

India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS): Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS corridor

(Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs)

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the priority section of Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor at Sahibabad RapidX Station, Uttar Pradesh on October 20, 2023. He will also flag off the RapidX train connecting Sahibabad to Duhai Depot, marking the launch of Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) in India.



Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor

The 17 Km priority section of Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS Corridor will connect Sahibabad to 'Duhai Depot' with stations at Ghaziabad, Guldhar and Duhai on the way. The foundation stone for Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor was laid by the Prime Minister on March 08, 2019.

A total of eight RRTS corridors have been identified to be developed in NCR, out of which three corridors have been prioritised to be implemented in Phase-I including **Delhi- Ghaziabad- Meerut Corridor; Delhi- Alwar Corridor; and Delhi- Panipat Corridor**. The Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS, being developed at a cost of more than Rs 30,000 crore, will connect Delhi to Meerut in less than an hour of travel time going through the urban centres of Ghaziabad, Muradnagar, and Modinagar.

What is RRTS?

- **Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) is a new, dedicated, high speed, high capacity, comfortable commuter service connecting regional nodes in NCR.**
- **RRTS is different from metro as it caters to passengers looking to travel relatively longer distance with fewer stops and at higher speed.**
- **RRTS will provide reliable, high frequency, point to point regional travel at high speed along dedicated path way.**

RRTS being developed in the country, is a state-of-the-art regional mobility solution, and is comparable to the best in the world. It will provide safe, reliable and modern intercity commuting solutions in the country.

In line with PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan, the RRTS network will have extensive multi-modal-integration with railway stations, metro stations, bus services etc. Such transformative regional mobility solutions will boost economic activity in the region; provide improved access to employment, education & healthcare opportunities; and help in the significant reduction of vehicular congestion & air pollution.

Special features of India's first Regional Rapid Transit System

- **Design speed of 180 Kmph. Travel time from Delhi to Meerut in less than an hour.**
- **High-speed trains for intercity commuting every 15 minutes.**
- **Boosting Aatmanirbhar Bharat- All train sets used in RRTS are made in India.**
- **Contactless entry/exit with automatic fare collection using Rupay NCMC card/QR based ticketing.**
- **Employs state-of-the-art signalling system (European Train Control System (ETCS) Level 2) on Long-Term Evolution (LTE) backbone which enables Automatic Train Operation (ATO) and Platform screen door (PSD) integration, making it the first in the world to employ such technology.**
- **Clean and comfortable journey especially for women, children and Divyangjans.**
- **Extensive multi-modal integration with metro stations, railway stations, bus services etc.**
- **Multiple long-term benefits- Boost to economic activity, improved access to employment, education & healthcare opportunities and reduction of air pollution.**

Benefits of RRTS corridors:

The benefits from the RRTS corridors include **quantifiable benefits** such as fuel savings, travel time savings, savings in capital expenditure on road vehicles and **non-quantifiable benefits** such as economic development in the region, transit-oriented urban planning, better access to workplaces and other amenities, improved comfort to passengers, reduction in pollution, reduction in road accidents, savings in vehicular operating costs, facilitate easy access to jobs and services, reduce congestion on roads, etc.¹

Background:

National Capital Region Planning Board (NCRPB) had prepared a 'Functional Plan on Transport for National Capital Region (NCR)-2032' which recommended eight Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridors to connect various important towns of NCR with high-speed rail-based commuter transit system. These include:

- (i) Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut
- (ii) Delhi-Gurgaon-Rewari-Alwar
- (iii) Delhi-Sonapat-Panipat
- (iv) Delhi-Faridabad-Ballabhgarh-Palwal
- (v) Delhi-Bahadurgarh-Rohtak
- (vi) Delhi-Shahdara-Baraut
- (vii) Ghaziabad-Khurja and
- (viii) Ghaziabad-Hapur.

References:

- [Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3559 Dated December 7, 2016](#)
- <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1968768>
- <https://ncrtc.in/overview-project/>
- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1780907>

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¹ [Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3559 Dated December 7, 2016](#)