

## The Network

Indian Railways (IR) is one of the world's largest rail network with 66,030 route kilometres of route lengths. The size of the network - gauge-wise and zone-wise as on 31 March, 2015 is as follows:

Gauge	Route Kms.	Running Track Kms.	Total Track Kms.
Broad Gauge (1676 mm)	58,825	83,266	1,09,535
Metre Gauge (1000 mm)	4,908	5,240	5,929
Narrow Gauge (762 mm and 610 mm)	2,297	2,297	2,532
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,030</b>	<b>90,803</b>	<b>1,17,996</b>

Zones /Headquarters	Route Kms.	Running Track Kms.	Total Track Kms.
Central, Mumbai	4,042	6,195	8,444
Eastern, Kolkata	2,666	4,705	7,376
East Central, Hajipur	3,791	5,495	8,048
East Coast, Bhubaneshwar	2,679	3,872	5,294
Northern, New Delhi	7,221	9,365	12,771
North Central, Allahabad	3,216	4,820	5,935
North Eastern, Gorakhpur	3,869	4,744	5,169
Northeast Frontier, Maligaon, (Guwahati)	3,996	4,386	5,972
North Western, Jaipur	5,554	6,944	7,354
Southern, Chennai	5,079	6,950	8,533
South Central, Secunderabad	5,922	8,085	9,971
South Eastern, Kolkata	2,722	5,034	6,789
South East Central, Bilaspur	2,489	3,613	4,999
South Western, Hubli	3,322	3,849	4,816
Western, Mumbai	6,440	7,919	10,225
West Central, Jabalpur	2,995	4,769	6,205
Metro Railway, Kolkata	27	58	95
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,030</b>	<b>90,803</b>	<b>1,17,996</b>

**The table below shows the changing size of IR's electrified rail network over the years.**

Year	Route Kms.		Running Track Kms.		Total Track Kms.#	
	Electrified	Total	Electrified	Total	Electrified	Total
1950-51	388	53,596	937	59,315	1,253	77,609
1960-61	748	56,247	1,752	63,602	2,259	83,706
1970-71	3,706	59,790	7,447	71,669	9,586	98,546
1980-81	5,345	61,240	10,474	75,860	13,448	1,04,480
1990-91	9,968	62,367	18,954	78,607	25,305	1,08,858
2000-01	14,856	63,028	27,937	81,865	36,950	1,08,706
2010-11	19,607	64,460	36,007	87,114	49,489	1,13,993
2012-13	20,884	65,436	38,524	89,236	52,609	1,16,350
2013-14	21,614	65,808	39,661	89,919	53,509	1,16,765
<b>2014-15</b>	<b>22,224</b>	<b>66,030</b>	<b>41,038</b>	<b>90,803</b>	<b>55,266</b>	<b>1,17,996</b>

# Includes track in yards, sidings, crossings at stations, etc.

### **State-wise Route Kms/ Running Track Kms. /Total Track Kms.:**

Following table shows Route Kms., Running Track Kms. & Total Track Kms. of railway lines across various States/Union Territories at the end of 2014-15.

State/Union Territory	Route Kms.	Running Track Kms.	Total Track Kms.
Andhra Pradesh	3,657	5,501	7,033
Arunachal Pradesh	12	12	23
Assam	2,471	2,583	3,540
Bihar	3,652	5,035	6,732
Chhatisgarh	1,196	1,860	2,646
Delhi	183	339	699
Goa	69	69	98
Gujarat	5,259	6,043	7,701
Haryana	1,630	2,368	3,001
Himachal Pradesh	296	301	358
Jammu & Kashmir	298	361	485
Jharkhand	2,294	3,733	5,816
Karnataka	3,281	3,984	5,028
Kerala	1,050	1,684	2,009
Madhya Pradesh	4,979	7,390	9,208
Maharashtra	5,725	8,113	10,988
Manipur	1	1	3
Meghalaya	9	9	13

<b>State/Union Territory</b>	<b>Route Kms.</b>	<b>Running Track Kms.</b>	<b>Total Track Kms.</b>
Mizoram	2	1	5
Nagaland	13	13	24
Odisha	2,529	3,784	4,941
Punjab	2,269	2,669	3,510
Rajasthan	5,898	7,556	8,499
Tamil Nadu	4,027	5,148	6,369
Telangana	1,676	2,355	2,969
Tripura	151	151	193
Uttarakhand	345	406	518
Uttar Pradesh	8,950	12,174	15,029
West Bengal	4,070	7,122	10,466
<b>Union Territory</b>			
Chandigarh	16	16	66
Pondicherry	22	22	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>66,030</b>	<b>90,803</b>	<b>1,17,996</b>

Note: The remaining States/Union Territories have no railway line.

With its more than 150 year old history, IR is a state-owned public utility of the Government of India under the Ministry of Railways.

As a national common carrier transporting passenger and goods over its vast network, Indian Railways has always played a key role in India's social and economic development. It is a cheap and affordable means of transportation for millions of passengers. As a carrier of bulk freight viz. ores and minerals, iron and steel, cement, mineral oils, food grains and fertilizers, containerized cargo etc., the importance of Indian Railways for agriculture, industry and the common man is well recognized. Indian Railways carried 22.53 million passengers and 3.02 million tonnes of freight each day during 2014-15.

IR, functioning as Ministry of Railways, is headed by the Minister for Railways. The apex body entrusted with the management of this mega enterprise is led by the Chairman, Railway Board (CRB). Members of the Railway Board include Financial Commissioner, Member Traffic, Member Engineering, Member Mechanical, Member Electrical and Member Staff who represent their respective functional domains. For administrative purposes, IR is divided into 17 Zones, each headed by a General Manager. Zonal Railways are further divided into smaller operating units called Divisions. There are 68 Operating Divisions in IR at present, each under a Divisional Railway Manager. In addition, there are a number of Production Units, Training Establishments, Public Sector Enterprises and other Offices working under the control of Railway Board.