

Aarey depot 99.5% ready, Ph-1 of Metro 3 set to roll



AAREY TO BKC: Only minor finishing works now remain, according to Metro officials

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Mumbai: Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Ltd (MMRCL) has announced that work on the Aarey depot is 99.5% complete, gearing up for Phase 1 operations of Metro 3, between Aarey and Bandra-Kurla Complex.

Integrated trial runs for Phase 1 operations have already begun, and MMRCL will soon invite the Research, Design, and Standards Organisation (RDSO) to oversee critical aspects of the trials and commissioning.

A spokesperson said, "Only minor finishing works and testing and trials of the system are in progress."

While the depot is ready,

the Operations and Control Centre will not be fully operational for Phase 1. Instead, a backup Operations and Control Centre at Bandra-Kurla Complex will handle the initial operations.

Covering 30 hectares, with five hectares left untouched, the remaining 25 hectares house a station in addition to the depot. This facility includes maintenance, operational, administrative, and training areas. The depot, designed for 30 trains of eight cars each, is being constructed at a cost of Rs 328 crore.

The performance and efficiency of the Metro network will heavily depend on the functionality of the Operations and Control Centre which monitors real-time da-

ta on train movements, station activities, and passenger flow to ensure smooth and efficient service.

The Operations and Control Centre also coordinates emergency responses, managing communication with emergency services and deploying resources, as needed.

Up to 20 trains will be stabled at any given time, with some positioned at terminal stations like Cuffe Parade and Bandra-Kurla Complex, ready to commence services in the morning.

The project faced a three-year delay due to litigation over the car depot issue. The depot is crucial for train operations — without it, trains cannot run. The depot is the nerve centre of Metro 3.