

METTUPALAYAM

The Railway line from Mettupalayam at an elevation of 330 metres above MSL to Udhamandalam at 2200 metres above MSL is 46 kms long. The average gradient is 1 in 24.5, whereas, the steepest gradient is 1 in 12.28, which incidentally, is the steepest gradient in Asia. The sharpest curve on this section is 17.5 degrees. There are 208 curves in this section of which 81 are sharper than 16 degrees and 99 are sharper than 10 degrees. There are 250 bridges, 32 of them being major bridges. There are 10 tunnels in this section, most of which are unlined as they have been cut through solid rocks.

PIT LINE

Two BG pit lines are available. One is 6 coaches' length and the second 7 coaches' length. The Mettupalayam portion of No. 12671/12672 Nilgiri express (13 coaches) is maintained on these pits on turn round pattern. The passenger rake of 56144/56145 MTP-CBE pass with 10 coaches is primarily maintained at MTP.

The M.G. pit line can hold 3 N.M. Rly coaches. One rake of 56136/56137 with 4 N.M. Rly coaches per day is maintained on this pit.

POH OF N.M.RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK

There are 29 MG coaches and 9 wagons in NMR section. The depot undertakes IOH of N.M. Railway rolling stock's. A small covered shed with accommodation for four coaches is available for carrying out the schedules of coaches and wagons. POH of NM Railway wagons are being undertaken at MTP itself.



LOCO ACTIVITIES

The 'X' Class locomotives that arrive here from the hills are berthed in a covered shed available for the purpose. Dropping fire, lighting-up, fuelling and watering of the locomotives is managed by the loco staff under the control of the SSE / C& W. Adequate stock of coal is kept under the custody of the SSE/C&W. A Loco inspector/ONR is also available to oversee the loco activities.

To improve the minimum maintenance facilities for steam locos at MTP, one set of 2 ton capacity pillar mounted swiveling hand operated Hoist arrangement for lifting pinion and cog wheel assembly has been erected with special pit arrangements and commissioned on 24.06.10.

FUEL

Coal for the steam locos is supplied at Mettupalayam by lorry. Furnace oil storage of 40 KL capacity is available at MTP itself for supplying fuel to the oil fired steam locos.