GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(RAILWAY BOARD)

No.TC-I/2020/109/efile/1

New Delhi, Dt. 24 . 07.2020

Chief Commercial Manager(FM)
Western Railway
Mumbai

Sub: Weighment of wagons/rake and levy of Punitive Charge/Detention Charge

Ref: (i)Rates Master Circular/Provision of Weighbridge/2019/0
(ii)Rates Master Circular/Weighment/2019/0

Please refer to WR’s letter No.C.611/3Vol.XIII dt _07.2020 where railway has suggested that decision should be left with zonal railways regarding imposition of Punitive Charge for overloading and Detention charge for load adjustment.

The matter has been examined. Zonal Railway's suggestion has not been found desirable.

Punitive charge is levied to deter overloading in wagons, which endangers safety of train operations. The power to make rules regarding Punitive Charge for overloading is vested only with Central Government as per Section 89 of Railways Act 1989.

It may be noted that in recent past, a number of customer friendly modifications have been done in weighment policy. Further, Guidelines have been issued for installation of pre-weighbin/weightometer. Railways may like to encourage more pre-weighbins that enable precise controlled discharge of loose commodities and also to take necessary action to ensure proper working of weighbridges.

In case any policy modification is felt necessary then Zonal Railway may send a duly deliberated self contained proposal, incorporating the views of all concerned departments (viz. Operating, Mechanical, Finance etc) for better appreciation of the issue in Board’s office.

Shilpi Bishnoi
Director Traffic Commercial(Rates)
Railway Board

24-07-2020