

NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY

Udaipur-Himmatnagar-Ahmedabad Gauge conversion Project

Note containing details of the project

Presently Udaipur city of Rajasthan state and Ahmedabad city of Gujarat state are connected with Meter Gauge Railway line (299.20km long). Most of the Railway lines connecting these two cities with other cities of the country have already been converted into Broad Gauge Railway lines and remaining Meter Gauge lines are also being converted into Broad Gauge under "Uni-gauge Policy of Indian Railways". Due to non-availability of Broad Gauge line between Udaipur – Ahmedabad, the passenger traffic and goods traffic coming from other places of the country involves trans-shipment at Udaipur/ Ahmedabad which is resulting into inconvenience, delay and unnecessary expenditure.

Both these cities are important from business and tourist point of view. Between these two cities, this line is connecting many important places of Rajasthan and Gujarat states, i.e. Zawar Mines, Jaisamand, Rikhabdev, Dungarpur, Shamlaji, Himmatnagar, etc. This Railway line is also serving tribal areas of Rajasthan and Gujarat states. The speed of train on existing Meter Gauge Railway line is only 45 kmph, with the result that travelling by train from Udaipur to Ahmedabad is taking longer time.

Considering the above facts, Ministry of Railways has sanctioned the work of Gauge Conversion from Meter Gauge to Broad Gauge between Udaipur and Ahmedabad. The proposed speed of trains in Broad Gauge will be 100 kmph. After completion of this work, these two important cities will be connected with Broad Gauge, this will facilitate the travelling of passengers from either side without changing train at these stations in much lesser time, with greater comfort. Also the backward (tribal) area will get connected with major places of the country. Transportation of goods from other places of the country will also become easier and faster, this will result in overall development and growth of the area.

This Railway alignment is passing through the hilly terrain and existing alignment is having 265 curves, out of which large number of curves are sharp. In Broad Gauge, to provide speed of 100 kmph the radius of curvature should not be sharper than 639 m and also the gradient of the Broad Gauge line should not be steeper than 1 in 100. At the location where diversion of forest land is proposed between Umra and Zawar stations, the gradient of existing alignment is steeper than 1 in 100 (up to 1 in 60) and large number of curves are having radius less than 639 (many curves are having radius up to 145 m). Hence diversion of Railway alignment at this location is unavoidable. Many alternatives have been analyzed and most economical, involving minimum forest land and technically feasible alignment at this diversion has been selected.

The work of Gauge Conversion between Udaipur-Himmatnagar (211 km length) stations is being executed by North Western Railway. This section is having 22 Railways stations, 658 minor bridges and 43 Major bridges. All required amenities, i.e. platforms, waiting halls, drinking water, toilets and other required amenities for passengers will be provided at all stations.



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