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A'bad Metro plans Rs 165cr depot complex near Shela

Facility will bring train maintenance, technical operations, admin and staff amenities under one roof; to be 2nd facility in city after Gyaspur

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Ahmedabad Metro's expanding network is set to receive a major operational boost; with the Gujarat Metro Rail Corporation (GMRC) planning an integrated depot complex near Shela, following its existing facility at Gyaspur.

Estimated to cost Rs 165.66 crore, the proposed complex will serve a purpose far beyond parking metro trains. It will bring train maintenance, technical operations, administration and staff facilities together under one roof, creating an integrated base to support the network's day-to-day operations.

The project will comprise a depot, a workshop-cum-administration building, staff quarters and an operations control centre. The facility is expected to streamline maintenance and administrative activities while reducing dependence on multiple locations. Unlike conventional depots, primarily used for parking, cleaning and routine maintenance, the Shela complex will have a wider operational role. It will feature civil and structural infrastructure, specialised workshops, administrative facilities and an extensive range of mechanical and electrical installations.

Civil and structural works account for the largest share of the project, with a combined allocation of around Rs 94.70 crore. This includes two work packages valued at Rs 81.32 crore and Rs 13.38 crore. A further Rs 14.19 crore has been earmarked for architectural finishing, covering the internal and external finishes of buildings and other functional infrastructure.

With machinery, electrical equipment and vehicles forming an integral part of the facility, fire safety will be a key component of the project. Two separate systems — fire detection and fire-fighting — have been planned.

Around Rs 1.72 crore has been allocated for fire detection systems, including smoke detectors, alarm panels and associated equipment. Another Rs 4.96 crore will be spent on fire-fighting installations and equipment. Together, these provisions are intended to ensure early detection of fires and enable an effective response to contain them. The project also places emphasis on the upkeep of electrical and mechanical installations after construction. The bill of quantities provides for a comprehensive annual maintenance contract (AMC) covering a period of two yeaRs

The maintenance agency will face a penalty of Rs 15,000 per day if a reported fault is not rectified within 24 houRs The provision is aimed at ensuring timely repairs and maintaining the operational reliability of critical installations.