

NARROW GAUGE RAIL MUSEUM, MOTIBAGH

The Narrow Gauge Rail Museum located on Nagpur – Jabalpur NH no.7 on Kamptee Road near Kadbi Square, Motibagh was inaugurated on 14th December 2002 by Shri Nitish Kumar, then Hon'ble Minister of Railways on the eve of 150th Anniversary of Indian Railways. The museum is set up in old Broad Gauge Steam Loco shed which is spread over an area of 5.6 acres.

Nagpur Division of South East Central Railway once had the unique distinction of maintaining the largest Narrow Gauge Railway system in Indian Railways with a network of more than 1005 km. Over the years due to Gauge conversion, the narrow gauge has been converted into Broad Gauge. The last remaining network of about 110 kms. in Itwari – Nagbhir section was closed for gauge conversion on 25th November 2019. Thus the entire Narrow Gauge system of Nagpur Division has now become a part of history.

Hence, as a foresight, to preserve and showcase the history of narrow gauge railway system, this museum was set up.

The Main Museum building has various thematic galleries based on different departments of Railways like Locomotives, Coaches & wagons, Signal & Telecom etc. Information about these departments is displayed by means of photographs, models, parts & components etc.

There is a beautiful 1916 Bagnall make steam locomotive, a 1899 built wooden bodied Royal Carriage used by the Royalties of Paralakhemundi and a 1964 built diesel Locomotive of ZDM2RA class. The 'Heritage' gallery displays beautiful german-silver cutlery items used in Royal carriage, a coal fired oven, a unique foldable wash basin, a collection of Postage stamps on Indian and foreign railways, old technical bulletins, Manuals, Reports & correspondence letters, various aspects and unique features of narrow gauge system are beautifully depicted by means of paintings.

An Auditorium having seating capacity of about 50 persons shows short films about Narrow Gauge railway system and public awareness related interesting information.

The covered yard displays a Horse Van, First Class coach, a Postal van, Rail Bus and different types of goods carrying wagons. A CC class steam Locomotive 1907 built by North British Locomotive Co. Ltd. and 1956 Italian make Steam Crane are a centre of attraction. The most unique and probably one of its kind in the country an air conditioned Revolving Coaches having seating capacity of 24 persons converted by artistically refurbishing two coaches mounted on a motorized turn table which revolves at the rate of one revolution per 15 minutes.

Apart from these there is a large play area with different types of play items like swings, slides, etc. for the children in the beautifully landscaped garden. The star attraction of the young and the old as well is a Toy Train with three coaches which takes them round the periphery of the museum area.

Thus, this Museum provides a nice combination of education and entertainment to all the visitors.

MAIN ENTRANCE GATE

1. Front view of main entrance gate.



2. TICKET ISSUING COUNTER

A Goods Guard Brake Van has been converted to Ticket Issuing Counter to the visitors of the museum. This brake van was built in 1981 at Motibagh workshop, Nagpur.



3. PLAY ITEMS FOR CHILDREN

There are lots of play items in the garden for children of different age groups. Items such as merry-go-round, slides, swings, see-saw etc. keep the children entertained and busy.



4. ROLLING STOCK IN YARD

Different types of goods carrying wagon like coal wagon, petrol wagon, flat wagon, covered wagon are displayed in a covered shed in the yard. Along with these wagons, passenger carrying coaches such as; a First class coach, postal van coach and rail bus are also displayed.



NARMADA BRIDGE MODEL

This is a scaled down replica model of bridge on Narmada river between Guwarighat and Burgi stations in Jabalpur – Nainpur section.



MUSEUM BUILDING

Once a broad gauge steam loco shed, it has been converted into the museum building.





VIEW FROM MUSEUM BUILDING ENTRANCE

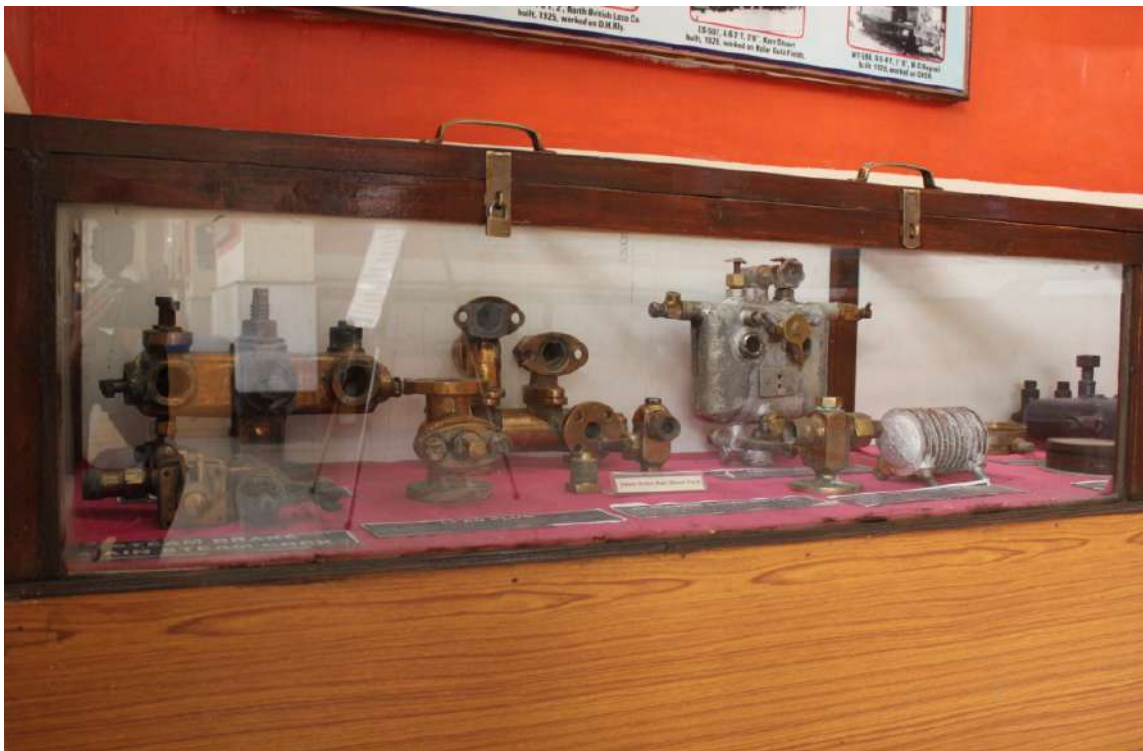
A beautiful small steam locomotive, 5 Bagnall catches attention of the visitors at entry gate. On the left side of the building there are six thematic galleries of different departments of railways. On the right hand side there is an auditorium, heritage gallery and the Managers office.





LOCOMOTIVE GALLERY

The locomotive gallery has photographs different types of steam locomotives, scale models, brass components of steam locomotives, different types of gauges, tools and some parts of diesel locomotives.





Models of Rolling Stock





SIGNAL & TELECOM GALLERY

The Signalling department has equipment such as Semaphore signal parts like levers and cables, old signalling lamps and paintings showing evolution of signals. The Telecom departments has different types of telephone instruments, old Morse equipment, Public address system for station announcement & Trunk call booking instruments etc.





ELECTRICAL GALLERY

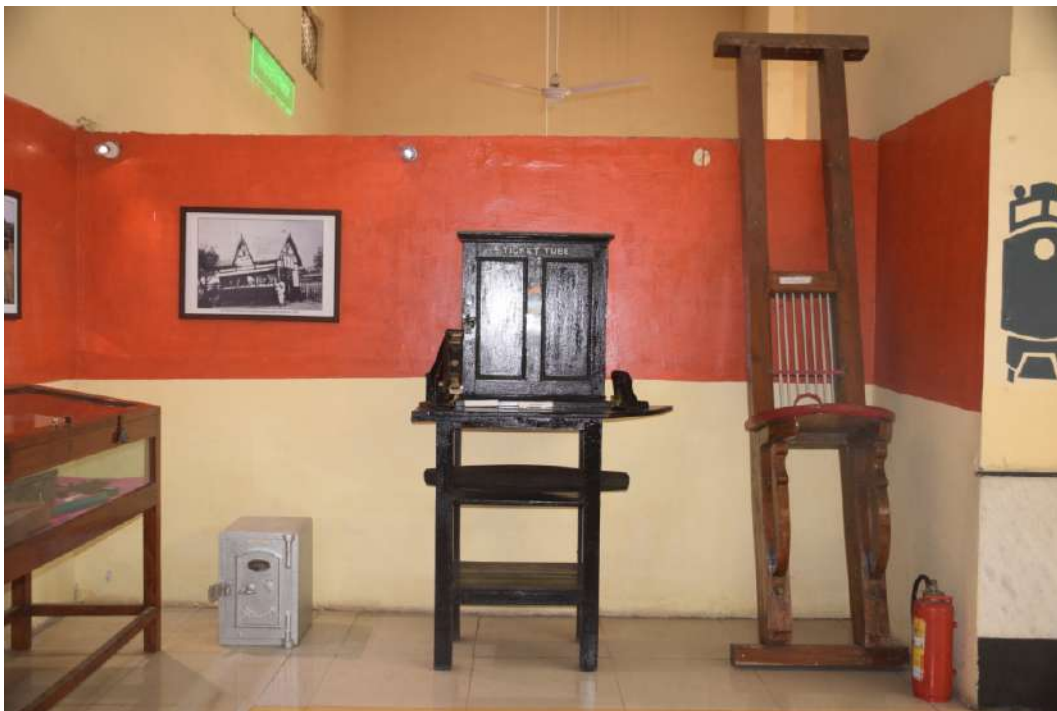
The Electrical Gallery has different types of lights used for illumination inside the coaches, different types of fans, battery, dynamo, alternator etc. A petrol run generator and special lights used at accident site are also displayed.

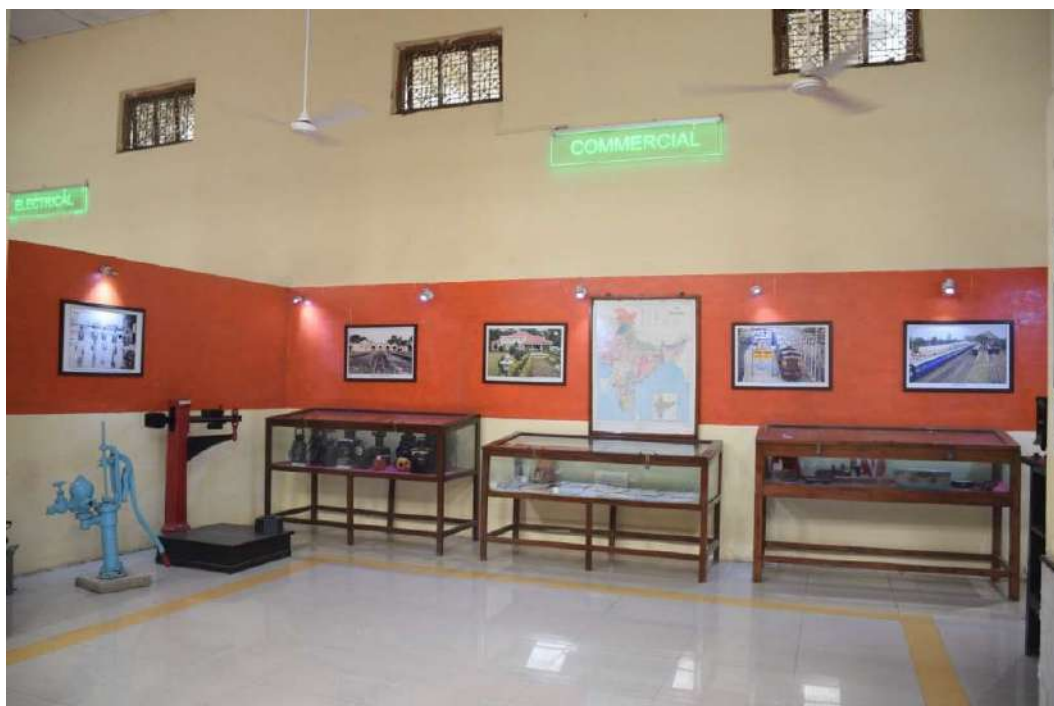




COMMERCIAL & OPERATING GALLERY

The Commercial and Operating gallery has old 1897 built weighing machine for parcel, printed card tickets punching machine and cash box. Old working time tables, Old water hand pump at station, rare photographs of pre-independence era are also displayed.





TOY TRAIN

A Toy Train named 'Orange City Express' is the star attraction and very popular among the visitors. It runs on a 500 meters long track along the periphery of the museum.



FOUNTAIN

A beautiful view of fountain with garden in background.



677 CC CLASS STEAM LOCO

This CC class steam locomotive no. 677 was built in 1907 by M/s North British Loco Company, Glasgow, UK. It was used for hauling both passenger and goods trains.



REVOLVING COACH

One Observation Car no. 10 WCE and one Dining Car no. GC 28, which once used to be a part of Inspection Special Train, were refurbished and converted into Revolving coaches. They have capacity to seat 24 persons at a time. These coaches are placed on a motorised Turn Table which takes 15 minutes to complete one rotation.



