

**भारत सरकार / Government of India**  
**रेल मंत्रालय / Ministry of Railways**  
**(रेलवेबोर्ड / Railway Board)**

No.2018/W-I/Genl./Policy

New Delhi, dated 22/12/2023

**The General Manager,  
All Indian Railways,**

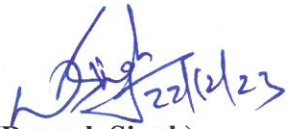
**Sub: Policy on planning for 3<sup>rd</sup> Line/4<sup>th</sup> Line.**

**Ref: (i) Board Letter No. 2013/PL/19/1(Policy) dated 05.07.2018 and 30.09.2013.  
(ii) Board Letter No.2018/W-I/Genl./Policy dated 04.09.2018.**

Guidelines for planning/integration of 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> line projects have been issued by Railway Board vide above referred letters. However, different yardsticks are still being followed by different zonal Railways.

Thus, the above guidelines are reiterated for impletementation in planning/execution of projects.

**DA:AA**

  
(Deepak Singh)  
Director/Gati Shakti/Civil-I  
Railway Board  
e-mail: [dirgs2rd@gmail.com](mailto:dirgs2rd@gmail.com)

**Copy to:**

**CAO (Con.)s, All Indian Railways.**

R.No.258, Raisina Marg,  
Rail Bhawan, New Delhi - 110001.

No.2013/PL/19/1(Policy)

Dated 05.07.2018

**The General Managers,**  
Central Railway, Mumbai.  
East Coast Railway, Bhubaneswar.  
East Central Railway, Hajipur.  
Eastern Railway, Kolkata.  
North Central Railway, Allahabad.  
North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur.  
Northeast Frontier Railway, Malegaon.  
Northern Railway, New Delhi.

North Western Railway, Jaipur.  
South Central Railway, Secunderabad.  
South Eastern Railway, Kolkata.  
South East Central Railway, Bilaspur.  
Southern Railway, Chennai.  
South Western Railway, Hubli.  
West Central Railway, Jabalpur.  
Western Railway, Mumbai.

Sub: Policy Guidelines - Execution and Alignment of 3<sup>rd</sup> Line Projects.

Ref: 2013/PL/19/1(Policy) dated 30.09.2013 and 10.06.2015.

In reference to above, it is reiterated that in case of construction of 3<sup>rd</sup> line, it should be bi-directional and on one side of the existing double line. Integration of 3<sup>rd</sup> line with existing double line should be at a distance of 30 Kms or so or after 3-4 stations so that the large scale yard remodelling are avoided and project is executed with ease without long duration of non-interlocked working. Rest of the instructions will be the same as communicated earlier vide references above.

*Pls ensure that Rxs are being followed  
Exceptions would need CEB's approval*

(V. Shanker)

(Executive Director/Planning)

Tele/Fax- 011-23383354

Rly. 030-43424

Copy to: PCOMs & CTPMs of All Zonal Railways.

*Pls ensure compliance.*  
*urgent*  
*DWS*

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (BHARAT SARKAR)  
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (RAIL MANTRALAYA)  
RAILWAY BOARD

No.2013/PL/19/1(Policy)

New Delhi, dated 30.9.2013

The GMs,  
Central Railway, Mumbai.  
Northern Railway, New Delhi.  
North East Frontier Railway, Guwahati.  
South Central Railway, Secunderabad.  
Western Railway, Mumbai.  
East Coast Railway, Bhubneswar.  
North Western Railway, Jaipur.  
West Central Railway, Jabalpur.

Eastern Railway, Kolkata.  
North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur.  
Southern Railway, Chennai.  
South Eastern Railway, Kolkata.  
East Central Railway, Hazipur.  
North Central Railway, Allahabad.  
South Western Railway, Hubli.  
South East Central Rly. Bilaspur.

Sub: Policy on Planning for 3<sup>rd</sup> Line/ 4<sup>th</sup> Line (Policy No. Dir.Plg/1/2013)

Background : The purpose behind this Policy Directive is to augment sectional capacity in the highly saturated corridors that are major operational constraint in the train running. It is also to simultaneously ensure through running, improve speeds, cut infructuous expenditure while implementing projects of 3<sup>rd</sup> Line/4<sup>th</sup> Line, reduce NI period and disallow future operational constraints.

1. The integration of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> line should be at a distance of 30 kms. or so or after 3-4 stations. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> line will have normal signaling. Switching over facility from 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> line to Double Line shall be available after 3-4 block stations only.
2. Each and every section where 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> line is being proposed or are sanctioned may have peculiarities like sidings taking off from road side stations – for example as in case of Champa-JSG section of SECR. At such locations operational wisdom should be applied by Zonal & Divisional authorities for the integration of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> line with the main existing network.
3. This exercise shall ensure that purpose of providing 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> line is met with which is to enhance the capacity & throughput with good speeds.

Applicability This will be applicable for all the sanctioned works that are under execution and where integration has not been planned or where only partially planned.  
In addition, this will be applicable for all future proposals.

All zonal railways are requested to make or correct existing ESPs & SIPs accordingly.

This issues with the approval of the Board [Member Traffic]

d/c  
(Devendra Singh)  
Executive Director/Planning

Copy to: All COMs, CTPMs, Dir-Coordination for kind inf. of M)

Government of India  
Ministry of Railways  
(Railway Board)

No.2018/W-I/Genl./Policy

New Delhi dt. 31.08.2018  
04.09

General Manager,  
All Indian Railways.

Chairman & Managing Director,  
RVNL, RITES & IRCON


General Manager/Const.,  
Northeast Frontier Railway,  
Guwahati

**Sub: Policy Guidelines – Execution and Alignment of  
3<sup>rd</sup> Line Projects.**

**Ref: Board's letter No.2013/PL/19(Policy) dt. 05.07.18.**

Please refer to Board's letter under reference wherein policy guidelines for execution and alignment of 3<sup>rd</sup> line projects was issued.

In this connection Board (CRB) has further issued directives that "Please ensure that these are being followed. Exception would need CRB's approval."

  
(S C Jain)  
Executive Director/Works  
Railway Board

**Copy to:**

- (i) AM/Plg, AM/Traffic
- (ii) Chief Administrative Officer/C, All Indian Railways – for information.
- (iii) Principal Chief Operations Managers, All Indian Railways – for information.

0/c