Metro-3 on right track, work on tunnels may start in Dec

PROJECT STATUS Contracts to build tunnels for the Colaba-Andheri-Seepz line will be given in September

Huildings to be de

Trees to be cut:

3071; 2298 in

Colony and

773 along

the corri-

Plots to be

used for metro-

15 owned by the

Aarey

doc

in Girgaum, Kalbadevi: 26

Travel

time between

cuffy Parade and

reduce from the

noisting 180 min

utes by car to 50



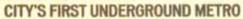
HT Correspondent

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MUMBAI: With contracts for construction of tunnels for Metro-3 — the city's first underground metro which will be run on the Colaba-Andheri-Sept route set to be given out in September, the work on the project is likely to start by December.

The project will provide connectivity between the island city and western suburbs. "We will finish the technical evaluation of bids by mid-September. The contracts will be awarded subsequently," said Ashwini Bhide, chairman, Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC).

In May this year, nine consortia had submitted bids for the con-



The 8x23,136-crore project is being developed on cash contract basis with financial assistance from a Japanese bank.

It will pass through areas such as Nariman Point, Cuffe Parade, Worli, BKC, Airport, which are not connected by any suburban rail service

Capacity: 14 lakh commuters in 2020, 17 lakh by 2030

Affected private properties: 67

"We will finish technical evaluation of the bids by mid-September. The contracts will be awarded subsequently."

tion of the cts will be will submit the report on the Aarey depot to the government soon. The state will decide the site, where it can be shifted."

UPS MADAN, MMRDA commissioner

struction of 33.5-km twin tunnels and 26 underground stations for Metro 3. The MMRC has divided the Rs11,000-crore civil works into seven phases, each comprising 4-5km long tunnel and a few stations. One firm can handle only

ASHWINI BHIDE, chairman, MMRC

one phase. It can get another phase if its capacity is double than the criteria set by the MMRC.

The Metro corporation wants contractors to use special tunnelling machines with certain specifications to avoid glitches. MMRDA commissioner UPS Madan, who heads the stateappointed panel on proposed Metro depot on Aarey plot, said they will submit a report on the issue to the government soon. The committee is learnt to have found THE METRO CORPORATION
WANTS CONTRACTORS TO
USE SPECIAL TUNNELLING
MACHINES WITH CERTAIN
SPECIFICATIONS TO
AVOID GLITCHES

seven alternative piots, where the depot can be shifted. "The state will decide the site for the depot," Madan said, while unveiling a new loso for MMRC on Monday.

Meanwhile, Bhide said the plan for resettlement and rehabilitation of the project-affected people from Girgaum and Kalbadevi will be finalized in five months. "We will appoint a consultant in 15 days. The consultant will have to come up with R&R plan in four months," Bhide said.

Bhide said the tenders for rehabilitation of political parties, whose offices in south Mumbai will be razed for Metro work, will be reissued, as the rates quotes in the earlier tenders were high.