

Ahmedabad Mirror, Page no. - 01
Date :- 11/06/2026.

Metro gets airport link nod

Cabinet approves Rs 2,169-crore project; construction to begin next year, finish ahead of WPFQ 2029

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The Union Cabinet has approved Phase 2A of the Ahmedabad Metro Rail Project, paving the way for a direct Metro link to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

International Airport. Construction is likely to begin early next year and is expected to be completed ahead of the World Police and Fire Games 2029 (WPFQ) in the city.

Even before receiving final approval from the Centre, Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation (GMRC) had initiated preparatory work, includ-



See the map of the Metro's route extension on Page 4

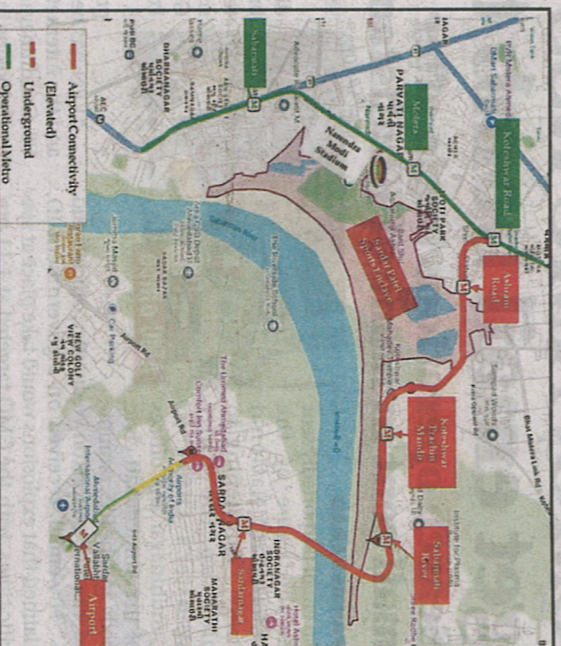
ing tenders for viaduct construction and utility service diversions. Technical bids for the project are also set to be floated shortly.

The 6.032-km corridor will comprise five stations — four elevated and one underground — and will extend Metro connectivity from Ashram Road to the airport. The stations on the route will be Ashram Road, Koteswar Prachin Mandir, Sabarnati River, Sardar Nagar and Airport.

With the commissioning of Phase 2A, the Ahmedabad-Gandhinagar Metro network will expand to 77.63 km.

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Metro airport link



On average, 1.55-lakh passengers use Metro on a daily basis

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The total project cost, including interest during construction (IDC), has been pegged at Rs 2,169.04 crore.

According to an official release, the airport extension will strengthen Ahmedabad's public transport network by providing a reliable alternative to road travel. Reduced traffic congestion is expected to improve vehicle movement, cut travel times and enhance road safety.

The project is also expected to deliver environmental benefits by lowering carbon emissions compared with fossil fuel-based transport systems. Improved connectivity to the airport, railway stations and bus depots is likely to boost productivity by enabling faster and more efficient travel across

the city.

Officials said the enhanced connectivity could spur business activity around Metro stations, attract investments and unlock development in areas that were previously less accessible.

The project is expected to generate employment for around 2,000 people during peak construction activity, while nearly 500 personnel are likely to be engaged in the operation and maintenance of the system after commissioning.

Metro by the numbers

Ahmedabad Metro currently operates a 68.28-km network with 54 stations. Daily ridership has reached around 1.53 lakh passengers. It rises to nearly 2.5 lakh during IPL matches and major concerts.

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