

# Plans to expand Metro connectivity in progress

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While the city's first Metro corridor between Versova-Andheri-Ghatkopar was inaugurated in 2014 and will complete five years in June, the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR) will only get two more Metro corridors by the end of 2020. Alongside, the Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) is working on 10 more Metro corridors in the city that will change the travel pattern of commuters journeying from North to South Mumbai, in the next three years. It all started in 2003, when the MMRDA appointed Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) to prepare master plan for Metro connectivity of the Mumbai Metropolitan Region.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation for four Metro corridors in the city in the year 2015 and 2016 for which the construction work has already started. The Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA) is currently executing four Metro corridors namely Dahisar-DN



Construction work for Metro-3 corridor underway at Mahim's Naya Nagar

Nagar Metro-2A corridor, Andheri east-Dahisar east Metro-7 corridor, DN Nagar-Mandale Metro-2B and Wadala-Thane Metro-4 corridor.

Meanwhile, civil construction work

on Metro-2A and Metro-7 is completed by 60-70 per cent for which construction started in 2016. The MMRDA has already started bidding process for procurement of platform screen doors, roll-

ing stocks and other several required facilities like escalators and lifts for the Metro station. The commercial operations of both these Metro corridors is expected to start by end 2020, and the civil construction is expected to end by December 2019.

On the other hand, the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) is executing the underground corridor between Colaba and Seepz. These five corridors is said to boost connectivity for commuters residing in central and western suburbs and travelling to South Mumbai on daily basis. For commuters residing in areas like Dahisar and Borivali, one can take the Metro-7 corridor that is proposed to be extended up to airport. From airport, one can further take the Metro-3 underground corridor that will take them all the way up to Colaba. Further, for commuters travelling from central suburbs to western suburbs, one can take the existing Versova-Andheri-Ghatkopar Metro-1 corridor and use interchange into the Metro-2A corridor at DN Nagar station and travel all the way up to Dahisar.