## Lko-Knp route may get rapid rail like Delhi-Meerut RRTS

## It Will Bring Down Travel Time Between 2 Cities From 2 Hrs To 50 Min

Shalabh@timesofindia.com

Lucknow: On the lines of Meerut-Delhi Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS), a high-speed corridor is set to come up between Lucknow and Kanpur too.

If this happens then the travel time between the two cities would come down from two hours to 50 minutes.

The state housing department has asked the Uttar Pradesh Metro Rail Corporation and the Unnao-Shuklaganj Development Authority to prepare a detailed project report (DPR) to evaluate whether the project is financially feasible.

To be funded by the central govt, the housing department has sought in-principle approval from UP govt to begin the process of further evaluation, after which a private consultant would be appointed to come up with DPR following the bidding process.

In addition to this, a 63-km six-lane Lucknow-Kanpur Expressway is already under construction and is expected

## REVOLUTIONISING CONNECTIVITY

- ➤ High-speed corridor between Lucknow and Kanpur will cut travel time from 2 hours to 50 mins
- > 67-km long rapid corridor will run from Nayaganj in Kanpur to Amausi
- > Cost estimates, traffic count, daily footfall, and revenue through commercial activity and project cost will be known after DPR is ready



A nine-member committee has been constituted under principal secretary, housing, to take things forward

to significantly reduce travel time between the two cities. The project is nearing completion and is slated to open soon. It will start from Lucknow connecting Bani, Kantha, Amarsas and will end near Azad Marg in Kanpur.

As per the preliminary outline, the 67-km long rapid corridor would run from Nayaganj locality in Kanpur to Amausi in Lucknow.

The two locations were shortlisted as a strategic move since existing metro rail services in the two cities are available for commuters at Nayaganj and Amausi, and providing further linkages would increase the catchment area of the metrorail.

Officials said the cost estimates, traffic count, daily footfall, and revenue through commercial activity and project cost would be known only after the DPR is ready. Similarly, total land area required for the project and the compensation to be paid for land acquisition would be known in the later

stages.

"For now, we can say that the housing department, along with its agencies, has started gathering details. But the evaluation and analysis of the work would be done by senior officials for further decision," said a senior officer.

A nine-member committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of principal secretary, housing department, to take things forward. District magistrates and vice-chairpersons of the development authorities in Lucknow, Unnao, and Kanpur are among the members, along with the chief town planner of the state and other senior officials from the housing department.

The committee would coordinate with the central govt and direct the govt agencies and departments concerned to provide their no-objection certificates to take up the project going forward. It would take at least four to six months to prepare the DPR, said an official.