

BRIEF HISTORY OF PALAKKAD DIVISION

Palakkad Division was formed on 31st August 1956. Historically, the beginning of the Railways in the Region started with the laying of the line from Podanur to Pattambi in 1860.

The first Railway line was started between Beypore and Tirur on 12th March 1861 for a length of 30.5KM, followed by Tirur- Kuttippuramline (14.5KM) on 1st May 1861 & Pattambi – Podanur (105KM) on 14th April 1862.

The leftover portion of Kuttippuram – Pattambi Line (37 KM) was completed on 23rd September 1862. The line was extended in phases to Mangalore by the year 1907.

When Trivandrum Division was formed on 2nd October 1979, the Shoranur - Cochin Harbour Terminus section was handed over to Trivandrum Division.

With the formation of the new Salem Division on 1st November, 2007, the present Palakkad Division has a Route kilometre of 577.74 Kms.

The route kilometers in Palghat Division at these three stages was as given below:

Period	Route Km
31.08.1956 to 01.10.1979	1,247.58
02.10.1979 to 31.10.2007	1,132.98
01.11.2007 onwards	577.74

(Kerala -473.87 Km., Tamil Nadu – 64.93 Km. & Karnataka – 38.94 Km.)

Palakkad Division commences from Podanur in the East and stretches upto Mangalore on the West Coast via Shoranur on the banks of Bharathapuzha River.

The 398 km long Main Line ex.Podanur (excluding) to Mangalore Section serves the important cities of Palakkad, Kozhikode, Kannur, Kasaragod and Mangalore. The Shoranur – Nilambur branch line serves an area least served by other forms of transport. Palakkad Town-Pollachi-Kinattukadavu section was added to the Division on 1st November, 2007; at the time of formation of Salem Division.

Palakkad Division is spread across the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and the Union territory of Puducherry (Mahe).

The Division serves 8 Civil Districts. Six Districts of Kerala viz. Palakkad, Malapuram, Kozhikode, Kannur, Kasargod & Wayanad (non-rail head), one District of Tamil Nadu viz. Coimbatore and one District of Karnataka viz. Dakshin Kanara in addition to Mahe in Puducherry.

Gauge conversion of Palakkad-Town to Pollachi was commissioned in March 2015 and that of Pollachi-Kinattukadavu section was commissioned on 15.07.2017. In 2011, this Division obtained ISO 9001- 2008, certification for Disaster management and is the first in the Southern Region to obtain this prestigious certification.

MAJN-PNMB route, after doubling, 10.4 km track between JOKT-PNMB Line was taken over by division from Construction Dept in September 2017 & 8.34 km track in JOKT-KULA Line was taken over by the division from CN after doubling on 22.04.19.