



Pridhvi Sabbineni

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Summary

Operations leader in Indian Railways with a track record spanning large-scale freight and passenger operations, strategic planning, process redesign, and digital transformation. Skilled at leading cross-functional teams and managing diverse stakeholders and people under high-pressure, time-sensitive conditions. Anticipating disruptions and bottlenecks, and troubleshooting round-the-clock for seamless operations, while driving safety compliance. Led technology-enabled transformation, embedding new digital systems into daily control-office operations. Science graduate with hands-on experimental experience and an intuitive grasp of data, bringing an analytical approach to problem-solving. A textile history enthusiast and an avid bird watcher, I bring diverse viewpoints to problem solving.

Professional Experience

Chief Controller | South Central Railway | Hyderabad

Dec 2021 – Mar 2026

- Effectively led railway operations across multiple sections of Secunderabad division over 1,500 km of rail route, ensuring passenger safety and freight efficiency. Oversaw operations for originating revenue of ₹300 crore per annum in the cement and coal sector, adding 25% efficiency in wagon turnaround time.
- Streamlined coordination between the control office and field units by digitizing rolling block planning from offering and granting to monitoring.
- Drove adoption of predictive maintenance practices and safety trials, embedding them into day-to-day operations. Oversaw Ministerial visits to the field, ensuring operational readiness for new train flag-offs and inaugurations of crew lobbies and sheds.
- Managed contingency planning during cloudbursts and track washouts for freight and passenger traffic, and prevented bottlenecks during wagon loading, unloading, and derailments at industrial sidings through dynamic planning.
- Managed staff matters for controllers and chief controllers at the control office. Advocated for and was instrumental in securing women's resting rooms at the control office.
- Enhanced organizational strength in executing operations at scale, highlighting the importance of employee morale in challenging working conditions. Counseled station masters and crew controllers to drive safety compliance, and oversaw surprise inspections.

Section Controller | South Central Railway | Hyderabad

Mar 2018 – Dec 2021

- Oversaw round-the-clock daily train operations, balancing freight and passenger priorities in real time across a 500-km section. Used in-house data extensively for revenue generation and to optimize freight loading.
- Negotiated and resolved operational conflicts with adjacent railway zones, preventing disruptions.
- Reduced operational time of complicated shunting maneuvers. Streamlined multi-department communication under time-sensitive constraints, and leveraged controller's reach to update real-time train tracking for all trains in-section.
- Managed traffic planning and slot allocation for electrification of the Vikarabad–Parli (270 km) and Khanapur–Kalburgi (100 km) routes, achieving completion in one year, ahead of the expected timeline.
- Planned manpower accurately to run freight services, preventing wastage during passenger, mail, and express convoy timings — freeing up 10% of crew capacity.

Assistant Coordinator | Ignis Careers | Hyderabad

Jul 2017 – Mar 2018

- Trained teachers at partner schools to deliver participatory, activity-based life-skills programs.
- Developed curriculum for STEM subjects; liaised with other organizations to plan training strategies.
- Drafted reports on engagement and assisted in drafting grant proposals.

Project Fellow | I.I.Sc | Bangalore

Dec 2012 – Dec 2013

- Studied samples for determining crystal structure in the Central Facility Laboratory, Department of Physics.

Education

M.Sc (Physics) – University of Hyderabad | Hyderabad, 2012

Accomplishments and Awards

- Received Railway Week Award 2022, for meritorious services.
- Received Railway Week Award 2021, for outstanding services.
- Presented a paper at a national seminar on English language education, University of Hyderabad, 2018.
- Fast-tracked to Chief Controller, Dec 2021.
- Best Student Award, all-year 2003, Bhavan's Ramakrishna Vidyalaya.

License & Certifications

- Alliance Française, elementary certificate course, Jun–Oct 2007.
- Excel for Business: Advanced, Coursera, March 2026.
- LSSGB, KPMG, Aug 2026

Co/Extra-curricular

- Member, Junior Science Club — quizzes, documentary screenings, talks, 2007–2010.
- Theatre: lead actress and assistant screenplay writer for two annual university plays, 2007–2008.
- Bird watching: documented 308 species and logged 180 checklists on Cornell eBird as part of citizen science, 2016–present.
- Volunteer at Voice 4 girls, a non profit working with underprivileged girls. Apr-May 2011
- Sports: University Throwball Runners-up, 2008.