No. 98/W-I/Genl/O/30-Pt. New Delhi, dated 18.02.2020

General Managers,
All Zonal Railways.

Sub: General instructions regarding surveys of railway projects.

Ref: Para 253-266 of Chapter 2 of Indian Railways Code for the Engineering Department.

In one of the Para of 54th report of the Committee on Petitions (16th Lok Sabha) presented to the House on 3rd August 2018, the Committee has recommended that "prior to sanctioning of any Railway Project in any region of the country, the DPRs should be formulated after taking into account the views/opinion of all the stakeholders. For this purpose, if required, a Public Notice, thereby, inviting views/suggestions of various stakeholders could be invited. The Committee would like the Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) to take necessary action on these lines and apprise the Committee accordingly within three months of presentation of this Report to the House."

In this regard, it has been noticed that instructions already exist vide Para 253 of Indian Railways Code for the Engineering Department vide which before any survey operations are commenced, a notification is to be published in the local Government Gazette. This should be arranged for by railway administration as promptly as possible after receipt of sanction to the survey. Further as per general instructions given in para 254-266, consultation with irrigation department, civil authorities, military authorities etc has to be done and views to be obtained. It has been noticed that these instructions are not being followed scrupulously.

In view of the above, it is hereby advised that all the instructions regarding surveys, stipulated in Indian Railways Code for the Engineering Department, should be strictly adhered to. The views, if any, obtained during the consultation with State Government, Military Authorities, Civil Authorities etc should be suitably incorporated in the Detailed Project Reports for consideration.

This has the approval of AM/Works.

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