

THE GOLDEN QUADRANT RECORD ATTEMPT

The GQ is about 6000kms. It takes in the 5 major metros of the Indian continent, Mumbai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore with the loop closing at Mumbai or the nominated start point.

The current record holder is Dr Arnob Gupta of Mumbai at just under 119 hours, he completed this strenuous journey in early 2009

There are plans for a record attempt on the GQ in the next couple of months by someone I know well.

It will be performed by my friend and all round nice guy Mr Iron Butt himself. He is one of an elite band of 3 riders to hold the coveted IBA Saddlesore 1000 badge. Deepak Dongre was also the leader and organiser of the Dapoli trip – the subject of Bombay Blaggg probably in June or July. Read more about him in his own words on the next page

Unless a sponsor wants to provide a bike, he will use his own Hero Honda, Karizma for the journey.

To help with expenses, Deepak is looking for sponsorships by businesses and organisations but is adamant against the general public or friends making contributions.

This counts me out. But he doesnt say anything about a big nosh-up on his completion. By the way, just for your information Deepak is a pretty clean living chap, a non-smoker, vegetarian and completely teetotal! Not your average Hells Angel!

The benefit to sponsors is obvious. A platform for unusual publicity on a national basis.

We can not promise tv or magazine coverage but suppose nothing can be excluded if there is a public interest. Particularly if Iron Butt is successful in breaking the record. The start and finish will be in Mumbai. Sponsors and supporters will be most welcome for photo sessions which could be used as part of their publicity material or future campaigns.

What can be promised is the attempt will be watched by motorcycling clubs and enthusiasts, nationally and globally as India does get its fair share of foreign bikers and riders.

The key is serious bikers (not to mention commuters) come from all walks of life. Paupers to princes, housewives to girl bikers and blue collar workers to CEO's. So sponsors involvement could provide broad or niche coverage that benefits organisations. The event promises to offer subtle (if not brazen) publicity for those wanting it, show your branding, unique message or be a silent sponsor. The stage is there, choice is yours.

The sponsorships are inexpensive and the uniqueness of this event will ring strong bells with interested parties.

Prominence will depend on the type and style of sponsorship taken on a first come first served basis. It is hoped that all sponsors can be named in some way like a roll of honor. On the other hand

confidentiality will be observed if they so wish.

Regular newsletters/bulletins will be sent or made accessible by all sponsors and volunteers who are involved.

If the run doesnt take place, all cash will be refunded. Dont know what we can do about any items purchased. But knowing Deepaks determination, the record attempt on the GQ will happen.

In our table, the major sponsorships are shown but if you have any other suggestions please put them forward.

We are also keen to hear from people who wish to volunteer effort and support or have any suggestions to make.

Interested parties can reach us at:

Deepak at deepakvdongre@gmail.com

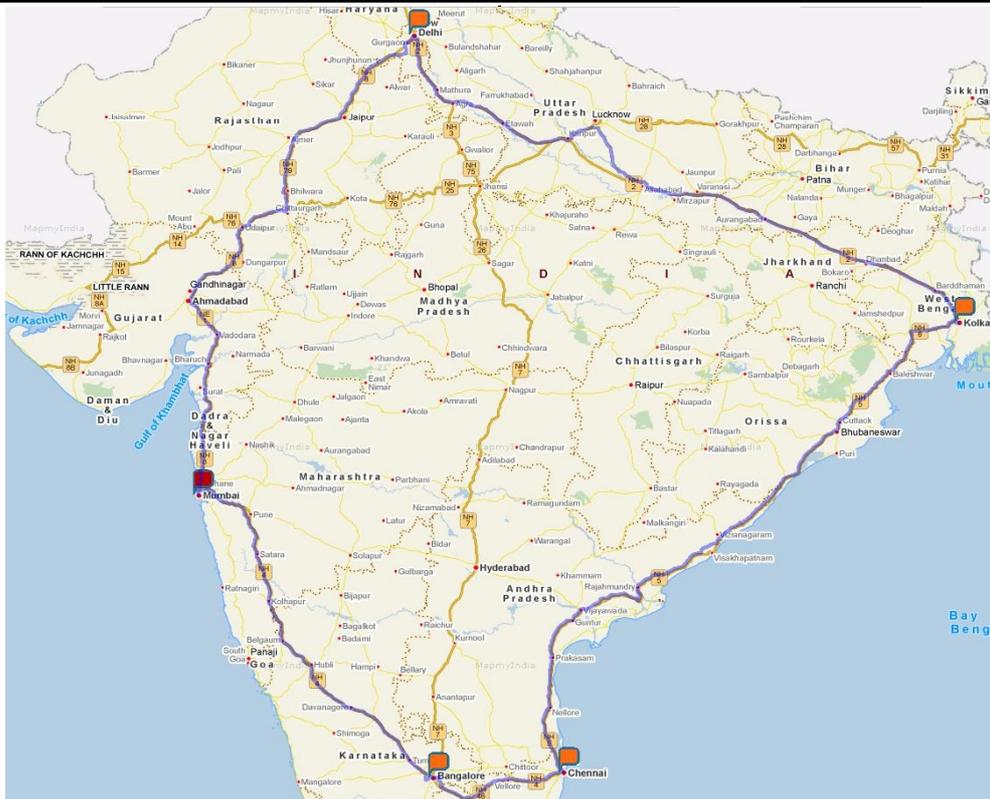
blog <http://www.pulsurge.blogspot.com/>

Deepaks mobile +91 99204 65309

Kanti at arfabita@gmail.com

item	approx (Rs/-)	any extra costs?
jacket	5000/-	sponsors logos/messages
pants	4200/-	sponsors logos/messages
helmet	1500/-	sponsors logos/messages
saddlebags	2100/-	sponsors logos/messages
tyres	4000/-	
gps system	15000/-	mapmyindia, gpsintegrated, satguide
oil	2000/-	
petrol	10000/-	denominations of 500/-
pre run service	500/-	
during run service	500/-	
after run service	500/-	
food	3000/-	
accommodation	2000/-	Suggest hotels along the route?
drinks/water	1000/-	
breakdown repairs	unknown	
cash	500/-	500/- denominations max (20,000/-)
any other suggestions?	unknown	please advise

APPROX EXCHANGE RATES ROUNDED UP: £1 = 70Rs €1= 62Rs \$1= 46Rs



The Golden Quadrilateral network of highways connects the 5 metros of Mumbai, Bangalore, Chennai, Calcutta and Delhi and measures 5846 kms (as recorded by National Highway Authority India - NHAI).

The official records of the GQ Run on a motorcycle are as follows:

Dr. Arnob Gupta, Mumbai:

118 hours 40 minutes
<http://www.bikeindia.in/features/clubsindividuals/Marathon-Dash/>

Renu Kumar and Amrith Nayak, Bangalore

146 hours
<http://tinyurl.com/ycxxd3m> (url shortened)

Akshay Kaushal, Ahmedabad

153.3 hours
<http://tinyurl.com/yclro6o> (url shortened)

Gaurav Thakkar & Group, Mumbai

166 hours 28 minutes
<http://www.bikeindia.in/travel/readersride/The-Mumbai-Bikers-Club---Mad-Rush/Post.aspx>

Most of the above riders set out to complete the ride in 100 hours. Dr. Arnob Gupta made it in the shortest time. His ride log is confirmed in the Limca Book of Records,

After studying road conditions information on the internet and my biker friends located in various states, I feel the target of 100 hours is too much if not impossible.

Though my initial target is to better Dr. Arnob's record - I believe that if I push more I'll be able to save a few hours and get closer to the 100 hours mark.

My plan in 24 hour format is shown below.

The distance of 6078.32 kms is calculated from mapmyindia website as compared to NHAI's mention of 5846 kms.

ETD	ETA	From	To	Duration	Distance	Avg Speed
12:00	1:00	Vashi	Bangalore	13hrs	987.4	75.95
1:00	5:00	Bangalore	Chennai	4hrs	350.87	87.72
5:00	9:00	Chennai	Prakasam	4hrs	305.69	76.42
9:00	17:00	HALT		8hrs		
17:00	20:00	Prakasam	Asansol	27hrs	1605.32	59.46
20:00	5:00	HALT		9hrs		
5:00	3:00	Asansol	Delhi	22hrs	1302.14	59.19
3:00	7:00	HALT		4hrs		
7:00	5:00	Delhi	Mumbai	20hrs	1526.9	76.35
TOTAL				111hrs	6078.32	54.76

In addition to the halts shown in the table, I'll be taking quick cat-naps in between. Though I am showing a run target of 111 hrs, like everyone before me, I have the urge to crack it in 100 hours. From my estimation, it would only be possible if I eliminate my 8 hours halt at Prakasam and another 4 hours at Delhi.

Though it's easier said than done – should circumstances permit, I'll try to keep the average speed as high as possible and adjust those lost hours of sleep somewhere into my power naps.

I am experienced at being on the saddle for extended durations - in fact I love it.

I hold certification from the Iron Butt Association, USA of successfully completing the SaddleSore 1000, that is, 1600kms in less than 24 hours and being the third globally and the first Indian to have

done it on a low powered bike.

On this attempt I was able to cover 1723kms (odometer reading) in 23 hours.

One of my more pleasurable rides took place from Mumbai to Kodaikanal and back which comprised of 3237kms. I tripped this in 4 days which includes 2 nights of sleep and half day of site seeing at Kodaikanal.

The roads on my return through Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Karnataka were in a very poor state with narrow passings through villages and small towns.

To make it back home on time, I rode for 36 hours with only a half an hour's nap at a dhaba together with short tea breaks to keep warm and refreshed.

My experience on my 150cc Bajaj Pulsar stands at 170,000 kms before I put it to rest.

The GQ run is still a tough task, but at one point some of my past rides seemed impossible.

Never had the SaddleSore Run been completed on a 150cc bike - yes there have been many failed attempts, but I did it.

I love riding motorcycles. I have passion, drive and stamina to stand up to an attempt such as this with the will and determination

to complete the task.

I now have a much better bike to ride - a Hero Honda Karizma (unless a better offer comes along). It is a

more comfortable, faster and stress free than the previous bike I had owned.

So putting together my experience, desire, planning, preparation, support of sponsors and well wishers at large, I'm confident of cracking the planned figures, with a kean



eye to beat that elite 100 hours barrier. Thank you for taking the interest.

Deepak Dongre