

# 'NGT to give nod for metro at Aarey colony'

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**MUMBAI:** The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has declared there is no restriction on the construction of a metro depot in Aarey Colony, Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) said on Wednesday.

MMRC officials said a final nod to the depot from NGT is expected at the next hearing on January 19, when NGT is set to issue the final order. MMRC managing director Ashwini Bhide said, "NGT on Wednesday declared that restriction on the new project is limited to 100 metres from the boundary of Sanjay Gandhi National Park (SGNP) and there are no restraining orders against metro car depot."

The 33.5-km Metro 3 is planned from Colaba to Seepz via Bandra. Although the proposed metro depot in the colony is likely to be shifted to Kanjurmarg, the MMRC wants 10 hectares of land in the

## CM TO MODI

In a letter to PM Narendra Modi and Railway minister Suresh Prabhu, CM Devendra Fadnis has demanded extended highspeed train between Mumbai and Nashik. The state has said JICA is interested in funding the project. The 180-km route will be part of proposed high speed train between Mumbai-Nagpur-Howrah.

colony to build 16 stabling lines.

D Stalin of Vanashakti, the non-governmental organisation that filed an application in the NGT seeking declaration of Aarey Colony as eco-sensitive zone (ESZ), said the MMRC claims were false and misleading.

Meanwhile, NGT rejected the intervention application filed by Aarey Resident Association, which had sought a stay on any proposal to declare the colony a forest.