

Northern Railway on Tuesday achieved a major milestone by breaking through T-48 tunnel, the fourth longest tunnel of Indian Railways between Sangaldan and Sumber stations on the 111-km under-construction Banihal-Katra Railway link, an official said.

The line and level of the tunnel were precisely achieved during the breakthrough which was executed by conducting a blast under the supervision of Chief Executive Officer of the Northern Railways S P Mahi, the Railway official said.

He said the horseshoe-shaped tunnel connects Sumbar Station Yard on the north side and Bridge No 1 at Dharam village Chinji Nala on the south side.

"The excavation work of the tunnel was started from two ends namely Dharma Pravesh Darwaza (328 metre) and Kohli Entrance (829 m)." The official said the Tunnel T-48 is a twintube tunnel consisting of a main tunnel (10.186 km) and an escape tunnel (9.788 km) connected by 24 cross-passages.

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