

# Metro III: Citizens have no reason to fear tunnel boring

● **STAFF REPORTER**  
Mumbai

Citizens will not face any vibrations or any kind of damage due to the tunnel-boring work for Metro III (Colaba-Bandra-SEEPZ) underground line. There will be approximately a 15-metre gap between the foundation of old buildings (including heritage structures) and the Tunnel Boring machine (TBM) therefore the citizens don't have anything to worry about, the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation (MMRC) has stated.

The first boring activity will be done at Naya Nagar area at Mahim towards Dadar Metro station via Shitladevi this month. The TBM will be placed 25 metre below the ground surface to cut through the earth and make a tunnel. The launching of this machine will take 45 days while the entire tunnel will take one year.

Citizens are worried that this boring activity will create vibrations as huge rocks will be cut underground where the foundations of the buildings and heritage structures are laid. A citizen said, "The normal construction work of the metro causes so much noise so we do not know what will happen

when the process of boring holes in the earth begins."

But the MMRC has assured citizens not to fear unnecessarily. SK Gupta, Director (Projects) of MMRC, said, "There will be no vibrations at all. The foundations of heritage buildings are around five metres below ground surface. And we are boring 25 metres below so there is a gap of approximately 15 metres between the both. There are no cable lines, no utility lines and no foundations at all at this low level. Citizens should not fear unnecessarily."

Around 30 people will work per shift inside the TBM underground. "We aim to bore 8 to 14 metres per day as the entire distance from Naya Nagar to Dadar is 2.5 kilometre," Gupta added.

Around 17 TBMs will be assigned for the entire tunnelling of the 33.5 kilometre underground line. After Naya Nagar, the tunnelling work is expected to begin at Azad Maidan (CST) in October, Science Museum, Vidyanagari (near Kalina Mumbai University) and Pali Hill at Bandra in November and Cuffe Parade metro station in February-March.