Government of India
Ministry of Railways
(Railway Board)

No.TCR/2043/2008/1

New Delhi, dt. 10.02.2014

Chief Commercial Manager
All Zonal Railways

Sub: Chargeable distances of goods shed
Ref: Rates Circular No.20 of 2012

A clarification has been sought regarding fixation of Siding Charge in case of goods shed laid at a distance from the main station i.e. outside the station limits.

In terms of Para (b) of Rates Circular No.20 of 2012 where a goods shed is laid at a distance from the main station i.e. outside the station limits, such goods sheds should be notified by Zonal Railways as Public Sidings and in such cases, Siding Charge will accrue and get accounted for in accordance with instructions contained in Para 2523 of IRCM Vol.II.

Regarding fixation of Siding Charge, instructions already exist vide Board’s letter No.2007/TC-I/302/1Pt.E dt.23.06.2010 regarding system of charging of freight with respect to the traffic pertaining to a siding and the same may be followed.

(This disposes off Eastern Railway’s letter No.C.490/590/BG dt.15.01.2014)

(Aashima Mehrotra)
Director, Traffic Comm.(Rates)
Railway Board
Sub: System of charging Freight and levying Siding Charge & Shunting Charge

M/s Association of Container Train Operators (ATCOs) has mentioned that at ICDs which are notified for charging freight on through distance basis, neither Siding Charge nor Shunting Charge is being levied whereas at ICDs which are not notified so, Shunting Charge and Siding Charge both are being levied for normal placement and withdrawal of container rakes. They have requested for issue of clarification to Zonal Railways in this regard.

2.0 The matter has been examined and the clarifications are as under:

2.1 System of charging freight

With respect to the traffic pertaining to a siding, there are two systems of charging stated as under:-

2.1.1 Charging freight upto the serving station and levying Siding Charge beyond serving station and vice versa

Under this system, freight is charged upto the serving station and Siding Charge is levied from serving station to the siding on the basis of cost for Engine Hour and the average time for a round trip from the serving station to the siding and back. This system is applicable in the case of a siding which is not notified for charging freight on through distance basis. (reference Para 1805 of Indian Railway Code for Traffic (Comml.) Department)

2.1.2 Charging freight on through distance basis

Under this system, freight is charged upto the buffer end of the siding. This system is applied to a siding which is notified for charging freight on through distance basis based on the criteria listed below. (reference Railway Board's letter No. TC-I/87/214/14 dt. 21.10.1993)

(i) the traffic should be trainload,
(ii) traffic should go into the siding directly or indirectly with the engine pulling or pushing.
(iii) there should be no detention to engines except for change of ends  
(iv) no separate shunting staff is required exclusively for this purpose.

2.2 System of levy of Shunting Charge

2.2.1 Shunting Charge is levied for the utilization of Railway locomotive to perform  
shunting operation at a siding, whether it is notified for charging freight on  
through distance basis or otherwise. (reference Railway Board’s letter No TC-  
I/2008/214/1 dt.06.02.2009)

2.2.2 Shunting Charge is collected locally and accounted for under distinct head  
namely ‘Shunting Charge’. (reference Para 2512 of Indian Railway Commercial  
Manual)

2.2.3 In the case of siding which is not notified for charging freight on through  
distance basis and where Siding Charge is collected, if Railway Administration  
has agreed to shunt wagons/vehicles into and out of the siding premises, Siding  
Charge will take into account the cost of such shunting operation and no  
Shunting Charge is leviable separately. (reference Para 2512 of Indian Railway  
Commercial Manual)

2.2.4 As regards levy of Shunting Charge for shunting of brake van is concerned, it is  
to mention that no Shunting Charge is leviable for shunting of brake van as it is  
an operational requirement.

3.0 This issues in consultation with Traffic Transportation Directorate and  
concurrence of Finance Directorate of Ministry of Railways.

(Aashima Mehrotra)  
Jt. Director, Traffic Commn.(Rates)  
Railway Board

No.2007/TC-I/302/1 Pt.E  
New Delhi, dt.23.06.2010

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for Financial Commissioner, Railways