

Joint Declaration of Intent
of
the Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India
and
the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy of the Federal Republic of
Germany
Regarding Cooperation on Strategic Projects

The bilateral relations between the Republic of India and the Federal Republic of Germany have been close and trusting for decades. The dynamic economic relations are the pillar of the strategic partnership. The German Federal Government has adopted an initiative for strategic projects abroad to effectively support large scale business projects.

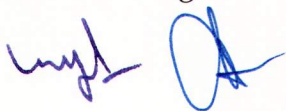
India and Germany are among the leading nations in the field of railway transport. Both countries advocate the expansion and operation of modern railway systems. With a view to further strengthening the bilateral cooperation and to deepening the mutual understanding, two projects in the railway sector have been identified as being strategically relevant: one in the field of high speed passenger transport and another one to upgrade the speed of the regular railway network.

The Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India (MoR) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy of the Federal Republic of Germany (BMWI) (collectively referred as "the sides") have come to the following understanding:

1. During the third Indo-German inter-governmental consultations in October 2015 the German Federal Ministry of Transport and Digital Infrastructure (BMVI) offered to finance a feasibility study on the high speed corridor of the Chennai-Bangalore-Mysore route. During the fourth Indo-German inter-governmental consultations in May 2017, both Heads of Government agreed that cooperation in the railway sector was of strategic importance in the framework of Indo-German economic relations.



2. The feasibility study on the high speed corridor of the Chennai - Bangalore - Mysore route indicating three options in dedicated mode and three options in mixed mode was shared with Indian side in February 2018. Indian side indicated the Dedicated mode-2 as option for further detailing and finalization of the study. German side handed over to the Indian side the final report with Dedicated mode-2 in November 2018 in New Delhi. The Government of India will like to undertake a high speed rail (HSR) project on above corridor, depending on the financing options. The German government intends to discuss financing options for this project with the relevant project implementation unit on the Indian side.
3. MoR and BMVI signed a separate Joint Declaration of Intent on conducting a feasibility study on the speed upgrade of the Chennai - Kazipet route to be financed 50:50 by both Germany and India in October 2017. Both sides intended to agree on Terms of Reference for this study. In view of revised needs of the Indian side limiting the maximum speed to 160km/h, India and Germany intend to review this project and the need and extent of German participation in its implementation.
4. BMWI will consider supporting the establishment of an attractive financing package in the light of the feasibility study on the high speed corridor and on the involvement of German companies based on the relevant Indian planning procedures.
5. Both sides intend to continue discussing the questions relating to the financing and implementation of the high speed corridor Chennai-Bangalore-Mysore. German side will also discuss with MoR on the modalities to proceed further.
6. Both sides intend to continue discussing the speed upgrade in the corridor Chennai - Kazipet based on the involvement of relevant German companies.
7. Both sides intend to exchange information every six months about the status of the projects and to examine how to support the projects. The Federal Government Coordinator for Projects Abroad in the Strategic Interest of the Federal Republic of Germany will be in charge on the German side. The Adviser/Infrastructure in the Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India will be in charge on the Indian side.



8. Further projects may be identified after the implementation of these projects.

Signed in New Delhi on 1st November 2019 in duplicate in the English language.

For
the Ministry of Railways of the Republic
of India



Vinod Kumar Yadav
Chairman Railway Board

For
the Federal Ministry for Economic
Affairs and Energy of the Federal
Republic of Germany



Christian Hirte
Parliamentary State Secretary