Restructuring of China Railways: Implications for India?

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Restructuring of Ministry of Railways of China: Implications for India?

- General railway restructuring trends and issues
 Current thinking in China implications for
- Restructuring in Indian Railways:
 - Is the Chinese experience useful?
 - Is Indian restructuring necessary?
 - Options and choices
 - Getting started

India?



General railway restructuring trends and issues (1)

- Separation of "Government" from Enterprise: MOT, not MOR
- Spinoff of non-core activities
- Encouragement of competition
- Shifting the public/private balance: the public plans, provides social resources, private sector operates, sometimes under contract with public



General railway restructuring trends and issues (2)

- Clear separation of rail commercial functions accounting and/or institutional
 - US and Canada: formation of Amtrak/VIA, deregulation, restructuring of Conrail
 - EU: separation of infrastructure from services, separation of services (freight, intercity passenger, "social passenger"), required contracts for social services, competition for contracts, removal of old debts
 - Japan: separation of JR freight, creation of 6 passenger companies
 - Similar process nearly everywhere



Directions of Railway Change

Private Involvement

	Public Ownership	Partnerships: Concessions or Franchises Awarded	Private Ownership
Integral	China, Russia and India (ministries), MAV, SRT, MZ, others, (SOE's)	Argentina (13), Brazil (9), Mexico (5), Peru (3), Guatemala, Bolivia (2), Panama, Cote d'Ivoire/Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo (Brazzaville), Malawi, Madagascar, Jordan	New Zealand, Ferronor (Chile), CVRD (Brazil), A&B (Chile)
Dominant Integral, Separated Minority Operators	Amtrak, VIA, Japan Freight	Mexico City suburban, CONCOR (India)	US Class I, CN and CP, East/West/Central Japan Railways
Separation	E.U. and Chile passenger	Swedish suburban, FEPASA (Chile), LHS line (Poland)	U.K. franchises and EWS, Polish and Romanian freight

Mixtures and partnerships are possible!

Current railway thinking in China – implications for

India: MOR's Problems

- Confusion of government and enterprise roles
- Geographic organization causes
 - fragmentation of traffic and decisions (but ~60 percent of freight moves inter Administration)
 - bureaucratic decisions (revenue distribution, wagon allocation) made at the center
 - 14+ points of management
 - no competition in rail transport (>70% of freight)
- Organization for production, not market
 - no Lines Of Business, no costing information
 - "command and control" mentality
 - no price mechanism (flat tariff structure)
- Non-core distractions (e.g. factories, restaurants)
- Imposed social role (e.g. schools, hospitals)



Organization of MOR today



Broad change themes in China

- Separate MOR's enterprise functions from its Government functions – eventual creation of an MOT
- Restructure the enterprises
- Make the enterprises commercial
- Spin off all non-rail activities (manufacturing as well as social) and make them independent



Separating enterprise from Government

- Today's MOR becomes "ministry" eventually combined with other transport functions
- Ministry will plan national investment strategy, oversee infrastructure dispatching and scheduling, regulate tariffs and safety, oversee revenue divisions
- Today's Administrations will become enterprises, wholly owned by Government
- All non-rail commercial spun off from MOR (Done) and eventually some from Government as well
- All social transferred to appropriate Government
- These are agreed and committed in principle



Restructuring the enterprises and making them commercial (1)

- First step: Administrations will become enterprises, with separate profit centers for passengers (PTEs), freight (FTEs) and cost center for infrastructure
- Second step: existing 14 enterprises will likely be combined into 4 or 5 (still under study)
- Third step (alternatives under study): institutional separation of PTEs and FTEs (less likely) from infrastructure
- Fourth step: redrawing the boundaries of PTEs or FTEs to reflect the market for transport



Percent of Rail Passenger Traffic to Total Rail Traffic

P-Km/(P-km+T-Km)





Restructuring the enterprises and making them commercial (2)

- Create rail/rail competition by:
 - Trackage access rights
 - Redesign of service territory
 - Creating parallel tracks in selected markets
 - Creating source competition
 - There is debate on this
- Involve private sector by:(agreed measures)
 - Branch line ownership and operation (many)
 - Focused market operations (Guangshen) or containers
 - Wagon ownership and leasing





MOR's Restructuring: Issues and Approaches

- Separation of enterprise and government -- establish an MOT, set up railways as enterprises, initially at Administration level
- Commercial approach -- Line Of Business (LOB) organizations at all levels -- freight, passenger companies, and related infrastructure
- Rail enterprise structure -- full separation versus freight integral and passenger separation (US model) or fully integral models on 14 Administration or regrouped (5 Administration) basis
- Market structure organization -- mergers of PTE's and possibly FTE's across Administration boundaries (infrastructure likely set up at Administration level, though other structures are possible)
- Competition -- could have parallel/competitive infrastructure, but more likely will be competitive trackage rights or source competition, if any
- Private sector involvement -- non-core and local lines may be sold (Guangshen), private equipment ownership probable, specialized operators possible, generalized privatization not on the horizon (if ever)
- Transition -- holding companies at the regrouped Administration level

 Overall -- cautious, "experiment"-based approach, with many compromises and mixes (as always) – committed and unstoppable



MOR Restructuring: Analytical Tools for Evaluating Options

- TMIS -- traffic, routing operating and revenue data (operational)
- Traffic costing models -- use basic data to estimate cost and "contribution" of traffic on shipment, commodity, line segment and area basis (operational)
- PC-based network models -- for traffic flow analysis (initial version operational)
- Next challenge: integrating TMIS data with costing and network models for rapid and accurate system analysis
- PC-based financial planning models -- to permit rapid analysis of cost and revenue scenarios



Restructuring IR: is the Chinese approach relevant?

Similarities with China

- Enterprise/Government role confusion -- politics
- Regional monopoly structure, not market driven
- Imposed social functions, large non-core activities
- In other ways, India is different
 - Variations in Zonal characteristics
 - Three gauges in India, one in China
 - Suburban operations (2000 trains daily)
 - Destructive freight-to-passenger cross subsidies
 - Much greater deferred maintenance, especially wagons
- Clearly, India will need its own mix of ideas



Is Indian Railway restructuring necessary? The Mohan Report

- Financial Crisis is looming -- need to act sooner rather than later
- Lack of clear purpose and autonomy (government agency, not commercial agency)
- Lack of Customer focus -- IR has three markets (freight, intercity passengers and suburban passengers) and needs differentiated organization
- Outdated business structure : confusion of government and commercial, too much vertical integration, large inefficiencies
- Freight market share is down and falling (low quality, overpriced caused by freight cross subsidy to passengers)
- Large backlog of investments which cannot be funded under the current setup (government has no money)
- Missing: Clear Indian Objectives



Mohan Report: Principles of Restructuring

Broad changes:

- separate railway from government (create MOT and regulator), Separate policy, regulatory, management
- manage railway commercially (LOB organization)
- Focus on core, spin off non-core (no mention of privatization) businesses and social activities
- Bring in some outside skills and management

Marketing:

- Freight -- better quality of service, lower tariffs, competition
- Passenger -- rebalance passenger tariffs
- Improve efficiency (accelerated reduction in manpower (25 percent) with safety net
- Financing including private sector
- Recast accounts in structure and with Indian GAAP The World Bank

Places to start: where the World Bank could help

- Overall policy framework is good
- Accounting work to install GAAP, construct LOB accounts and define PSO payments
- Investments in IT hardware and systems needed
- Formulation of Government and Regulatory functions and agencies
- Analytical assistance in structure of new organizations (traffic flow studies to analyze need to redraw zonal boundaries, set up specialized companies, establish competition, etc)
 - Separate suburban operations
 - Assess current Zonal and operating enterprise structure
- Support in valuation and spin off of non-core (commercial and social)
 - Labor analyses and safety net programs
 - Assistance in spin off of branch lines
 - Appropriate physical investments identified during restructuring analyses



What Has the World Bank Done?

- Restructuring analyses, analytical tools and TA
 Asset rehabilitation to support new structure
 Labor transitions and retraining
- Resettlement
- Environmental cleanup
- Support changes in structure (suburban devolution, creation of management and accounting systems)
- Investment in appropriate private operators (Concor)



Zonal Railways Are Different: Freight Ton-Km as Percent of Total Traffic



The Gauge Effect: India's Three Separate Railways



IR's Suburban Activities

(Passenger-Km in 000,000)



Suburban Rail Systems: Annual Passengers Per Km of Line



Employee Productivity is Relatively Low

(000 Pkm+000 Tkm/Employee)







Ratio of Wage Costs to Revenues



IR Ratio of Average Passenger Fare to Average Freight Tariff Is Very Low: IR's Destructive Linkage With High Passenger Share





IR's Program: Initial Actions

- IR as enterprise separated from government -enterprise under commercial rules (profit motive, business Board with outside involvement and private sector personnel rules)
- Existing Zonal Railways adopt LOB organization on an accounting basis
- Separate and localize suburban operations -- accounting first, then institutional
- Spin off social, non-rail activities
- Make manufacturing activities independent and competitive, then privatize (if and when)



IR Restructuring: Medium Term Actions

- Separate out NG and localize, concession or privatize the pieces
- Finish high MG priority pieces, localize, concession or privatize the unconverted pieces
- Localize, concession or privatize BG "bits and pieces"
- Create local (accounting separation at first) companies to operate local, short haul passenger companies (4800 trains daily). Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai
- Create accounting-based LOB's at national level for freight and long-haul passengers (1200 trains daily)
- Consider more specialized companies like CONCOR (commodities, value-added services) with private involvement



IR Narrow Gauge Lines Compared With Smaller Operating Concessions (gold = line-km, blue = traffic density in TU/km)





IR Meter Gauge Lines Compared with Middle-Sized Operating Concessions

(gold = line-km, blue = traffic density in TU/km)



Three IR Markets: the Impact of LOB Focus and Private Involvement

Traffic Volume Index: 1994=100



Km of Line: MOR Administrations Compared with IR Zones



Inter-city Passengers Originating (000,000): Comparison of MOR Administrations with IR Zones



Freight Tons Originating (000,000): Comparison of MOR Administrations with IR Zones



MOR's Freight Orientation: Percent Passenger Traffic

P-km/(P-km+T-km) in %



Freight Traffic

(billions of ton-km)



Passenger Traffic (000,000 p-km)



Point to Point Rail Passenger Flows in China (1997 data excludes intra-zonal flows)



1997 Passenger Flow Density

(excludes intrazonal traffic)



Percent of Originating Tons -- 1997





1997 Freight Flow Density (Tons) (excludes intrazonal traffic)

Tons (000) 100000 50000 25000

DOT/FRA Office of Policy



Competition on Parallel Tracks: U.S. Class I Railroads



Competition on the Same Tracks: Multiple Use U.S. Freight Tracks (Excluding Amtrak)





Amtrak: The Secondary User



The Full Predominant/Secondary Model: Multiple Use U.S. Tracks Including Amtrak





Km of Line: MOR Administrations Compared with U.S. Railroads



Freight Tons Originating (000,000): Comparison of MOR Administrations with U.S. Railroads





Employees (000): Comparison of MOR Administrations with U.S. Railroads

