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MARC Insights

Insights on Rail Double Tracking in Goa

2024



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Indian Railways - Introduction

Indian Railways is a government-owned statutory body under the Ministry of Railways, operating India's national railway system.



17 Railway Zones with 68 Divisions as of 2024

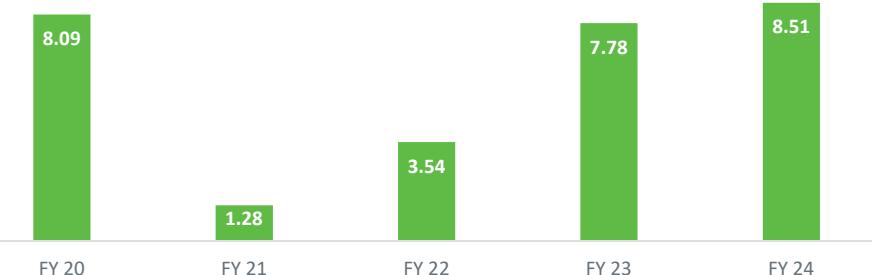


4th largest railway system in the world, after US, Russia and China respectively.



12 Lakh people employed in Indian Railway making it second largest employer of the India and 9th largest in world

Passengers travelled in Bn

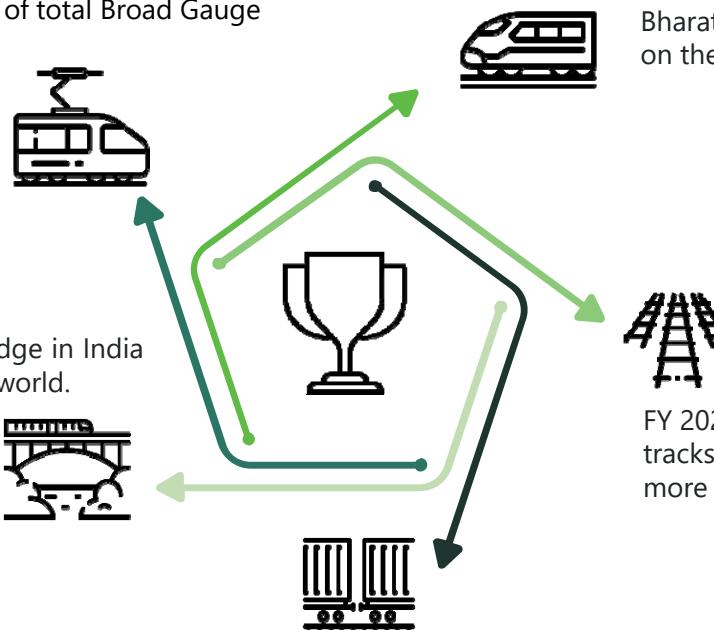


Source: [Maps of India](#), [Invest India](#)



Indian Railways: Landmark Achievements

Total Broad Gauge (BG) network of 61,508 Route Kms have been electrified upto December '2023 which is 93.83 % of total Broad Gauge route (65,556 RKMs) of Indian Railways.



As on 31st January 2024, 41 trains of the Vande Bharat semi high-speed train service are running on the Indian Rails.

At 359 meters (1,178 feet), the Chenab Rail Bridge in India is the highest single-arch railway bridge in the world.

Indian Railways recorded monthly freight loading of 135.46 MT** in Jun 2024, an improvement of 10.07% over last year freight loading for the same period.

FY 2023, Indian Railways has laid 5,100 Kms of new tracks. In this FY, average daily track comes out to be more than 14 Kms per day.

**MT = Million Tones

Source: [Invest India](#).

Key Statistics of Indian Railways (1/2)

 **1,26,366 KM**
Total track length of
Indian Railway

 **7,335**
Total Railway Stations
in India

 **8 MT**
Annual Estimated Freight
Demand in 2031

 **12 Bn**
Annual Estimated
Passengers in 2031



13,523
Passenger Trains  **9,146**
Freight Trains

Total Daily Trains FY 2023

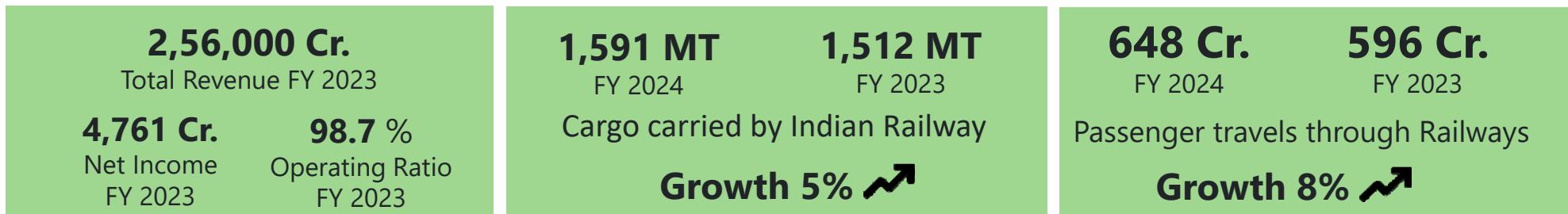
44.36 Kmph
Average Freight
Train speed  **50.60 Kmph**
Average Passenger
Train speed

Average Speed of Trains in India

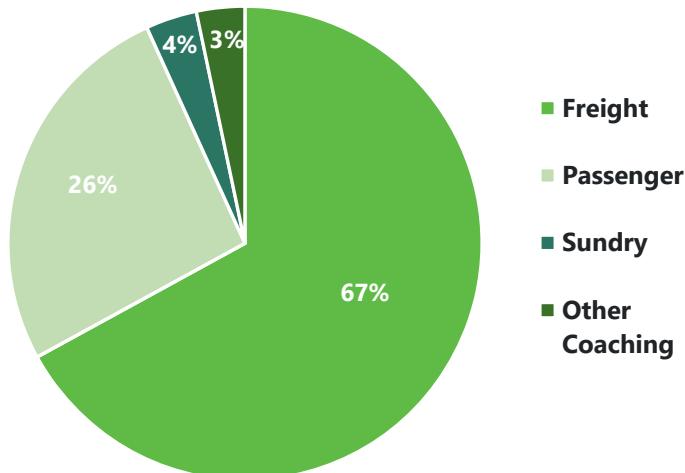
After 100% electrification the estimated saving on fuel bill will be about Rs 145 billion per annum.

Source: [Invest India](#)

Key Statistics of Indian Railways (2/2)



Indian Railway Revenue breakdown
by segment, FY23



Source: [Invest India](#)



Railway Lines in Goa

01

Konkan Railway

KRCL was established in 1990 by Government of India as a Central Public Sector Undertaking with equity participation by Government of Maharashtra, Karnataka, Kerala and Goa.

The Konkan route, which stretches 741 km, goes through Maharashtra, Goa, and Karnataka. On the Konkan rail route, 52 passenger trains and 12 freight trains operate daily.

02

South Western Railway

formed by merging the reorganized Hubli division from South Central Railway with the Bangalore and Mysore divisions from Southern Railway

The Railway consists of three divisions: Hubli, Bangalore, and Mysore, primarily serving Karnataka state, with 84% of its network located there. The remaining 16% of its route extends into Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, and Goa.



Source: [konkan Railway, South Western Railway](#)

Double Tracking of Railway in Goa

1. South Western Railway



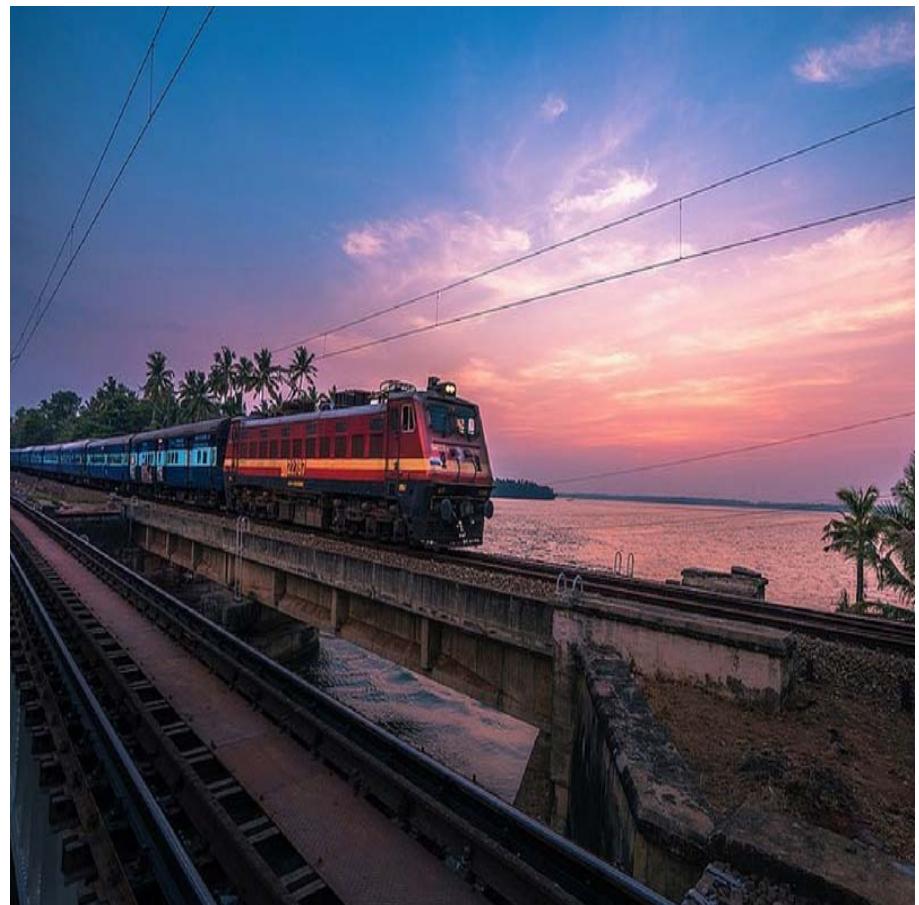
- ❑ The NBWL (National Board for Wildlife) clearance came in June 2020. Of the 342 km of proposed track-doubling, 90 km are in Goa. Of these 90 km, 29 km pass through a protected wildlife area.
- ❑ With 50% of the track doubling on this stretch already done and recent permissions granted for tree cutting, the target is set to finish the project by June 2025.
- ❑ The project is providing temporary work opportunities for 1.46 lakh people.

8,071 Cr.
Turnover of SWR
FY 2022

Rs. 3,692.6 CR
Total Cost of Project Vasco to
Hospet

3,286 Km
Total Track length

342 Km
Proposed Double tracking



Source :- [South Western Railway](#), [Image](#), [The Goan](#).

Double Tracking of Railway in Goa

2. Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd.



- For Konkan Railway, doubling the tracks costs between ₹15 to ₹20 crore on flat stretches, but the cost increases to ₹80 to ₹100 crore in hilly terrain.
- Konkan Railway is planning to double-track approximately 350 km between Kankavali-Sawantwadi and Madgaon-Thokur.
- Currently, about 70 trains operate on this route, and double-tracking could increase this number to 120.

Names of shareholders	% of Shareholding	5,152.24 Cr. Turnover FY 2022	5,425 Total Employees Of KRCL FY 2022
Ministry of Railways	51 %		
Government of Maharashtra	22 %	741 Km Total Track Length of Konkan Railway	59 Total stations on Konkan Railway
Government of Goa	6 %		
Government of Karnataka	15 %	100 % Rail Electrification of KRCL	₹1,287 Cr. Total Cost of Electrification
Government of Kerala	6 %		



Source :- Deccan Herald, ET Infra.

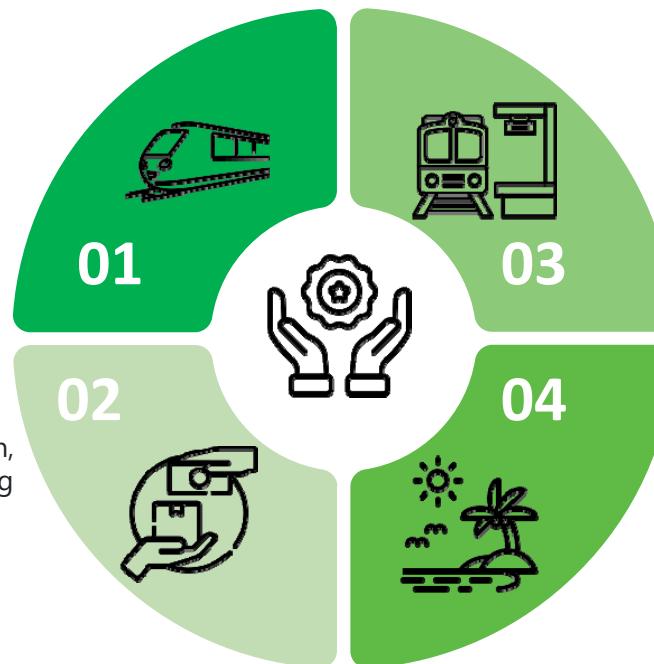
Benefits of Double tracking Railway to Goa

Increased Passenger Train Services

Double tracking enables a higher frequency of passenger trains, offering more travel options for residents and commuters

Boost to Trade and Commerce

Facilitating smoother and more reliable transportation, double tracking supports trade and commerce among adjoining states, benefiting local businesses and the regional economy.



Enhanced Intraprivate Connectivity

Improved rail infrastructure ensures better connectivity within the state, making travel between different regions of Goa more efficient and convenient.

Increased Tourist Inflow

Goa becomes a more attractive destination for tourists, leading to a rise in visitor numbers and a boost to the local tourism industry as almost 40% tourist visits via train.

Source - [Times of India](#)

Key Railway Infrastructure Projects in Goa

The Roll On Roll Off (RORO) service by KRCL

This service allows trucks to be transported on customized railway wagons. This service currently operates between Kolad and Verna, Verna and Suratkhal, and Kolad and Suratkhal. According to RTI data, 450,467 trucks were transported between Kolad and Suratkhal, averaging 93 trucks per day (based on 2018-19 traffic).



Multi-Modal Logistics Park at Balli Station Madgaon.

The project will provide advanced facilities for economic transport, reducing transit time between JNPT Port (Mumbai) and Goa from 30-40 hours by road to 16-18 hours by rail. The park is expected to handle 30 container trains per month, boosting container traffic to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (ICD Balli).



Verna Warehouse, Goa

A 945 sq. m. warehouse was built at Verna with an investment of ₹1.05 crore. Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) and Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) are developing goods sheds and rail-side warehousing at Indapur, Verna, Udupi, and Thokur as part of Phase I along the Konkan Railway route.



Source:- [PIB](#), [Konkan Railway](#), [Times of India](#)

Official Statements from Government Representatives

The double tracking aims to boost domestic tourism in Goa and improve connectivity to Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu. Additionally, it enhances defense logistics, allowing swift movement of troops and materials in emergencies due to Goa's strategic western coast location.

SWR Deputy General Manager E Vijaya



The double-tracking project is expected to increase the daily passenger count on the route from the current 6,000-7,000 to an estimated 54,000-65,000 passengers.

Chief minister of Goa



In the future, the double track will allow trains to run faster, reducing the prices of goods like cement in Goa by 30%. The track doubling project will benefit all Goans.

Dhavlikar, Minister, Goa



Source:- [Oneindia.com](#), [Indianexpress.com](#), [The Goan](#)

Conclusion



The vision of a "vibrant Goa" with a thriving economy can only be achieved by establishing a rail network that effectively meets the future transportation needs.



Railways offer a cost-effective alternative to road transport, reducing logistics costs for businesses. This is particularly beneficial for industries such as mining, agriculture, and manufacturing, which rely on bulk transportation



Double tracking will alleviate congestion on the railway lines, allowing for smoother and more efficient train operations



The Indian Railways' double-tracking project in Goa is also critical from a "defense strategic" perspective, as it will help meet the logistical needs of the Navy.

Source – [Times of India](#), [The Goan](#)



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