

MMRC completes Metro line 3 DPR, awaits govt nod

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

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THE MUMBAI Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) has completed the Detailed Project Report (DPR) for the expansion of the underground Metro Line 3 up to Navy Nagar, encompassing a five-kilometre stretch (2.5 km in each direction). The DPR is now awaiting approval from the state government, said an official.

The decision to extend Metro 3 to Navy Nagar was initially announced during the budget speech of 2022-23 by the then Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Ajit Pawar of

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the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) government. It was prompted by a request from the Indian Navy office to the state government.

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Plans suggest that the ex-

tended Metro line's construction will commence in 2025, following the completion and commencement of commercial operations of the existing Metro Line 3, added the official.

This current underground metro spans over 33km, connecting Colaba to SEEPZ via Bandra Kurla Complex (BKC) and is divided into Phase 1 (BKC to SEEPZ) and Phase 2 (BKC to Colaba) for operation.

The MMRC has acquired nine train sets for the smooth operation of Phase 1, originally targeted for completion by the end of the current year, now delayed until early next year. The Phase 2 operations are expected to start in 2024.

In October this year, the MMRC conducted the first long-distance train movement from MIDC to Vidyanagari Metro station and back to SEEPZ, covering a distance of 17 km, which is part of Phase 1 operations.

Previously, the MMRC conducted trial runs on a three-kilometre stretch between Sariput Nagar Aarey and Marol starting from August of last year.

At present, the MMRC is focused on laying tracks for the remaining part of Phase 1. Subsequently, they will proceed with installing overhead electrical lines in both directions, paving the way for trial runs on the complete Phase 1 between Aarey and BKC stations.