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# Phase-2 Metro trials next mnth

Metro service to be extended inside the GIFT City; airport to get connectivity for which Rs 1,350 crore allotted

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**T**he government has greenlit a project extending Metro rail services to the airport. This will benefit passengers heading to the domestic terminal.

## Trial runs

Trial runs for the Metro Phase 2 are set to commence next month, ahead of the initial schedule. The construction of the route, stretching from Motera to Mahatma Mandir, is progressing rapidly, with the service likely to start before the Lok Sabha elections. Notably, Phase 2 features a route spanning from the GNLU to the GIFT City corridor.

## Airport route details

The new airport route will originate from Motera. "There would be connectivity from Motera to other parts in the



city," explained an official.

## Metro for GIFT City

In addition to the airport connection, plans for another Metro project within GIFT City have been finalized. Unlike Phase 2, which grazes the outskirts of the GIFT corridor, this new phase will run through the heart of GIFT City.

## Financials of project

The combined investment for the airport and GIFT City projects is estimated at around Rs 1,350 crore. Funding is set to be equally split between the central and state governments.

"The feasibility report of both the projects have been prepared and work on the airport route will begin in the next fiscal year," another official added.

## Metro Phase 2

The second phase of the Metro, exclusively elevated, spans 28.26 km and includes 22 stations. This phase also incorporates the GNLU-GIFT corridor.

## Beyond Ahmedabad

The state government's vision for Metro expansion includes Vadodara and Rajkot as proposed in the latest budget.