

Metro 3 on track with 17km run

Metro 3 plans took a huge stride with a train being run between MIDC and Vidyanagari, spanning six stations and covering around 17km. Phase 1 of the route—from BKC to Aarey—is expected to be thrown open to the public by the end of the year. **P2**

Metro gets 8km underground trial run, services by year-end

ManthanK.Mehta
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: The first long-distance trial of the much-awaited Metro 3 underground corridor was carried out on Sunday. A train covered six stations from MIDC to Vidyanagari, running 8km, before rolling back to Seepz station, covering a total distance of around 17km. Metro authorities plan to start services by the year-end between Aarey and BKC, a section that comprises the first phase of the Aarey-Cuffe Parade corridor, aka AquaLine.

A video of the tunnel as seen from the driver's cabin of the moving train was tweeted, along with photographs of the train's interior, garnering thousands of likes and hundreds of retweets. "The milestone demonstrates the culmination of infrastructure work related to tracks, overhead contact system (power line for trains), rolling stock, and structures like platform screen doors," said a spokesperson of Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (MMRCL).

MMRCL plans to run 110

AAREY-BKC, 12KM, NINE STATIONS

METRO LINE 3

Full corridor
Aarey to Colaba
33km

Phase I*
Aarey to BKC
12km *To open by year-end



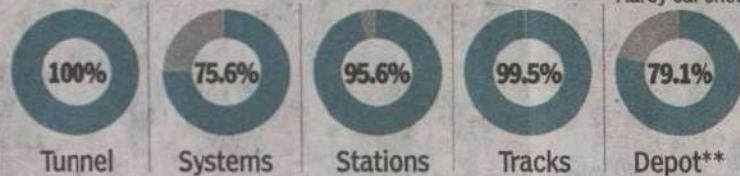
Picture for representation



PHASE I PROGRESS

As of September 30

● Work ● Completion status



**Aarey car shed

STATIONS In Phase I

TOTAL 9 Aarey Colony | Seepz | MIDC
| Marol Naka | CSIA T2 (intl) |
CSIA T1 (domestic) | Santacruz
| Vidyanagari | BKC

services on the 12km Aarey-BKC section, with a travel time of 25 minutes, accounting for stops. Nine trains will be required for the 110 services, of which eight have been delivered, with the remaining expected by the month-end.

Short-distance trial runs

for the first prototype rake was flagged off by chief minister Eknath Shinde and deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis on August 30 last year. The trials were conducted on a 3km stretch between Sariput Nagar in Aarey and Marol Naka. Based on the success of the 'initial

design proving train trial runs', a dispatch clearance was given by MMRCL for subsequent trains, which have been manufactured at Alstom's facility in Sri City, Andhra Pradesh. The trains are equipped with a regenerative braking system to minimise carbon emissions.