

2 Metro corridors to open next year, another 5 by '25

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Mumbai: Of the 9 Metro corridors for which work is in progress in the Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), two are expected to open by 2024, five in 2025 and another 2 in 2026, revealed the state economic survey.

Nearly 185km length of Metro works are being undertaken in MMR, of which 32.5 km (Colaba-Bandra-Seepz) Metro 3 underground corridor is executed by Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) and the remaining by Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA).

As per the economic survey, Metro 3 is the earliest corridor to open by 2023-24 as 79% of the work on this project is completed.

MMRC has planned to open the line in two phases — Aarey-BKC in December 2023 and BKC-Cuffe Parade in July 2024. Another project whose work is at an advanced stage is Metro 6 corridor that will connect Swami Samarth Nagar in Lokhandwala to Vikhroli. MMRDA has achieved 63% of its targeted works.

The work on other corridors are still at nascent stage

79% WORK ON METRO 3 COMPLETE

Project	Length (km)	Cost (₹)	Cost incurred (₹)	Deadline	% of work completed
MUTP II					
6th line (Mumbai Central-Borivli)	29	918	624	Mar '25	83
5th & 6th line (CSMT-Kurla)	15	1367	459	Mar '25	25
MUTP III					
Panvel-Karjat suburban line	28	2782	1016	Dec '25	15
Airoli-Kalwad corridor	4	476	190	Mar '26	35
Virar-Dahanu 3rd-4th line	64	3578	608	Dec '25	11
Trespass control	XX	551	286	Dec '24	55
The Big Hurdles					
<p>➤ Most of the land for Metro is either encroached or privately owned. Cash crunch has also delayed works</p>					



of execution, and in some cases, even the contractor is yet to be appointed.

Even though the Economic Survey has provided deadlines, experts feel most corridors are likely to miss it because of absence of maintenance depot.

The depot for Line 6 is it yet to be finalised as Centre has staked claim on the land

when Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) had planned a integrated depot with Line 3. The depot issue for this line is not settled even though there was change in government for six months ago. The depot work for Line 4 (Wadala-Ghatkopar-Thane) has also not yet begun. The same is the case for Line 9 (Dahisar to Bhayander) whose depot site has faced resistance

Domestic air traffic nearly doubles

The city witnessed an increase in domestic air passenger traffic from 98.36 lakh in 2021 to 185.65 lakh flyers in 2022, revealed the state economic survey report. In the international sector, there was a huge growth — from 12.18 lakh passengers flying out of India in 2021, to 31.83 lakh in 2022, the report stated. Across the state, the domestic airline traffic increased from 1.3 crore passengers in 2021 to 2.4 crore in 2022. TNN

from villagers.

MMRDA has plans to partially open Line 9 on a 5km stretch between Dahisar and Mira Road in a year's time. The trains of Metro 7 and Metro 2A, whose depot is at Charkop, will be used for Line 9 when it is partially opened.

In 2024, it will be able to open only a 5km stretch of Metro 2B whose entire corridor is 23km long between DN Nagar to Mandale. The stretch that will be opened partially will be between Diamond Garden and Mandale, where depot for Metro 2B is planned.