

BRIEF HISTORY OF SAMBALPUR DIVISION

Sambalpur Division is named after the town of Sambalpur which derives its name from the presiding Goddess Samalai. The idol of Maa Samalai was found by Balaram Dev, the first Chauhan Raja of Sambalpur, beneath a simul (silk cotton) tree in the middle of 16th Century. The town of Sambalpur is much older. The Greek geographer Ptolemy (2nd Century AD) in his book "Geographike" refers to a town "SAMBALKA" situated on the bank of the "MANADA" identified today with modern Sambalpur on the banks of the river Mahanadi.

Sambalpur division was formed in April 1990 by taking sections partly from Chakradharpur division and partly from Waltair division. On 15.08.1998, 154 Kilometres of the newly constructed Sambalpur - Talcher line was added to this division. Lanjigarh-Bhawanipatna section with route km of 30.25 has been added in August 2012 & Bawanipatna-Junagarh Road section with route km of 24.05 has been added in March 2014. New line of 14.58 Kilometre between Bolangir-Bichhupalli of Bolangir-Kurdha section was flagged off by Prime Minister on 15.01.2019. In January '21 13.60 km (Km: 140.40 to 154.0) in KPJG-ANGL block section was handed over to KUR division. Total route Km of Sambalpur division is 739.465 Km. Total Electrification of the division has been completed.

This Division serves 9 Districts of Western and Southern Odisha (Jharsuguda, Sambalpur, Bargarh, Balangir, Sonapur, kalahandi, Rayagada, Nuapara & Angul) and 2 districts of Chhattisgarh (Raipur & Mahasamund).

The 6 distinct lines of Sambalpur division :

- Jharsuguda-Sambalpur built in 1893.
- Sambalpur-Titlagarh built in 1963.
- Raipur-Vizianagaram built in 1931.
- Sambalpur-Angul built in 1998.
- Lanjigarh-Junagarh Road built in 2014.
- Balangir-Bichhupali block section commissioned in 2019 of BLGR-KUR Jn. have their own distinct architecture and history.

Doubling Commissioned Section :

Jharsuguda-Sambalpur Section :

- SBP-RGL – (Commissioned in April' 2011)
- RGL-JSG – (Commissioned in May' 2015)

Sambalpur-Titlagarh Section:

- SBP-HKG – (Opened in February-2021)
- HKG-GBQ – (Commissioned in April-2017)
- GBQ-ATS-DOBH – (Commissioned in January-2018)
- BRPL-DJX – (Commissioned in May-2018)
- DJX-KHPL – (Commissioned in February-2019)

- KHPL-LSX – (Commissioned in September-2019)
- LSX-BLGR – (Commissioned in October-2020)
- BLGR-DFR – (Commissioned in Decenber-2018)
- DFR-SFC-BUDM – (Commissioned in February-2020)
- DOBH-BRGA-BRPL – (Work in progress)
- BUDM-SFK-TIG – (Work in progress)

Raipur-Titlagarh Section :

- TIG-RNBT-KBJ – (Commissioned in May-2017)
- KBJ-TRKR – (Commissioned in February-2021)
- TRKR-HSK-LKNA – (Commissioned in November-2020)
- LKNA-NPD-KRAR – (Commissioned in July-2019)
- KRAR-KMK – (Commissioned in March-2020)
- KMK-BGBR-BMKJ-ARN – (Commissioned in October-2018)
- ARN-MSMD-BLSN – (Commissioned in February-2018)
- BLSN-ANMD-LAE(Ex) – (Work in progress)

Sambalpur-Angul Section :

- KPJG(Ex)-JRPD – (Commissioned in July-2020)
- JRPD-BONA – (Commissioned in Decenber-2017)
- BONA-HNPA – (Commissioned in January-2016)
- HNPA-SRGP - (Commissioned in March-2017)
- SRGP-BAMR - (Commissioned in March-2018)
- BAMR-RAIR – (Commissioned in August-2018)
- RAIR-CHAR-JUJA-HATB-MANE-SBPY-SBP – (Work in progress)

3rd Line Commissioned Section :

Titlagarh-Singapur Road (Ex) Section :

- KSNB-KDLR-RPRD – (Commissioned in March-2020)
- TIG-KSNB – (Work in progress)
- RPRD-NRLR-LJR-AMB-DKLU-MNGD-BMCK-THV-SPRD – (Work in progress)