

# PROFILE

Kota City, once known as industrial hub of Rajasthan, is now famously known as education hub of India. Students from all over the country come to Kota every year for taking coaching classes for Engineering, Medical and other professional courses.

During medieval period, Kota was ruled by Bhil Sardar “Kotya” and Akelgarh used to be the capital of Kota. In 12th century AD, Rao Deva, a Chauhan Rajput chieftain belonging to the Hada clan conquered the territory and founded Bundi. The Hada kings of Bundi established the Hada kingdom after defeating the Kotyas and named this territory as Hadoti. But, as a kind gesture, the Hada kings named this city as Kota after the “Kotya” kings. Later, in the early 17th century, during the reign of the Mughal Emperor Jahangir, Rao Ratan Singh, the ruler of Bundi, gave the smaller principality of Kota to his son, Madho Singh.

The Railway line from Mumbai to Kota was built via Godhra, Ratlam, Nagda under the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway (BB&CI) Railway and eventually extended up to Mathura and linked with the Great Indian Peninsular Railway, now the Central Railway, which had already started operating in Mumbai. Later, the Western Railway with its HQ at Churchgate was created in 1951 by merger of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway (BB&CI), the Saurashtra Railway, Rajputana Railway, Jaipur State Railway and Cutch State Railway.

A need was felt to set up Wagon Workshop to cater to the needs of wagon maintenance and Kota city was selected for setting up the wagon workshop due to abundance of electricity, water from Chambal River and land. The foundation stone of Kota workshop was laid by Shri D.B. Singh, Works Manager/Churchgate Western Railway in Nov’1957. The initial target was to achieve POH of 250 FWU per month with an aim to increase the POH capacity to 650 FWU in future. Accordingly, the Wheel Shop, Paint Shop, Lifting Shop, Smithy Shop, Machine Shop, Stripping Shop, Body Repair Shop, Foundry and Yard etc were designed. Other facilities like the Administrative building, Stores Department, Accounts Department, Electrical Repair shop, RPF & fire fighting station and Millwright shop were planned. All together Rs. 2.60 Crores was spent in construction of the Workshop and other allied structures. 150 acre land was acquired for the shop and nearly 15.9 Km track was laid. In order to start the repair work at Kota workshop, skilled staff were transferred from Ajmer workshop, Gangapur City Carriage & Wagon Shed, Dahod Shop & Mahalaxmi Shop. Finally, on 10th October, 1960, at about 10 AM, the workshop was dedicated to the nation by Shri G.S. Kang, Works Manager, of Kota workshop.

In the initial days, about 50-60 FWUs could be repaired every month. The outturn reached to 232 units in Jan’62. “**CLW Pattern**” Incentive Scheme was introduced from 1964 in order to increase the outturn from the shop. As a result of this scheme, the outturn could be increased to 781 FWUs in 1972-73. In Oct’85, the outturn surpassed 1000 units for the



first time and reached 1053 units. Thereafter the workshop forayed into new technologies & UIC wagons were introduced in place of 4-wheeler wagon. In the year 1983, LPG wagons were repaired at Kota workshop for first time. Kota workshop still continues to be the only workshop in Indian Railway for maintenance of LPG wagon. The initial target was 6 LPG wagons per month which was increased to 64 in 2015-16. The POH of BOXN wagon was started in Kota workshop in 1989 and 35 wagons were first POHed in July, 1989. The CTB facility was setup in 1992 & Air brake maintenance facility was setup in 1998. The IT cell was set in Jun'89 and the workshop has a Railnet with 110 nodes covering Stores, Finance, Personnel & Mechanical Department. The repairs of stainless steel wagons were started in May, 2014.

In order to improve the quality of maintenance activities & to minimize impact on the environment and care for the occupation health risks of the workers, this workshop obtained **ISO 9001** (Quality Management Systems) certification in 1999, **ISO 14001** (Environmental Management Systems) certification in 2007, **ISO 45001** (earlier ISO 18001, Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems) certification in Jan'10 and **ISO 50001** (Energy Management Systems) certification in Feb'16. Kota workshop has a combined certification for all these four Quality Management Systems obtained under **Integrated Management System**, which has been last re-certified on 18.12.2019 with validity of 3 years. The workshop has also been certified **ISO 3834** for welding processes since 28.12.2017. **ISO 3834** recertification for welding quality was awarded in Nov-21 which is valid upto 24-11-2024. **5S** certification for workshop Management was awarded on 03 Jun'17, **5S** recertification was awarded on 13 Jul'20. GreenCo Bronze rating was awarded to the workshop on Jul'17. In Jan'21. **GreenCo GOLD** rating was awarded to the workshop. With this WRS Kota now has the distinction of becoming the only organization in WCR.

The result of these certifications has been encouraging. The line-failures on workshop account have reduced, workplace accidents have reduced to lowest levels in 2020, man-hours lost due to injury have reduced to their lowest level in 2019 and 2020, the specific energy consumption has reduced by 30% in last 5 years and there is awareness amongst the staff for proper upkeep of surroundings. Managerial reviews are held at regular intervals about the work quality, line failures, health hazards, safety at work place and



corrective action are taken to improve on all fronts.

Kota workshop has a stadium in the Workshop Colony to its credit. The employees and their ward use this facility round the year. Hockey, Volleyball and Cricket competitions are organized at this sports ground every year.

Kota Workshop has received several awards in the past. The Personnel Department had received Efficiency Shield in 2007. Kota workshop was awarded Rajbhasha Trophy in 1987-88 presented by Ministry of Home Affairs. Kota workshop has been awarded 'Rajbhasha Shield' by GM/WCR in 2018-19, 2019-20 & 2020-21. Kota Workshop has also received the Nagar Rajbhasha Shield in 2017-18. Shri T.P.P. Nair, ex-SSE of WRS Kota, has received the prestigious 'Dhyan Chand' Award from Hon'ble Shri Pranab Mukherjee, President of India in 2015. Runners up shield in BG Steam Loco restoration was awarded by MR in 2014-15. The Kota Workshop was winner of the Western Railway Tarachand Memorial Volleyball in 1979, R Bharihaan Memorial Football championship in 1980, Runners-up in District Football Championship in 1982-83, winner in K D Pathak Memorial Football Competition in 1991, Runners-up in Western Railway Inter-Divisional Hockey Tournament in 1996-97, winner of Inter-Divisional Hockey tournament in 1995-96, Runners-up in Rajasthan Hockey Academy championship in 2000. Besides, Sh Raghuraj Singh 'Karmyogi' & Shri R. D'Mellow ex-SSEs of Kota workshop have received MR level award in 1999 & 2001 for writing 'Wagon Maintenance Technology' book in Hindi & for maintenance of LPG wagons respectively. The workshop has received the Best Workshop Shield in 1993 from RDSO and again in 2015 from the Hon'ble Railway Minister for good quality of POH and higher outturn during Railway Week celebration held at Guwahati.

Kota workshop has a 500 KWp Roof-top solar power plant which was installed in March'18.

Kota workshop has an ETP plant of 35 KL/Day plant capacity. Recycled ETP Water used for testing of wagons & Plantations.

Kota workshop has Rooftop Rain water harvesting plant having about 4065 m<sup>2</sup> catchment area, which harvests rain water 2148 m<sup>3</sup>/year. This water is used for nearby land development as green area.