

Pre-Tender Consultation

Engagement of Private Sector for Development, Operation and Maintenance of Mountain Railways of India

RLDA has been entrusted with four (04) Mountain Railway Projects in India viz Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR), Nilgiri Railways (NMR), Kalka-Shimla Railway and Neral-Matheran Railway by the Ministry of Railways.

These Mountain Railways were constructed in late 19th - early 20th century and provide connectivity to popular tourist destinations including Shimla, Darjeeling, Ooty & Matheran.

Each of these railway systems has its own distinct heritage and technological features. For instance, the Kalka Shimla Railway has 103 tunnels and more than 800 bridges, Darjeeling Himalayan Railway operates on zig-zag reverses & loops and Nilgiri Mountain Railway operates on rack & pinion track for countering railway with steep gradients.

All these railway systems connect existing popular tourist destinations and offer unique heritage railway experience to passengers. Significant ridership has been observed at these railway systems owing to the heritage status, unique railway experience & connectivity to popular tourist destinations.

To enhance the revenue potential of these project(s), operate and maintain these project(s), while conserving their heritage (3 of these railways are UNESCO world heritage sites), RLDA is looking to engage competent and reputed private sector player(s) under an appropriate model. Brief details for each of the Mountain Railway project(s) is given below:

Kalka-Shimla Railway (KSR):

Kalka Shimla Railway (KSR) line originates at Kalka Station (connected by Indian Railway's broad gauge network at Kalka Station) and has a track length of ~96 kms till Shimla. KSR operates on single line narrow gauge (2 ft 6 inch) and comprises of 18 stations. Major stations along the railway network include Kalka, Barog, Solan and Shimla.

Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR):

Darjeeling Himalayan Railway (DHR) line originates at New Jalpaiguri Station (connected by Indian Railway's broad gauge network at New Jalpaiguri & Siliguri Junction) and has a track length of ~88 kms from New Jalpaiguri to Darjeeling. DHR operates on single line narrow gauge (2 ft) and comprises of 13 stations. Major stations of the network include New Jalpaiguri, Siliguri Junction, Kurseong and Darjeeling.

Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR):

Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR) line originates at Mettupalayam Station (connected by Indian Railway broad gauge network at Mettupalayam) and has a track length of ~46 kms from Mettupalayam to Ooty. NMR operates on single line metre gauge and comprises of 13 stations. Major stations of the network include Mettupalayam, Coonoor and Ooty.

Matheran Light Railway (MLR):

Matheran Light Railway (MLR) line originates at Neral Junction (connected by Indian Railway broad gauge network at Neral Junction) and has a track length of ~20 kms from Neral to Matheran. MLR

operates on single line narrow gauge (2 ft) and comprises of 5 stations. Major stations of the network include Neral & Matheran.

Please refer Information Memorandum on Mountain Railway Projects for further details.

Pre-tender Consultations for Mountain Railways of India:

RLDA invites interested players to register for pre-tender consultations on these project(s). The consultations with stakeholders are to provide an overview of the project/ background as well as discuss the tentative project structure being envisaged, seek inputs with respect to the project structure so as to leverage the unique potential of the Mountain Railway(s) while leveraging private player's capabilities to enhance revenues, operate and maintain these project(s).

- *Date: 22 April 2022*
- *Time: 11:00 AM – 01:00 PM*
- *Venue: Conference Room, Rail Land Development Authority, Unit No.702-B, 7th Floor, Konnectus Tower-2, DMRC Building, Ajmeri Gate, Delhi-110002*

While physical participation is encouraged, interested participants can also join the consultation through video conferencing. The URL/link for video conferencing will be shared at a later stage.

Interested firms may confirm their representative's participation for the Pre-tender Consultations by sharing the following details on below mentioned email address:

Participant's details requested:

- *Name of Company*
- *Nature of business of Company*
- *Name of Official to represent the Company*
- *Designation of the Official*
- *Email id*
- *Contact Number*

Email IDs for registration:

- Pratyus Sinha, JGM-Tender, RLDA: jgmtender@gmail.com
- Transaction Advisor: ta.mountainrail@in.ey.com