

BRIEF HISTORY OF PALAKKAD DIVISION

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 30.5 KM, followed by Tirur – Kuttippuram line (14.5 KM) on 1st May 1861 & Pattambi – Podanur (105 KM) 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 Mangaluru by the year 1907. Formally, **Palakkad Division** was formed on 31st August 1956.

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 **582.7** Kms.

The route kilometres in Palakkad Division at these three stages were 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	582.7

(Kerala -473.87 Km., Tamil Nadu – 64.93 Km. & Karnataka – 43.9 Km.)

Palakkad Division begins from Podanur in the East and extends up to Mangaluru on the West Coast via Shoranur on the banks of Bharathapuzha River.

The 398 km long Main Line from Podanur (excluding) to Mangaluru Section serves the important cities of Palakkad, Kozhikode, Kannur, Kasaragod and Mangaluru. 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 during the 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 eight civil districts. Six districts of Kerala viz. Palakkad, Malapuram, Kozhikode, Kannur, Kasargod and Wayanad (non-rail head), one district of Tamil Nadu viz. Coimbatore and one district of Karnataka viz. Dakshin Kannada in addition to Mahe in Puducherry.

Gauge conversion of Palakkad Town - Pollachi section was completed and 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.

SI No.	Section	Route Kms	Electrified Route Kms	Non-Electrified Route Kms	Gauge	Type of Lines
1	SRR-MAQ	307	307	-	BG	DOUBLE
2	SRR-PTJ	91	91	-	BG	DOUBLE
3	SRR-NIL	66	0	66	BG	SINGLE
4	PGT-POY	59	5	54	BG	SINGLE
5	POY-CNV	24	24	-	BG	SINGLE
6	MAQ-MAJN-PNB	24	24	-	BG	DOUBLE * MAQ- PNMB * PADIL- KULA Single Line
7	PNMB Complex	1.87	1.87	-	BG	Single

In MAJN-PNMB route, after doubling, 10.4 km track between JOKT-PNMB Line was taken over by the division from Construction Department on 28.09.2017, 8.34 km track in JOKT-KULA Line was taken over by the division from Construction Department after doubling on 22.04.19 and 1.945 km track in MAJN-PADIL Line was taken over by the division from CN after doubling on 03.03.2020. NTVT – MAQ doubling completed on 09.02.2021. Electrification of CNV – POY Section has been completed and commissioned on 22.09.2021.