

REPORT ON FURTHER IMPLEMENTATION OF PRINCIPLES OF GLOBAL COMPACT

A Corporate example was placed on Global Compact Website by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited addressing the principles No. 7,8 and 9 of Global Compact in July'2002.

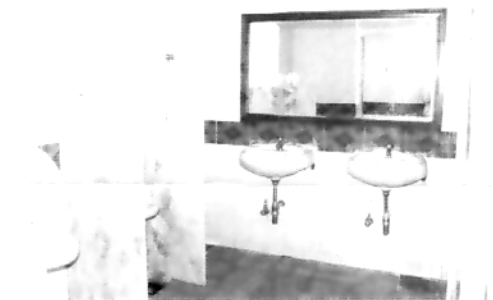
In this example the action taken by Konkan Railway during the construction of Railway track along the West Coast of India crossing the Western Ghats to preserve the environment and to utilize the eco-friendly methods and equipments were highlighted. It was also described how deforestation was avoided and vegetation cover had been developed to avoid soil erosion etc.

1. In continuation of the above policy, Konkan Railway is following the policy given below for enhancing the eco-friendly and socially committed nature of this Railway System:-

a. Konkan Railway is to be the most beautiful, tidy, garden Railway matching with the scenic beauty of the Western Ghats. The entire 760 Kms shall be free of all plastic materials and should look like a copy book Railway.

b. Reserve land development should be based on medical/herbal plantation with proactive participation from adjacent farmers.

c. All the stations would have the most hygienic rest rooms comparable to international standards.



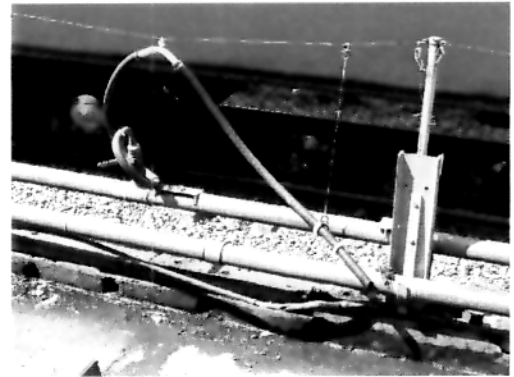
d. For all reserved passengers there would be covered accommodation provided for waiting purpose which is weather proof and made of insulating material. This should be also aesthetically pleasing.



e. This year arrangements would be made for supply of drinking water consistent to international standards. There shall be a commitment to this objective and results of all tests of Konkan Railway water, and a standard bottled water supply would be published along with the International Standards for the public information.



f. A hygienic support system for pipes used to water train coaches at Stations has been evolved to prevent infection by touch when the pipes touch the floor.



2. Further addressing the principle nos. 1,2,6, 7 & 8, KRCL has started its project in Jammu and Kashmir state which comprises of setting up of 90 Kms of Railway Track through the most difficult terrain full of mountains, rivers, deep gorges etc. These challenges would be quite similar to the construction of Railway Track along the West Coast of India crossing the Western Ghats.

Konkan Railway has mobilized as many as 152 Engineers at site for construction of the new railway line from Katra – Laole in the Jammu-Udhampur– Srinagar-Baramulla new rail link. The engineers are braving extreme weather conditions to fulfill the aim of the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee to open the Railway line on 15th August 2007.

Konkan Railway has been awarded the work of construction of the most difficult stretch of the new railway line considering its expertise in construction. Konkan Railway has fielded a General Manager at the site assisted by 2 Senior Administrative Grade Officers. There are 5 Deputy Chief Engineers controlling, 144 Graduates Civil Engineers. These Graduates (civil Engineers) belong to Jammu & Kashmir state only and they have formed into a company of 9 Engineers each giving them a part of the construction work so that the entrepreneurial spirit is built in them and they can also learn to form and develop a company of their own. The engineers have been given necessary training and have already started working alongwith the experienced engineers of KRCL. This is expected to make them self- employed and also the knowledge , skill and experience they gather from this project will be very useful in the further development of their own state.

The organization is also having associate finance (Deputy Financial Advisor and Chief Accounts Officer) and linked through wide area networking for any clearance from the Corporate Office. The Site Office is full fledged directly controlling the Katra –Laloe project and is a fully empowered office. This has been done to ensure that decision making process is localized and no delay takes place in execution of the work.

So far the Corporation has pre-qualified a total of 48 renowned contracting agencies and will be finalizing about 23 consulting and design forms for proof checking designs- in another week. Till date contracts worth Rs.194 cores have been awarded by Konkan Railway. By 15th of January 2004, tenders already floated for a value of Rs. 250 crores will also be finalized.

For the important Chenab and Anjikhad bridges, keeping in view the tight target of completion by December 2006, the Corporation has taken urgent action inviting global tenders to pre-qualify agencies, who are capable of both design and construction for such complex bridges. The closing date is 20th January 2004, and the Corporation has received encouraging response. The innovative aspect of this tender is that the intending bidder must submit the preliminary technical feasible report after due site inspection duly factoring in their own experience and having constructed similar bridges along with approx budgetary cost estimate.

Further to check and evaluate these reports Konkan Railway will be making use of the consulting and design firms who are separately getting short listed (23 Nos).

Once this process is over Konkan railway will be framing design parameter in consultation with Research Development and Standards Organisation of Indian Railways and the international consultants to call for bids from pre-qualified international agencies, which will be a 2 packet system.

In addition all the actions and preventive measures taken by KRCL during the construction of Konkan Railway Track will also be observed during the construction of Railway Track in the Jammu and Kashmir state to preserve the forests and environment fully.

3.The people who had actually given their land for the Konkan Railway had been compensated financially at the time of acquisition of the land. But not being content with that, Konkan Railway had further decided upon a policy to help the affected families of landlosers by giving preference to landlosers in employment and commercial opportunities like kiosks, food stalls etc.

4. Now in another innovative initiative for the passengers waiting for the trains to arrive, enclosures have been developed in the form of ethnic huts but having electric fans and adequate furnitures. The maintenance and up-keep of these huts have been given to the adjacent villagers and landlosers so that some additional employment is generated for them. They have also been encouraged to sell local produce like fruits etc and handicrafts in the hut itself.



5. Konkan Railway is a very young organization having a young group of employees. For ensuring that the young children of these employees get proper attention and care from the very first months of their life, the Project 'Chaitanaya' (conscience) has been evolved. In collaboration with a team of experienced child specialists, psychologists and counsellors, medical officers of Konkan Railway are organising training sessions all over the 760 Kms stretch of the Railway to ensure that the parents are aware of the proactive measures and precautions required to be taken to ensure proper physical and mental development of their children leading to enhanced emotional and intelligence quotient equipping them for future challenges.

These are some of the initiatives taken by Konkan Railway Corporation towards fulfilling the guide-lines of Global Compact in the recent times.
