

Metro rail to chug out in six more UP cities in five years

TNN | May 11, 2022, 04.05 AM IST

Lucknow: The Uttar Pradesh government is focusing on expanding Metro rail services in Gorakhpur, Varanasi, Meerut, Bareilly, Jhansi and Prayagraj.

Currently, construction work for Metro services is ongoing in Agra as well as in Kanpur, which has been funded by European Investment Bank (EIB). The EIB has also shared interest in funding the Gorakhpur Metro Lite project.

According to official sources, the Gorakhpur Metro Lite project is waiting for Cabinet approval at the Centre. The state cabinet and the Public Investment Board (PIB) chaired by the secretary finance and expenditure in New Delhi had already approved the first phase of the project.

On Tuesday, CM Yogi Adityanath has again issued directives to kick-start the Gorakhpur project in next six months. The Rs 2,670 crore project will have 14 elevated stations on a 15.14 km stretch in the first phase, which covers Gorakhnath Mandir, Gorakhpur railway station, Gorakhpur University and the newly commissioned AIIMS. The 24% urban population of UP contributes 65% to the state's GDP and the state government is keen to provide eco-friendly and viable commuting options for general masses of urban areas, officials said. The government has sought detailed project reports (DPRs) for Varanasi, Prayagraj, Jhansi and Meerut which are in their final stages.

The CM has also instructed officials to prepare DPRs for a Metro Neo project in Bareilly as well.