



TBM 'Durga' Achieves Breakthrough on Kolkata Metro's Purple Line, Advancing Underground Connectivity on Joka-Esplanade Corridor

Corridor to Strengthen East-West Connectivity, Reduce Travel Time and Road Congestion Across Kolkata

Khidderpore-Victoria Underground Tunnel Completed One Year After Tunnelling Began, Marking Another Engineering Milestone for Kolkata Metro

Latest Achievement Follows Chingrighata Viaduct Completion and Continued Momentum in Kolkata Metro Expansion

प्रविष्टि तिथि: 10 JUL 2026 5:53PM by PIB Delhi

Kolkata Metro achieved a significant milestone with the successful breakthrough of Tunnel Boring Machine (TBM) 'Durga' at Purple Line of Kolkata Metro, marking the completion of one of the underground tunnel drives between Khidderpore and Victoria on the Joka-Esplanade Metro Corridor. The breakthrough, achieved today, is a key step towards strengthening Kolkata's urban mass transit network and advancing one of the city's most important Metro expansion projects.

Engineering excellence beneath the city. 

TBM Durga achieves breakthrough at purple line of Kolkata Metro.

Congratulations to the team! pic.twitter.com/V8ITtyqS7n

— Ashwini Vaishnaw (@AshwiniVaishnaw) July 10, 2026



Key Highlights:

- TBM 'Durga' successfully achieved a breakthrough at Victoria Metro Station.
- Marks the completion of the Khidderpore-Victoria underground tunnel, with tunnelling having commenced on 10 July 2025.
- The achievement reflects engineering excellence, precision planning, and seamless coordination among all stakeholders.
- The tunnelling work was executed while maintaining high standards of safety and quality, with minimal disruption to surface traffic.
- The Joka-Esplanade Metro Corridor will significantly improve east-west connectivity across Kolkata by linking the southern parts of the city with its central business district.
- The corridor is expected to provide faster, safer and more sustainable public transport, reducing travel time and easing road congestion.

The successful breakthrough of TBM 'Durga' builds on a series of important milestones achieved by Kolkata Metro within 50 days.



Earlier, Kolkata Metro successfully bridged the critical 62-metre viaduct gap at Chingrighata on the Kavi Subhash-Airport (Orange Line) corridor, removing a major construction bottleneck and paving the way for faster progress towards completing the line.

We have successfully bridged the 62-metre viaduct gap at Chingrighata – a critical link on Kolkata Metro's Orange Line.

TMC kept it stalled for years by refusing basic traffic diversion permissions. Even after the High Court and Supreme Court cleared the project, the work still... [pic.twitter.com/EUC9DHL34e](https://twitter.com/EUC9DHL34e)

— Ashwini Vaishnaw (@AshwiniVaishnaw) May 25, 2026

Subsequently, during his visit to Kolkata, Union Minister for Railways Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw reviewed the progress of Metro expansion projects. He travelled by Metro from Jai Hind Bimanbandar to Noapara station, interacted with fellow passengers to understand their travel experience and gather feedback on Metro services, and met Metro staff.



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A post shared by Ashwini Vaishnaw (@ashwini.vaishnaw)

The Minister also visited the Chingrighata project site, where he reviewed the recently completed viaduct work and appreciated the pace of execution. During the visit, he announced the induction of around 60 new-generation Metro trains over the next 4-5 years and highlighted that 45 km of new Metro network has been commissioned in and around Kolkata since 2014, compared to 28 km before 2014.



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Dharmendra Tewari/ Ritu Raj/ Manik Sharma

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