



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF CREATIVE RESEARCH THOUGHTS (IJCRT)

An International Open Access, Peer-reviewed, Refereed Journal

Railway Policy-Advance management of Indian Railway system to provide multidimensional profit related with healthcare to economy upgradation for railway passengers

¹Dr.Sumanta Bhattacharya Research Scholar at MAKAUT ,C.E, Ch.E ,CCIO , Zonal Advisor at Consumer Rights Organization. ORCID ID : 0000-0003-2563-2787

²Bhavneet Kaur Sachdev Political Science (Hons) and post graduation diploma in Human Rights

Abstract

Transport framework is paramount for country's progress and development . Transport play a very important role in integrating market and trade . Indian Railways are considered as the most convenient mode of transportation carrying million of passengers daily , followed by the development of metros across the cities for easy and fast travelling , railways have resulted in the smooth running of business and commerce . With the advancement in technology and science , new methods and techniques are being used in the development and construction of railways making them environmental friendly with the introduction of solar powered trains and using renewable source of energy to run trains , electrification of trains both passengers and freight for making travelling eco-friendly. However , with so many development taking place in the railway sector we lack behind in providing proper sanitization , healthcare , infrastructure and security facilities to our passengers , we come across cases of rape, robbery , murder , violence happening all over the country making travelling by railways unsafe for people and in particular for working women . There is lack of women employment in the railway sector which is one of the downside of the India Railways which calls for new policies and new measure to overcome the issues and make journey safe for passengers by providing travel insurance schemes for travellers , daily passengers , old people ,pregnant women , school going children , providing proper culinary facilities at the station with proper sanitization facilities gender based , providing provisions for disabled, cancer patients , pregnant women in the trains , enrich our cultural and heritage by railways by introducing railway based library facilities , opening up for railway mela where crafts and ethnic beauty of a state is shown , followed by luxury railway and royal facilities , construction of restaurants and cafes at the railway station and medical shops at every station.

Keywords : Railways and metros , Railway mela , electrification , renewable energy , railway based library , safety and security , travel insurance scheme

Introduction

The Transport department plays a very prominent role in the development of economy. Transport facilities efficient in the delivery of goods and services and easy communication of business. Indian railways is considered to have the largest rail network in the world and one of the busiest which carries 23 million passengers per day followed by 3.04 million tonnes of freight every year, India facilities 13,523 passenger trains and 9146 freight trains which is spread over 1,23,336 Km. India railways provides employment facilities to around 13 lakh employees out of which only 7% are women. Indian railways are considered as one of the cheapest form of transport for travelling, providing facilities for all class of people, the compartment being divided into according to people comfort and standards. The history of Indian Railways can be traced back to 1853, the first passenger carrying train that ran from Bombay to Thane covering a distance of 40 Km, and also the first train in Asia, followed by this we had the establishment of metros in India in the year 1984, underground rail which was started in Kolkata to carry passengers from one place to another within the city, it is the fastest and the cheapest mode of transport which is gaining momentum in India now, After Kolkata, it was Delhi in 2002 which started metros, Indian metro was earlier maintained and run by the railway department. Today metro is runned in 13 states and construction and planning is being conducted in other states, the government is trying to make metro facilities in every states and city for making travel easy and comfortable, India railways consume 2.6 Billion litres of diesel annually which amounts to 28,592 crore, which has a huge impact on the economy and environmental, the infrastructure of the Indian railways have undergone changes and bought new facilities with the advance in science and technology, however the construction of tracks are very poor in some parts of the country especially in the rural area, where access to train is also limited with poor stations facilities, people are kept in the waiting list for months as sits are not available, there is lack of security at the stations and trains in the local trains and sleeper classes. There is a huge disparity in the facilities provided at the railway station in the rural and urban areas. India has one of the biggest railway station across the world, The government of India has taken many initiatives to change the picture of the railway system in India with the introduction of new trains and tracks with new technology, introduction of bullet trains and solar powered trains which will help to reduce the consumption of diesel followed by electrification of trains in India. India is aiming to build the world's largest electrified railway network with many mega railway projects undergoing construction.

Research Methodology

For the purpose of this exploration, I have used a amalgamation of two of the archetypical social sciences research tools application –as they are authentic and brilliant method to assemble statistics from multiple appellants in an methodical and convenient way. Question were asked to the parents and their children, survey, interviews –consisting of several interrogation which were dispersed among representative of each contender group.

Objective of the Research Paper

The main areas of exploration in this paper incorporates

1. History and development of Indian Railway system in India
2. To identify the problems being faced by the railway sector in terms of safety and security, health problems and crimes against women.
3. An in depth studies about the advancement and the measures taken by the government to improve and resolve the problems of the railway system in India.
4. How can we overcome the challenges faced by the passengers while travelling.

5. How can we enrich our heritage and culture through the railway and provide more provisions to the inter-state , foreign travellers

Literature Review

Indian railways have announced on 31 March 2017 that the entire railway station would be electrified by 2020, which includes both freight and passenger train and also separate freight traffic from passenger train , constructing separate tracks for freight and passengers carrying train resulting in high speeds and efficiency , The freight corridors being constructed are also 100% electrified , bullet trains one of the major project under taken by the government of India , to reduce time for travelling and providing security to the traveller , however the cost of these trains will be equal to the cost of a flight which very few can afford , the Mumbai-Ahmedabad bullet train is under construction which demand better tracks , these trains are different from the normal trains , special tracks and railway lines are being made which for the running of these trains , new railways line are being connected like direct train from Manali to Ladakh for easy travel and contributing to the tourism sector . After 167 years of Indian railways , India is planning to privatize railways , introducing of 151 new railway tracks to run private trains on 109 new railway tracks , new west and east corridors are being made to run freight train only . The government had also introduced mobile ticketing system and automatic ticket vending machine , introducing Wi-fi facilities at the station in Delhi and Bangalore and trains, ensuring cleanliness at the platform , tracks and coaches ,proper disposal of waste , E-catering facilities are available in the train in all compartments AC and Non-AC , this facility has been started since 2014 in a few train trains in Delhi and Amritsar and now its available in all most all trains , Booking tickets through IRCTC has been hassle-free , which allows booking 7200 tickets per minute as introduced by the Centre for Railway Information System which earlier was restricted to 2000 only , booking tickets online has made things simple for passengers , connecting to North-East , earlier we had no direct train facilities to enter North-East , it was in 2014 that India introduced the first passenger train to Meghalaya and also led the a new rail route from Bhairabi to Sairang in Mizoram , connecting to north east India and introducing new rail lines for development of the nation and also to bring people together . the estimate cost of this project has been 275 crore . Introducing for solar powered trains to reduce the use of non-renewable source of energy and promote the use of renewable energy to control environment pollution and reduce carbon footprints , which is being done using a privet public partnership model , currently no train runs 100% on renewable energy with the advancement in technology we might achieve 90 to 100% efficiency in solar panels . The India Railways are an important component in the development of nation and foreign exchange , which also plays an important role in promoting better tourism facilities to its people especially domestic tourism.

Findings

The Indian railways have provided various options for travelling depending on a person need and comfort like we have Ac first class , second class Ac , third class Ac , first class, executive class, sleeper class , general class and AC chair car . The major problems faced by the railway system today is difficulties to lay railways on swamps and sandy areas , lack of economic viability and scant population , for the construction of bridge huge number of rivers are required , in hilly terrain where railway tracts are constructed through tunnels and low hills .

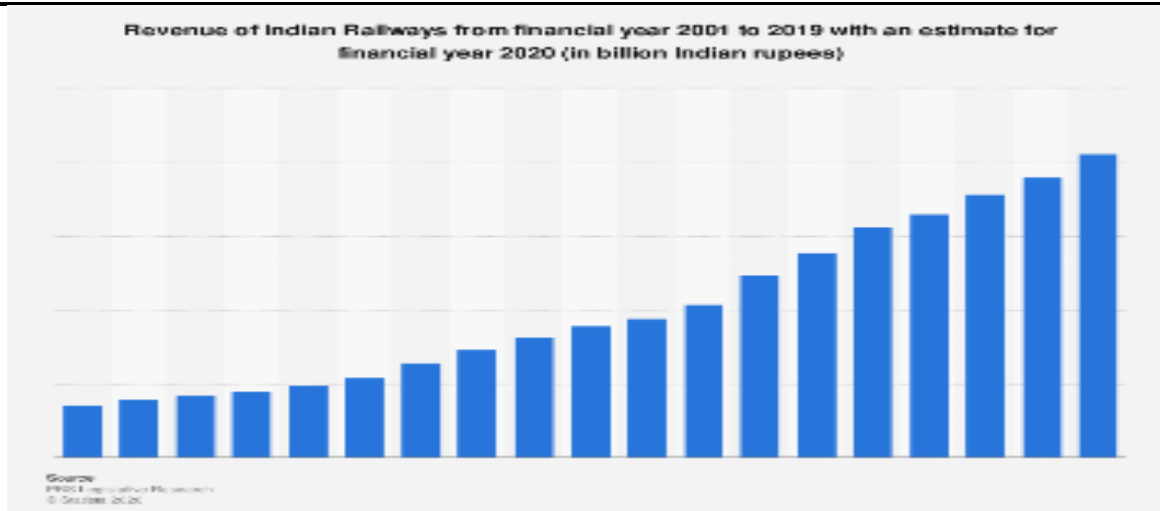


Figure 1: Shows the revenue of Indian Railways from 2001 to 2019

Poor facilities at the railway station, lack of basic necessities like access to drinking water or basic food for passengers with no sanitation facilities on several railway station on Cuttack-paradip route, there are 14 railways stations from the route of Jagatsinghpur, Cuttack and Kendarpara on which thousands of passengers depend, people are forced to drink contaminated water, use unhygienic toilets, which no proper sitting arrangements for passengers, they have to sit on the floor and wait for hours for the train to come, the floor are also not clean, wraps and plastics are thrown all over, there are no people to clean, no system for proper disposal of solid and liquid waste, many of the stations don't have rest room facilities, the freight trains carrying iron ore and coal are kept uncovered further resulting in pollution and making it difficult for people to breathe. Moreover there are insufficient public transport services available outside the railway stations only few prepaid taxis and autos are available for passengers, there is lack of security in big railways station, cases of robbery are increasing at a high level, there are congested platforms, people are running to catch the train, we don't have the facility on tracks for power-battered carts to move between platforms, wheelchairs and carts have to move across the entire track crossing the cargo areas to the end of the platform to reach

The security of women is a central point of concern especially for women who use trains to travel for work, at night time the station becomes unsafe for women with a huge number of pickpockets and drug addicts present at the station, with less police facilities and women constable for safety. 160 rape cases has been reported from the year 2017-2019 at railway station, out of 70 cases reported in 2018, 59 were on railway premises and 11 on trains, there has been many crimes against women at the railway station and on trains apart from rape which incorporates cases of kidnapping and abduction 77 cases have been reported in three years, followed by we have 4718 cases of robbery, 542 murder cases at the railway station and 213 cases of attempt to murder. there has been total 1672 cases of crime in which 802 took at the railway station and 870 in the train. During the year 2018, 1,39,442 and in 2019, 1,14,170 male passengers have been charged for illegal entry or travelling in compartments reserved for women. The government has provided CCTV facilities in coaches and 511 railway stations for promoting security for passenger since 2019 which has resulted in reduction of crimes at railway station.

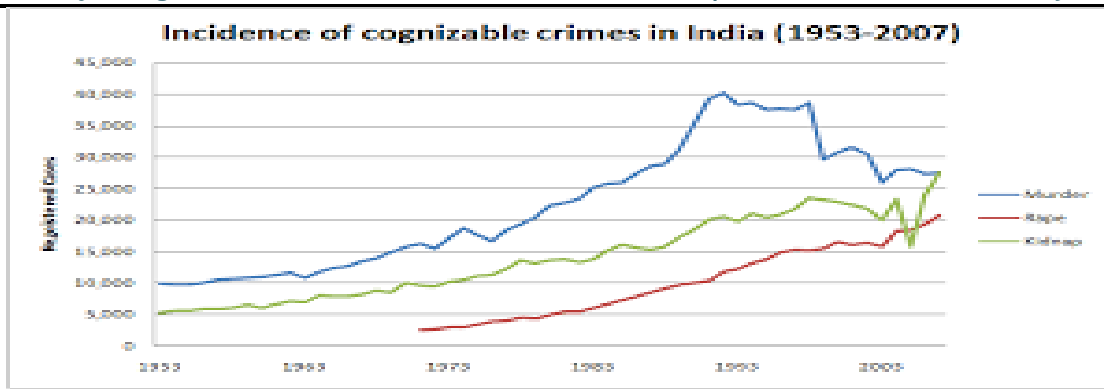


Figure 2 : Shows the number of crimes happening at the Railway sector from 1953-2007

Lack of medical care facilities at the station , 1600 passengers died in 2018 due to lack of medical facilities at the railway station , In the year 2013 only two stations central and Tambaram stations had provisions for emergency health care . Every day million of people travels by rail around the city. Unhygiene practices and lack of awareness and practices have resulted in seriously health issue for daily travels, there are usually two kinds of cases reported medical which includes fever , abdominal pain , chest pain and dehydration and the other one is Trauma which involves fall from heights , train traffic accidents and fall on the platform . Food poisoning and labour pain are also reported at times , The Indian railway have now undertaken measure to provided first aid emergency care and medical facilities , helpline number for medical aid , mobile medical vehicles by railways Ayush –traditional Indigenous medical facilities at railway hospital Perambur, a lifeline express train has been introduced for medical facilities in the train especially for rural India, hospital on wheels and E-Card for Pradhan Mantri Jan Aroghya Yojana , the government also aimed to introduce 7000 primary health Centers at railway stations .

With coming up of private trains the problem of waiting list can be avoided , private trains provide better services and opportunities for travels , punctuality , however it creates class consciousness among people who can afford to travel in private trains and those who can't . Ministry of Railways launched a scheme called Vikalp which offers passengers booked under this scheme to be given an option for getting alternate accommodation in another train if they do not get confirmed berths in the train of their choice , to help passengers using reserved accommodation railways have extended accommodation system for five major routes connecting Howrah , Chennai , Mumbai , Bangalore , and Secunderabad from New Delhi . Under this scheme waitlisted passengers can give choice to opt for Vikalp facility to get confirmed berths in alternate trains if they are getting waitlisted ticket in the train of their choice , the scheme is implemented only on mail/ express and superfast trains an not applicable in Rajdhani, Shatabdi and Duronto trains .Railways aims to achieve the twin objective of providing confirmed accommodation to waitlisted passengers and ensure optimal utilisation of available accommodation by this scheme.

Progress of India's Metro Systems - January 2017

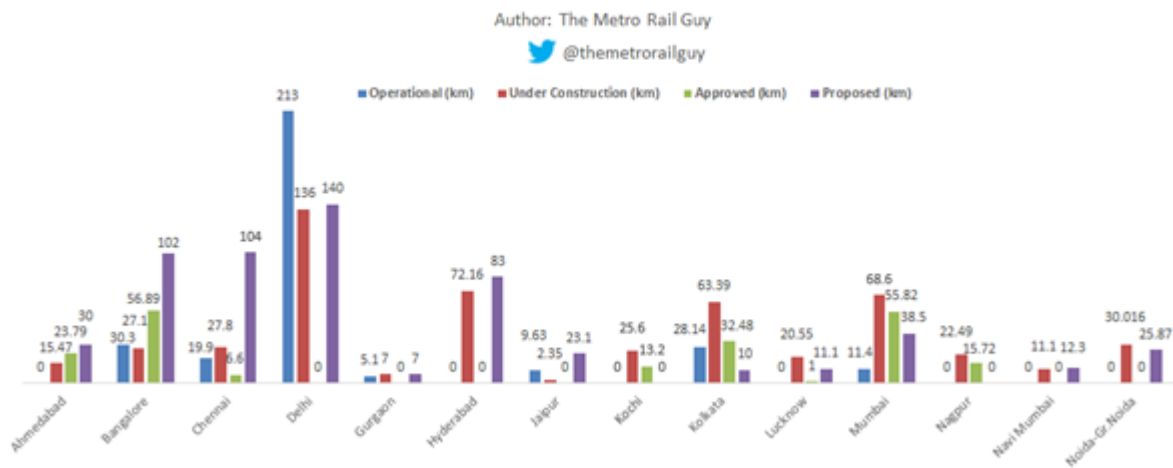


Figure 3: Progress in Metro system in India

Metro system in India will play a significant role in urban mobility and shaping urban development in the country. India is investing huge sum for the mass growth of metro. Today in 13 states metro are operating, 12 are under the planning and construction phase, Kolkata metro the oldest, carries 6 lakh people every day by metro, followed by Delhi, Metro is regarded as fastest growing mode of transport, enabling last mile, amplifying network reach with operational integration and systems planning, it has to make sure that it is able to provide the commuting requirements of new trips by forming strategies of intermodal services that extend the metro reach. India is facing the challenge of increase ridership in the metros which need to metro the design level, better traffic management system, controlling crowd at the platform, providing proper infrastructure to reduce cases of accident and suicides. adopting to socio-economical dynamics of the city. Only Kolkata provides underground metro system which has its own facilities, India is going to introduce its first underwater metro in Kolkata to connect east and west part of the city, with Delhi being the largest and the busiest metro connecting the capital with satellites states, most of the metro are running on PPP model especially Mumbai metro. Metro will serve as a fastest and easiest mode of transport in the upcoming years and especially is a huge part of smart city mission project.

Suggestions

Indian Railway contribute a significant part in Indian economical growth and sustainable transportation management. As we know Indian Railway comes under the flagship of tertiary economy which consist one of the most larger manpower contribution, highest revenue collection etc. We need to develop advance strategy to provide sustainable development in railway sector to create a cosmetic environment for empowering Indian economy fluid.

1. We need to develop railway travel insurance policy to provide maximum safety and security for the passengers and their families by providing travel insurance for long journey passengers also furnish a clearer and healthy pictorial view of Indian Railway.
2. Although we know local train compartments are divided in a safe gender based manner but irony of fate railway always witnessing an astonish incidences with passengers and railway itself so with the help of cyber security management we can set up CCTV camera along with other cyber security management.
3. We need to enrich variety of gastronomy and need to introduce our cultural heritage based culinary to provide a larger impact towards inter-state travellers and foreign travellers.
4. We need to introduce mobile health camp and medicine shop at railway station to providing health care management towards railway passengers.

5. We need to introduce policies for advocating pregnant women , cancer patients , disable persons .
6. We need to introduce special health care policy for railway lower staffs , consultant staffs etc.
7. We need to introduce railway schools to provide sustainable education and development goals towards railway employers at a very minimum cost .
8. We need to introduce special railway student scholarship and name it ‘Vidyasagar scholarship’ to provide helping hand towards enthusiastic youth of railway family .
9. We need to introduce mobile operation theatre centre and ICU and SSU unit to protect and provide medical assistance towards railway passenger .
10. We need to implement consensus for travel throughout the nation with a very minimum cost only for old people , school children , travel persons and pregnant women.
11. We need to introduce digital platform in railway coaches for passengers to provide healthcare facilities towards pregnant women , chronic disease patients , disable person etc.
12. We need to increase employment of women in security sector , gastro sector etc.
13. We need to provide railway colony management with the help of artificial intelligence and machine learning for the development of renewable energy sector to maximize sustainable growth and quality of life .
14. We need to implement renewable energy at railway station to provide maximum support and minimize energy waste .
15. We need to introduce special smart railway tracts , bridge for clear and hazard less travel transport , we need to introduce special loading compartment where we can easily provide good transportation , automobiles transportation in a very cheap price.
16. We need to introduce “Go digital be local “ in railway sector .
17. We need to introduce green railway skill where we can implement several green zone activity such as indoor tree plantation , railway museum which will entertain traveller throughout their journey by remembering particular heritage and culture of different zones .
18. We need to set up railway library both in digital and normal library and make it avail for every passengers who wish to enjoy all those things at a very minimum price .
19. We need to introduce special sanitization facilities both for the passengers and compartments to protect them from containment diseases and we need to employ huge amount of man power in sanitization sector to maintain sustainable health care .
20. We need to introduce luxuries railway suit and restaurant by public private partnership to provide maximum luxury , revenue and national income with excellent quality management .
21. To avoid sudden accidents , we need to cover up railway stations with a very conscious , safeguard technique and safety management .
22. We need to increase amount of the financial punishment for violating minimum railway law and promoting awareness to the people .
23. We need to introduce special railway labour and policy management providing them a secure future .

24. We need to promote heritage cultural programme inside the railway compartment by government certified artist for different sectors (Music , singing and dance)

25. We need to remobilise city metro unit to provide hazard less transportation , time saving transportation . We also establish medical unit in metro station also to provide health care system , construction proper gender , physically disable based washroom for proper sanitation and health care management .

26. We need to introduce ‘Railway Mela’ where travellers easily found cultural heritages crafts , special agro gastronomy and culinary art , cultural information and their impact on national economy .

27. We need to strengthen railway security force by employing unemployed youths , providing entrepreneurship opportunities by providing railway based business growth ,also promote tribal community and their cultural to boost up economy.

Conclusion

Railways play an remarkable role in integrating market and amplifying trade business in the overall development of the economy . Railways carry million of passengers per day from one place to another or from state to another and we also have freight trains to run our import and export business which helps in increasing our foreign trade . However, with the passing years we see an increase in cases of robbery , violence and security issues at the railway station and in the trains . India railways are the most important mode of transport with lack of infrastructure facilities such as no proper sanitization provisions , waiting rooms , too much crowd at the platform , lack of medical facilities and sitting arrangements for passengers , we have also seen an increase in metro services in different cities which has made travelling simpler and provided provisions to a huge population, followed by proper gender based washrooms at the metro station along with medical facilities . The Indian Railways have to provide special travel insurance scheme for daily travellers and school going children , and special facilities at the railway station and in trains for disable people , pregnant women and cancer patients . Installation CCTV camera at every railway station to provide security of all with more employment of women in the railway sector for women safety and security , specially for daily women passengers .

References

1. The Economics Times, Why transport infrastructure is most important for country's progress .
2. Traffic Infra Tech , , 2019 ,December , 27 Metro Challenges in India.
3. Niraj Sharma , Rajni Dhayni , S.Gangopadhyay , Critical issues related to metro rail projects in India .
4. D. Anbupriya , S Subadra ,2017, November problems faced by the passengers in Southern railways with special reference to erode cities .
5. National Investment Promotion and Facilitation Agency , Railways , India has the world's largest rail network in terms of passengers traffic .
6. Heritage Directorate , Indian Railway , Connecting and transforming India: Railways' impact on society.
7. Arup Chatterjee , 2018 , February ,The Purveyou\rs of Destiny : A Cultural Biography of the India Railways .
8. ITF global , Women and Youth in railways