

Final breakthrough: 100% tunnelling done on Metro-3

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Mumbai: Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (MMRCL) on Wednesday achieved the final breakthrough on the Colaba-Bandra-Seepz Metro Line-3 at Mumbai Central Metro station, thus achieving 100% tunnelling on the 32.5km long underground corridor.

With this major milestone accomplished, the overall project progress now stands at 76.6%, and 100% tunnelling scope of 54.5km has been completed on the entire stretch. The project cost is around Rs 37,276 crore

The MMRCL utilised 17 tunnel-boring machines (TBM) that drilled through the rocky strata made of basalt, breccia and tuff to attain a total of 42 breakthroughs. The tunneling was done at a depth of 25-30m below ground level.

On Wednesday, Robbins-made TBM Tansa-1 completed its most challenging drive of 837m from Mahalaxmi Metro station to Mumbai Central Metro station Up line in 243 days using 558 concrete rings. This part of the civil construction, which is under Package-3 and includes Mum-

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Metro-3 stations

27 stns on the Colaba-Bandra-Seepz corridor

26 are underground

1 is at-grade



Project cost
37,276cr

25-30m Depth below ground level at which the tunnelling has been done

bai Central, Mahalaxmi, Science Museum, Acharya Atre Chowk and Worli Metro stations, is one of the longest stretches of Metro-3.

"Tunnelling below Mumbai's heritage precincts, in close proximity of old dilapidated buildings, existing Metro line, railway lines, water body with different and sometimes difficult geological conditions has been a daunting task," MMRCL managing director Ashwini Bhide said,

MMRCL director (projects) SK Gupta said that once operational, Metro-3 will pro-

vide "a speedy, comfortable and safe commuting experience to Mumbaikars".

On September 21, 2017, the lowering of the first TBM was done in the underground shaft at Naya Nagar in Mahim and digging started two months later. On September 24, 2018, the first breakthrough was achieved at Terminal 2 Metro station (international airport) after a TBM was commissioned from Marol on January 8, 2018.

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