

Metro 3 corridor: Second TBM set to emerge at SEEPZ soon

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

MUMBAI, DECEMBER 20

THE SECOND tunnel boring machine (TBM) is soon expected to emerge at SEEPZ after completing 558 m of boring for Metro 3 — the Colaba-Bandra-SEEPZ corridor. Sources in the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRCL) said the second breakthrough is expected to be completed on December 24.

A senior MMRCL official said the machine has so far completed 552 m of the tunnelling. It was launched in the shaft of Sariputta Nagar.

On September 25, in a significant milestone in the construc-

tion of the city's first underground Metro corridor, the first tunnel of the 33.5-km Colaba-Bandra-Seeppz (Metro 3 line) was completed. The 1.26-km tunnel between Pali ground in Marol, Andheri (East) and international airport terminal T2, was completed in 259 days. The TBM started working on the tunnel on January 8 from Marol. It was completed with an average speed of 4.6m/day.

The MMRCL's biggest challenge was to work without unsettling underground channels and old buildings, so it decided to dig the subway through TBMs. It had asked for 17 state-of-the-art TBMs, of which, 15 have been delivered.