THE TIMES OF INDIA

Pace up Delhi-Meerut RRTS work: Yogi

TNN | Mar 15, 2021, 04.04 AM IST

Lucknow: Chief minister Yogi Adityanath has directed the officials to expedite the work on the ambitious Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor to ensure its completion by 2023.

Soon after coming to power in 2017, the state cabinet approved the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS corridor to increase regional mobility in NCR. The proposal was sanctioned by the central government in March 2019 and its foundation stone was laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on March 8, 2019.

According to officials of the housing and urban planning department, RRTS will provide regional connectivity to NCR with an operational speed of 160km per hour.

"The growth of any state is recognised by its best infrastructure and connectivity, which in turn attracts investment and expedite development," officials said.

Under the RRTS project, the central government has identified eight corridors to connect the major regional centres of the country. Of these, the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor is on the top priority to be implemented in phase-1. The 82-km-long Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor is the first RRTS corridor in the country. It is included in the 17km priority section between Sahibabad and Duhai of the corridor. A total of Rs 30,274 crore is estimated to be spent on this project.

The state government and the Centre have so far released Rs 1,550 crore and Rs 2,138 crore respectively for the project. The Centre has also made a provision of Rs 4,472 crore in the financial year 2021-22.

The corridor is targeted to start operations by March 2023 and the entire Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor is scheduled to be completed by 2025. The other two RRTS corridors of Phase-1 are Delhi-Gurugram-Alwar and Delhi-Panipat. The preconstruction activities for the Delhi-Gurugram-Alwar corridor are underway.

According to officials, metro services will also be operated in Meerut under this project. For this, 13 metro stations will be built

in Meerut while multimodal integration action is being taken in Ghaziabad. The project is aimed at providing speedy transport while getting rid of traffic jams and reducing pollution.

Boosting regional mobility in NCR

- 1. 82-km-long Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS corridor is first in country
- 2. To provide regional connectivity with a speed of 160km per hour
- 3. Rs 30,274 crore is estimated to be spent on the project
- 4. Corridor targeted to start operations by March 2023
- 5. Entire Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor likely to be completed by 2025
- 6. Metro services to also be operated in Meerut under the project