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

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**Minutes Of The First Meeting Of**
**"Railway Design Centre Monitoring Committee (RDCMC)"**
**Of The Railway Design Centre, Set Up At NID/Ahmedabad**
Held on 7th May, 2015 At Railway Board, New Delhi

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1. In terms of Railway Board's letter no. 2012/CE-I/T&I/RDC-NID/Pt, dated 24.04.2015, first meeting of 'RDC Monitoring Committee (RDCMC)' for the Railway Desjgn Centre, set up at National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad was held on 07.05.2015 in Railway Board's office. The following officers attended the meeting :

**A. <u>RDC Monitoring Committee</u> :**

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|---|---|---|---|---|
| (1) | Prof. Pradyumna Vyas | *Director, N.I.D.* | *Chairman* | *director@nid.edu* |
| (2) | Shri Alok Kumar | *EDCE(G), Railway Board* | *Co-Chairman* | *alokalokindia@rediffmail.com* |
| (3) | Shri Tanveer Ahmed | *EDF(X)-I, Railway Board* | *Member* | *tanveer27@hotmail.com* |
| (4) | Shri B. Prashanth | *EDPM, Railway Board* | *Member* | *prashant65@hotmail.com* |
| (5) | Shri Jignesh Khakhar | *Faculty, N.I.D.* | *Member* | *khakharj@nid.edu* |

**B. <u>Other Officers</u> :**

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|---|---|---|---|
| (6) | Shri Indrajit Singh | *ED/Carriage, RDSO* | *edcar.rdso@gmail.com* |
| (7) | Shri Neelabh Mahesh | *Director Research/S&T, RDSO* | *drrstrdso@gmail.com* |
| (8) | Shri P. Rama Krishna Rao | *Faculty, N.I.D.* | *raoprk@nid.edu* |
| (9) | Dr. Vikram Singh Parmar | *Faculty, N.I.D. & CEO/NDBI* | *vikram_p@nid.edu* |
| (10) | Shri Anil Kumar | *DCE(G), Railway Board* | *dcegrb@gmail.com* |

2. EDCE(G)/Railway Board extended warm welcome to all the participants. While most of the Members of 'RDCMC' were present, ED/E&R/R.Bd., ED/Reserch/RDSO and two nominated Members from NID could not attend; although they were represented by their collegues.

3. The MoU between Ministry of Railways and National Institute of Design was entered into on 10th April, 2015 at Rail Bhawan in presence of the Ministers of 'Railways' and 'Commerce & Industries' and it was circulated vide no. 2012/CE-I/T&I/1/RDC-NID, dated 10.04.15. Further, as a follow-up to MoU, an agreed & approved amount of Rs. 10 cr. was released by Ministry of Railways to NID/Ahmedabad on 29th April '15 for the 'Railway Design Centre'.

4. It was opinion of the Committee that office of 'Railway Design Centre' should be earmarked in NID, Ahmedabad and it should formally be opened/inaugurated at the earliest, so that various items and concepts, as mentioned in the MoU and also desired by Hon'ble Minister of Railways during his visit to Ahmedabad on 31st January '15 (communicated vide no. 2012/CE-I/T&I/1/RDC-NID, dated 03.03.15) may be taken up on priority.

5. The modalities for functioning of Railway Design Centre were deliberated and it was agreed that various concepts and requirements of Railway in different fields will be formulated in the form of individual projects and these will be coordinated by the concerned Directorates of RDSO.

6. The project teams will consist of the nominated officials from RDSO and the suitable faculty / expert from NID. These project teams will formulate, submit and make presentation to the 'RDCMC' with details regarding scope, deliverables, cost and time frame for each project proposal. Accordingly, the 'RDCMC' will approve the projects and allocate fund from the interest of endowment fund. The concerned project team through project coordinator of RDSO will go ahead with its approved project proposal and submit to 'RDCMC' the monthly progress for the same.

7. 'RDCMC' will meet every quarter at mutually agreed place for review of ongoing projects, formulating further project proposals and also for reporting to Ministry of Railways on the completed projects for implementation on Indian Railways.

8. In the meantime, 'RDCMC' will have next detailed meeting at NID, Ahmedabad in which ED/Research, RDSO may also take with him few other EDs from RDSO whose projects may be considered on priority in terms of already processed project proposals with NID. It will bring better clarity and understanding to the project teams for going ahead on the projects, to be jointly done by Ministry of Railways and NID.

9. Subsequently, similar meeting may be held at RDSO for better understanding & appreciation of the Railway's existing facilities by the Monitoring Committee and also by the faculty of NID. ED/Research, RDSO may coordinate and fix a suitable date in consultation with NID for the meeting of 'RDCMC' at RDSO/Lucknow.

10. It was suggested that RDSO may also take inputs/concepts from the Zonal Railways for formulation of projects related to all fields of railway functioning. ED/Research/ RDSO was requested to prepare list of various proposals in consultation with all the Directorates of RDSO and also after taking thoughts/ideas from Zonal Railways and Railway Board.

11. During each meeting of 'RDCMC', 3-4 presentations from outside agencies may also be encouraged for the new concepts and innovative ideas from users' perspective.

12. The issues related to booking of expenditure against 'Railway Design Centre' were also deliberated. It was clarified that the interest accrued on the endowment fund will be utilized for various projects and for the dedicated staff deputed for running the 'RDC'. It will be in terms of various provisions of MoU, already signed between NID and Ministry of Railways.

Further, expenditure on travel and accommodation for meetings etc. will be borne by the respective organizations. The cost of project will include remuneration to the research scholars etc. deputed exclusively for the project alongwith hiring of consultant, if any and procurement of materials, equipments etc. needed for the project, as per deliverables & scope, approved by the 'RDCMC'.

Quarterly review of the interest accrued & expenditure incurred in various approved projects will be done by 'RDCMC', as to be presented by 'RDC' in the meetings, in addition to the annual exercise of accountal and auditing, as mentioned in the MoU.

13. Director/NID also gave an overview of National Institute of Design alongwith various earlier successful projects of Railway, completed by NID and about other projects, as referred by various units of Indian Railways to NID in recent past.

14. Various possible fields for project formulation are already indicated in the MoU. The proposals, as mentioned by Director/NID and other thoughts alongwith those of MoU were deliberated during meeting by all the participants. Some of these, which may be prioritised for taking up in first go, may be :

(i) Seating and other arrangements in Double Decker coaches

(ii) Improvement to ladder arrangements in all types of coaches

(iii) Exterior improvement to all types of coaches

(iv) Improvement to interiors of LHB Coaches of all types

(v) Colour scheme for high speed LHB coaches being manufactured at RCF/ Kapurthala

(vi) Development of GS type Double Decker Coaches without dust pollution

(vii) Re-adjustment of windows in Sleeper & General coaches

(viii) Modular design of seats & berths in coaches

(ix) Theme based exterior & interior colour scheme for International Train 'THAR Express'

(x) Replacement of paper charting with provision of on-line LED panel charting in coaches

(xi) Reduction in requirement of TTEs by auto updation of occupation charts

(xii) Electronic authentication of printed tickets

(xiii) Improvement inside coaches and steps at door for alighting passengers at different level platforms

(xiv) Utilization of solar energy panels on roofs of coaches & platform structures

(xv) Improvement to station premises for seamless movement of passengers during entire journey

(xvi) Development of pre-fabricated components for fast construction of platform

(xvii) Ergonomic design of passengers' utility assets in station area

(xviii) Development of improved working tools for Track Maintainers and other staff

(xix) Improved techniques for coach cleaning and reduction to shunting requirement of passenger rakes

(xx) Improved bag of Keyman with all lightweight functional tools related to his duties

15. Director/NID was requested to organise next meeting of 'RDCMC' accordingly at NID, Ahmedabad before 20.05.15.

16. A separate e-mail id "rdc@nid.edu" has been created for interacting on all the issues related to Railway Design Centre. A web-page will also be created by NID for 'RDCMC' with its link on the websites of Indian Railways & National Institute of Design.

**(No. 2015/CE-I/Innov./5/RDC-NID, New Delhi, Dated 07.05.2015)**

(आलोक कुमार) 7/05/15
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**Distribution for information and necessary action :**

1. The General Managers of all Indian Railways, PUs etc. and DG/RDSO, Lucknow
2. DG/NAIR and Directors of all the Centralised Training Institutes on Indian Railways
3. Director, National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad
4. All the Members of the 'RDC Monitoring Committee' of Railway Design Centre, Ahmedabad

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(iv) AM/CE, AM/Budget, AM/ME, AM/Electrical, AM/Traffic, AM/Comml, AM/Signal and AM/Tele in Railway Board
(v) All the Executive Directors of Railway Board and RDSO (through e-mail)