ECO Container Train

(Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul)

The ECO Chamber of Comemrce and Industry Secretariat

Istanbul
Tehran
Islamabad
Rail Service
Door to Door delivery
Kazakhstan
Uzbekistan
Turkmenistan
Afghanistan
Iran
Iraq
Syria
Saudi Arabia
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
Mediterranean Sea
Red Sea
Arabian Sea
Georgia
Azerbaijan
Oman
Yemen
Eritrea
Україна
Беларусь
Moskva
Samara
Chelyabinsk
Volgograd
Kharkov
Dnepropetrovsk
Donets'k
Zaporozhye
Odessa
Minsk
Kyiv
Magyarország
Hrvatska
Србија
Tajikistan

In the Name of Allah

The ECO Container Train,Need and Capacities

- **The ECO Container Train Railroad**

The efficiency , growth and output of the regional economic agreements comes after the creation of infrastructures and increase in trade facilities in the region on a gradual basis.

Since the establishment of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) the smoothening of transportation and transit among the member countries has been deemed very necessary and many efforts have been made.

In this respect , in the wake of the agreement between Iran,Pakistan and Turkey the railroad for the ECO Container Train was determined and in 2009 was tentatively inaugurated in a cermony at presence of officials of these countries and heads of railroad administrations of ECO member countries then a contract with an International consultant group was endorsed on finding the shortfalls of the railroad.

The authorities in charge of the train have stated that it was tentatively inaugurated to consider the possible problems arising from discrepancies of rail and lading systems of these countries.

As a result, the international consultants accompanied the ECO Train through the path Islamabad-Zahedan-Tehran-Istanbul in 2009 to verify the flaws which were presented to the ECO Secretariat in a comprehensive report.

- **Achievements of ECO Containre Train**

This train has made great achievements in curtailing the transit route of the goods.Initially during 15 days it passed from Pakistan to Istanbul which was decresed to 11/5 days with mesures adopted while it was necessary to spend 45 days in order to pass a cargo from Islamabad to Istanbul previously.

After consideration of the train route by the International consultants a meeting was held in the ECO Secretariat in tehran where the software and hadware flaws of the railroad route was discussed as the consultants offered their proposals and ultimetely decreasing the passage time of the train to the minimum posssible was put on the priority in planning of the 3 countries.

- **Specifications and length of the railroad**

The length of the Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul exceeds to 6500 kilometers as 2570 kilometers pass through Iran,2000 Kilometers through Turkey and about 1900 kilometers fares the Pakistan soil.

The running time of this route is half that of marine cargos and in comparisin to road route is safer and more environment friendly.

Capacity for load carriage by the train is currently 20, 40feet cars.Extensive studies carried out and operationalization of the plan has resulted in its introduction as an international corridor which was fortunately recognized by the United Nations .

- **Further Potentials & Capacities of the ECO Train**

Moreover the freight capacity of the ECO Train along the route, the simultaneous capability to carry cargos and passengers should be noted.Based on considerations made by the consultants of the project, it is predicted that in case of establishment of Zahedan-Bam route it will be possible to carry 500 thousand passengers and 2 million Tons of cargo whose final capacity whould be 1 million passengers and 8 million Tons of cargo annually.

Nevertheless the capacities of the Eco train for cargo and passenger purposes has not yet been meticulously verified.The ECO Train currently operates once a month although in case of addressing the flaws and provision of infrastuctures as well as availability of demend , the cargo transportation will be made on a weekly basis.

In this project, the role of Iran as a linking hub of Pakistan to the Indian Peninsula as well as turkey and Europe is of supreme importance.

- **Possibility of expanding to other countries**

As it was endorsed in the trilateral agreement between Iran-Turkey and Pakistan, it was accorder that other countries may join as the government of India aiming to access the Middle East and European arkets has formally requested for accession into the ECO Train railroad project.

The Pakistan Railroads Company has also received a similar request from Bangladesh where both countries have consented to use the Pakistan railroad services to transport cargo to Middle East and Europe.

Although this project has been designed to promote the economic relations among ECO member countries admittedly it is counted as a short, safe and low cost route for transportation of goods between Asia and Europe.

This rail road counts as the gate of South East Asia and Europe on the two sides playing a major role in cargo transit and economic development of the 3 countries.

- Tarriffs of Cargo Transport (base on container in kilometer)

Country	Tarriff rate of 20 feet Containers in kilometer	Tarriff rate of 40 feet Containers in kilometer
Iran	25 Cents Euros	31 Cents Euros
Turkey	25 Cents Euros	31Cents Euros
Pakistan	18 Cents Euros	27 Cents Euros

- The tarriff rates are unit basis as the reduction offered by pakistan is facultatively made base on a decision by the country
- The tarriff rates are based on container –kilometer as fullness or emptiness of the containers does not effect the rates
- The schedule and the map of the train route is enclosed

Timetable of container train on Islamabad-Tehran-Istanbul route
Total length of the route: 6566 Km

station name	arrival	departure
Kapikoy (border station)	a01:49	A02:30
Razi*	a02:45	A05:45
Tabriz	a10:15	A11:45
Maragheh	a14:15	A14:45
Miyaneh	a19:15	A20:30
Zanjan	b02:10	B03:10
Qazvin	b07:45	B08:50
Aprin	b12:30	B14:30
Mohammadieh	b17:30	B17:30
Kashan	b20:10	C02:40
Yazd	c11:30	C13:00
Bafq	c16:30	C17:30
kerman	c23:30	D00:30
Bam	d06:00	D06:30
Zahedan*	d16:00	E00:00
Mirjaveh	e03:30	E04:30
Mile 72	e04:40	E04:40
Travel time in Iran : : 98:51:00 hr		

*customs formalities

PAKISTAN		
Zahidan	02:30	16:30
Kohi-i-taftan	22:45	23:00
Ahmedwal	12:00	12:30
Spezand	23:25	23:30
Sibi	20:00	21:00
Rohri	04:00	05:00
Khanewal	16:30	17:00
Faisalabad	21:40	22:10
Wazirabad	02:25	02:30
Rawalpindi	10:00	-
Total time in Pakistan: 89:30:00 hrs		
TURKEY		
Haydarpasha	-	20:10
Eskishehir	03:37	07:44
Ankara (Marshandiz)	12:19	13:40
Kayseri	00:41	01:35
Bostankaya	07:09	07:36
Elazig	18:44	05:00
Tatvan gar	13:59	-
Ferry Passing Time	8h, 51 min.	
Van (Wharf)	-	22:50
Kapikoy	01: 49	-
Total Time in Turkey: 77:39:00 hrs		
Total duration from Istanbul to Islamabad: 265:2 hrs (11.5 days)		

Tariff rate in Iran and Turkey: 40 ft: 31 Cent Euro, 20 ft: 25 Cent Euro
Tariff rate in Pakistan: 40 ft: 27 Cent Euro, 20 ft: 18 Cent Euro

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.