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Ridership up, Ahmedabad Metro trains to be run every 12 mins

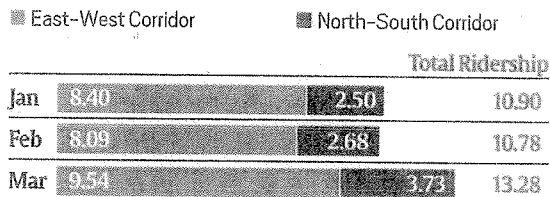
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AHMEDABAD, APRIL 20

WITH RIDERSHIP of Ahmedabad Metro crossing 13.28 lakh per month in March, the Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation (GMRC) Thursday increased the number of daily trips by around 36 per cent by running trains every 12 minutes from 7 am to 10 pm.

This will increase the count of daily trips to 306, almost a 36 per cent increase from the earlier 227 trips. Earlier, trains were operated at a frequency of 15 minutes during peak hours and 18 minutes during non-peak hours.

Though GMRC did not share the bifurcation of the trips on East-West and North-South corridors, its ridership data shows that the bulk of the passengers uses the incomplete East-West Corridor that currently links Vastral Gam to Thatej. A 1.4-km stretch of this corridor between Thaltej and Thaltej Gam is still being built as part of the Phase 1 of the Ahmedabad Metro project.

METRO RIDERSHIP THIS YEAR



All figures in lakh

In March, the East-West Corridor accounted for 72 per cent of the total ridership, while in January and February, the passenger traffic on this corridor was as high as 77 per cent and 75 per cent respectively.

Between January and March, there has been a 13.6 per cent in-

crease in ridership on East-West Corridor, while it shot up by 49 per cent on the North-South Corridor that has Narendra Modi stadium — a venue of IPL matches — at its northern end. Due to the ongoing IPL matches at the stadium, Metro operates till 1.30 am on match days.