

**Memorandum of Understanding Between The Ministry of Railways,  
Government of the Republic of India And The Ministry of Railways,  
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh On Rail  
Connectivity**

Ministry of Railways, Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Railways, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties"),

Whereas as a reflection of the agreement expressed in the Framework Agreement on Cooperation for Development between Government of the Republic of India and Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh signed on 6 September 2011,

Recalling free transit facility offered by India via its territory to Bangladesh for exporting its products to third countries through specified Land Customs Stations/ Airports/ Seaports.

Recalling transit and transshipment facility provided by Bangladesh via its territory to India for movement of goods to and from India using Chattogram and Mongla Ports under agreement on the use of Chattogram and Mongla port for movement of goods to and from India

Recalling transit and transshipment facility provided by Bangladesh via its waterways and roadways to India for passage of goods between two places of India under the Protocol on inland water transit and trade.

Noting that there are currently five operational rail links between India and Bangladesh, and passenger trains are plying on three routes so far, both sides are also working on the restoration of pre-1965 rail links including Karimganj/Mahisasan (India) - Shahbazpur (Bangladesh).

Whereas both sides are working on developing and restoring other rail links as part of bilateral development cooperation including the Akhaura-Agartala rail link as well as establishing a link between Hili (West Bengal) and Birampur (Bangladesh), Kaunia-Lalmonirhat-Mogaighat-New Gitaldaha link, and link restoration between Burimari and Changrabandha. And whereas the same has been discussed in



subsequent meetings between - the two Governments regarding the modalities and fees for implementing the existing agreements; Have reached following understanding:

1. India shall allow use of its railways network for the movement of goods and people to and from Bangladesh with Bhutan and will provide rail connectivity to Bangladesh with Bhutan through the newly inaugurated Haldibari (India) - Chilahati (Bangladesh) and Burimari-Changrabandha route (as and when operationalized). Both the countries agree that specific routes and necessary standard operating procedures will be finalized through mutual consultation for the purpose of implementation of this Memorandum, which will include among others, routes through Bangladesh connecting Hasimara, Dalgaon and Gelephu, Bhutan (as and when operationalized);

2. India shall continue allow use of its railways network for the movement of goods and people to and from Bangladesh with Nepal to provide rail connectivity to Bangladesh with Nepal through Singhabad (India) - Rohanpur (Bangladesh) and Radhikapur (India) - Birol (Bangladesh) routes. Both the countries agree that specific routes and necessary standard operating procedures will be finalized through mutual consultation for the purpose of implementation of this Memorandum, which will include among others, routes through Bangladesh connecting Nepal;

3. Both the countries shall allow use of their railways network for the movement of the goods without red traffic (dangerous and offensive goods including arms ammunitions and explosives but excluding POL) and people to and from Bangladesh, India as well as third countries. Both the countries agree that specific routes and necessary standard operating procedures will be finalized through mutual consultation for the purpose of implementation of this Memorandum, which will include among others, routes through Bangladesh connecting Kolkata, Agartala and New Jalpaiguri and karimganj (as and when operationalized);

4. The movement of the goods and people, within Bangladesh and India shall be subject to the relevant national laws, regulations and

administrative provisions of the parties and within the limits of party's competence and available resources.

5. The movement of goods and people will be subject to charges relating to transportation, other services and costs deemed necessary as well as other relevant taxes and fees incurred in the process as required.

6. Both the countries shall finalize necessary instruments and issue required notifications within mutually agreed time frame; and

7. Both the countries shall explore ways and means to make this arrangement equitable, effective and reliable.

8. For evaluation and reviewing the working of this MoU and for the purpose of improvement of rail connectivity between the two countries, there shall be a Standing Committee, including representatives of Ministry of Railways, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Home Affairs, Customs & Immigration & Railway operation officials on both sides. The Committee may co-opt members whose participation is considered necessary by it. The Standing Committee shall meet at least once in six months and its findings shall be forwarded to the respective Governments for necessary action.

9. This MoU shall come into force upon its signature and shall remain in effect until it is terminated by either of the Parties with a notice in writing, six months in advance.

10. Any difference in interpretation or application of the provisions of this MoU shall be settled through consultation and negotiation between the Parties.

11. This MoU may be amended through mutual agreement between the parties, in writing.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed this MOU at New Delhi on 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June 2024 in two originals in English language.

**FOR AND ON BEHALF  
OF THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF INDIA**

**FOR AND ON BEHALF OF  
THE GOVERNMENT OF  
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC  
OF BANGLADESH**



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**JAYA SINHA  
CHAIRPERSON  
RAILWAY BOARD**



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**MD. HUMAYUN KABIR  
SECRETARY-GENERAL  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAY**