1 Day To Go: Eager Wait For Ride In Metro

PM Modi To Virtually Inaugurate Indore Metro On May 31; Service To Streamline Traffic

Sagar.Choukse @timesofindia.com

Indore: Excitement is palpable for the virtual inauguration of the Indore Metro on May 31 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Residents are keenly awaiting the expansion of its commercial operations beyond the initial 6-km 'Super Priority Corridor.'

The current stretch, running from Gandhi Nagar Station to Super Corridor Station-3, is seen as a welcome first step. However, commuters and real estate stakeholders are looking forward to the metro extending to the 17.5-km 'Priority Corridor' that will connect Gandhi Nagar Square with Radisson Square.

Deepika Shukla, a resident of Sukhliva and a student at DAVV's Takshila Campus, expressed the prevailing sentiment, "All the available modes of transportation are time-consuming, and using our own vehicles is frustrating due to jams and slow traffic. The Metro will definitely give respite from all these issues once it is operational beyond Super Corridor."

Employees of IT giants located on the Super Corridor, wishing anonymity, are equally thrilled about the Metro's imminent start. "Before the Metro Train project, this entire area used to be very deserted, but we are now expecting

LIFE IN A METRO

- Initially, the metro will operate between Gandhi Nagar and five initial stations on the Yellow Line
- > To begin with, four to five Metro train sets will be deployed, with each set comprising three coaches. The Metro is expected to complete around 90 trips daily
- Each station stop will last approximately two minutes, with the journey between stations taking two to three minutes
- Upon reaching the concourse via escalator or stairs, ticket counters are located on the left side. Initially, tickets will be provided manually
- After obtaining a ticket, passengers will undergo security checks using metal detectors. x-ray baggage scan like airport
- Once on the platform, passengers will await the arrival of Metro
- > Trains will depart from each station every half hour. Throughout the station, clear instructions are displayed



be a gamechanger. It will make commuting



efficient. Pollution is expected to drop. Real estate along Metro route is likely to boost. It is a vision for a cleaner, connected and

progressive future **Prof Himanshu Rai** IIM-I DIRECTOR

transformative



urban mobility. This development will greatly enhance

connectivity. IIT-I looks forward to collaborating on smart mobility solutions that complement this infrastructure

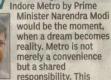
Prof Suhas Joshi IIT-I DIRECTOR



a etro will prove a boon in the longer run, when it will cover the populated stretches. Administration needs to run the facility in areas where users are more. Also, there should be parking provision near Metro stations

Gopal Goval | CREDAI INDORE CHAIRMAN

Virtual inauguration of



heritage belongs to all of us

Pushvamitra Bhargava | MAYOR



Il arrangements are being made for the launch. People will love this comfortable, fast, affordable, and hassle-free transport service. Administration is committed to working in coordination with MPMRCL to ensure safety

and further expansion

Asheesh Singh | COLLECTOR

A e have planned to deploy electric buses and



encourage e-rickshaw drivers to operate on this route to provide last-mile connectivity. Regarding parking arrangements, where land will be available, will be marked

for Metro Train passengers

Shivam Verma IMC COMMISSIONER & MPMRCL AMD

this road to flourish like Bhopal's VIP Road and Bhopal's Marine Drive," they remar-

The anticipation surrounding the metro has already had a significant impact on property rates along its rou-

tes. According to property broker Surai Dharmik, the Super Corridor initially attracted IT behemoths like TCS and Infosys, followed by numerous residential colonies. However, the arrival of the Metro Train project triggered

a rapid surge in property values. "The Metro Train, which also has its depot at Super Corridor, is first starting its operations on this route only," Dharmik said. He noted that property rates in residential colonies on Super Corridor, which once ranged from Rs 2,000-Rs 3,000 per square foot, have now soared to Rs 7,000-Rs 8,500 per square foot in just the last 2-3 vears.

Anup Nigam, another property broker, echoed this sentiment. "I used to work for pro-

perty dealing at Bypass and Khandwa Road, where despite all the connectivity and much more development, the property rates are not as high as they are on Super Corridor, and the biggest credit for this goes to Metro Train here," he said.

While excitement is high. some residents voice concerns about the initial limited operational stretch. Vedant Chouhan, a resident of MR-10 Square, acknowledged the challenges faced during construction. "We faced all the troubles in the last 3-4 years during the construction of the Metro elevated corridor to welcome and enjoy this new mode of transportation," he said. "However, it doesn't seem the train's commercial operation will extend till Radisson Square soon," The initial 6-km phase runs from Gandhi Nagar Station (approximately half a kilometre from Gandhi Nagar Square) to Super Corridor Station-3 (about 5.5 km from Luvkush Square). This poses a connectivity challenge for many, as there is currently limited public transportation like AICTSL buses or e-rickshaws operating directly on the Super Corridor to reach these stations.

Senior MPMRCL officials have hinted that the commercial operation of the Indore Metro in the 17.5-km 'Priority Corridor' is expected by the end of this calendar year.