in the following years.
- The short-visit programme for high-ranking officials of GoI
This programme is expected to be conducted with the participation of high-ranking MoR/ NHSRC officials.
- Training of young MoR officials in Japan
The training of the first batch of 300 officials will be conducted in FY2016. This programme is expected to continue in the following years (approximately 300 officials annually).
- Training of MoR officials in charge of the operation of HSR (Establishment of the HSR Training Institute and its development of training programme)
Preliminary work on elaboration of plans for the establishment of the HSR Training Institute and its development of training programme will be commenced in 2016 during the ongoing study by JICA. The opening of the HSR Training Institute is expected by 2020. Its training programme will

include maintenance and operation of HSR trains / rolling stock, civil engineering, power supply and signaling & telecommunication among others.

9. Further partnership in high speed railways

Both sides will explore further strengthening of their partnership in high speed railways.

10. Further Discussion

Both sides welcomed the appointment of executives of NHSRC and will continue necessary discussion for the Project. They confirmed that the Joint Committee will be held whenever needed to expedite the Project.

Signed in New Delhi, India, on 7 October 2016 in two originals in the English language.

For the Government of Japan	For the Government of the Republic of India
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