WESTERN RAILWAY

INDORE- DAHOD NEW BG LINE PROJECT

Note containing details of the project

The then Holker Darbar have requested the then BB & CI Railway for undertaking the survey of Railway line from Dahod to Indore in 1912. However, the proposal was dropped due to the outbreak of First World War. After the first world war, the Govt. of India appointed Mr. Maflin to survey the area between Godhra-Ratlam and Ujjain-Bhopal on the north; and Surat-Nandurbar on the south. In his report, the idea of 3rd railway trunk line between Gwalior or Jhansi through Guna and Indore to Nandurbar has been recommended. However, this project was rejected due to insufficient traffic and being uneconomical.

Later preliminary surveys were carried out in 1954, 1985 but not sanctioned again and again. However due to increase in traffic on Godhra- Mathura section, the necessity was felt to develop an alternate route linking Godhra to Mathura via. Mhow- Indore- Dewas- Maksi of Western Railway and further Maksi-Guna- Shivpuri- Gawalier- Agra- Mathura of Central Railway. However Dewas- Maksi section was sanctioned in 1992 and completed in 2002. Finally Railway board sanctioned Indore to Dahod new BG line project via Pithampur in 2007-08.

Project was sanctioned on socio— economic considerations. It will provide an alternative route between Indore - Vadodara & will develop the tribal area, decongest the traffic on Rajdhani Route between Nagda - Dahod. Project serves one district of Gujarat i.e. Dahod and three districts of Madhya Pradesh i.e. Jhabua, Dhar and Indore.

Apart from this, a direct rail link bringing Pithampur on the rail network would provide an impetus to the industrial activity in the area and would attract port oriented traffic for the railway especially on the back drop of this area being declared as a special Economic Zone (Indore) by Ministry of Commerce. Presently, in the absence of direct rail link, no traffic is moving over the railways from Pithampur.

Industrial estates at Pithampur near Indore are developing very fast and traffic generated from these industries are being sent to Mumbai and also meant for export by road at present. After construction of Indore to Dahod Broad Gauge New line Project, the traffic from the industries in and around Indore-Pithampur etc. can be conveniently move by rail. This will connect Pithampur special economic zone to ports as well as Indore & Southern States via Mhow. The broad gauge connectivity will facilitate the movement of military Personnel and equipment to and from Mhow.

This project is containing track length of 204.76 kms passing through Indor, Dhar, Jhabua districts of Madhya Pradesh and Dahod district of Gujrat. This project is on hot list of PMO and Ministry of Railway.

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