

UP among fastest growing states with max Metro services: PM

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Kanpur: Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Tuesday, inaugurated the revenue operations of Kanpur Metro by showing green flag and pressing the inaugural button at Railway Maidan in Nirala Nagar. He flagged off the commercial services of Kanpur Metro on nine km long 'Priority Section' from IIT-Kanpur to Motijheel which will commence for the public from Wednesday. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath, Union minister for housing and urban affairs Hardeep Singh Puri, deputy CM Keshav Prasad Maurya, Union minister Sadhvi Niranjana Jyoti and other official dignitaries were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "The government is committed to bring the much needed change in Uttar Pradesh. The government has already inaugurated many infrastructure projects in the state and the onset of metro services in Kanpur has been one of them in the league. Today Uttar Pradesh is amongst the fastest developing states in India with maximum number of operational metro services. Metro is becoming the lifeline of cities in the country. In the past few years, the government has extended this network to several cities and even more cities will be connected in the time to come". The PM said, "It is one of the big achievements as we have been able to deliver the projects within the stipulated timeline and were able to commence the commercial operations of Kanpur Metro in just 2 years 2 months which is a milestone in itself".

"While I was travelling in a metro from IIT to Geeta Nagar, I felt enthusiastic and elated with the growth and development of the city," said the PM adding that, "Today, Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the economic engine of India being the only state with five operational metro projects."

He said the inauguration of the nine-km-long Priority Corridor is a step towards making the lives of people better.

MD UPMRC MD, Kumar Keshav said, "The city's much coveted dream has been materialised into a reality. We are thankful to the people of Kanpur, who during these 26 months showed immense patience and extended cooperation in the successful commencement of revenue operations. The credit goes to the hardworking and dedicated team of UPMRC which left no stone unturned in achieving this feat within the stipulated time frame despite of Covid crisis."

"Carrying the legacy of providing world class metro services to the people, I am sure that our UPMRC team is going to achieve a similar feat for the upcoming metro projects in the state. Remaining corridors of Kanpur Metro, Agra Metro and proposed Gorakhpur Metro Rail Lite are some of the projects under the auspices of UPMRC which will surely be completed as per the set timelines," he said.

UP ministers Satish Mahana, Ranvendra Pratap Singh Dhunni, Lakhan Singh Rajput, Nilima Katiyar, Ajit Singh Palwere present during the inauguration ceremony.

It was a proud moment for the people of Kanpur as with the advent of metro services they will be relieved from the daily traffic snarls and pollution. Being an industrial city with a population of over 45 lakhs, the demographics of Kanpur have been evolving rapidly and commencement of Metro services will help decongest the roads.

The metro, connecting residential areas and prominent institutions, will become the lifeline of the city in the long run. On November 15, 2019, the Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath had inaugurated the civil construction work of Kanpur Metro. The civil construction work had continued even during the lockdown period induced due to Covid pandemic due to which the work could be completed in record time.

Between December 20 and 22, CMRS (Commissioner of Metro Rail Safety), had carried out thorough inspection of signalling, PA systems, CCTVs, viaduct, track and other basic facilities. The speed tests of the metro were also conducted to check the functionality and operational feasibility of the internal systems. The CMRS visit was successful and permission for revenue operations on the Priority section of Kanpur Metro was granted by him. It was only after this the metro service for people was launched.