

Direct Metro link between Delhi and Gr Noida cleared

QUICK ACCESS The link will branch out from Botanical Garden station of DMRC and end at Noida's Sector 142 station of Aqua Line

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GREATER NOIDA: The Greater Noida authority in its 114th board meeting Friday approved a 14km Metro link that will directly connect the national capital with Greater Noida, via the Blue Line (Dwarka to Noida Electronic City).

The link will branch out from Botanical Garden Metro station and end at Noida's Sector 142 Metro station of the Aqua Line. Although the link will be part of the Delhi Metro network, it will be built by the Noida Metro Rail Corporation (NMRC) and funded by the Noida authority.

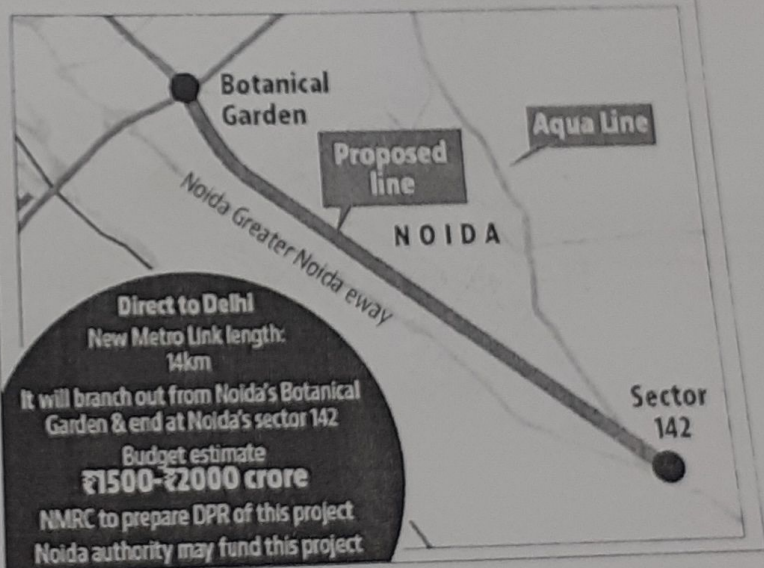
"Our objective in approving this link was to provide direct connectivity between Delhi and Greater Noida. As of now, the Aqua Line connects Noida with Greater Noida, but there is no direct connectivity between Greater Noida and Delhi. The new link will cut travel time and provide relief to commuters," Anup Chandra Pandey, chief secretary of Uttar Pradesh, who is also the chairman of the Greater Noida authority, said.

The 14km link will run parallel to the Noida-Greater Noida Expressway, once it branches out from the Botanical Garden Metro station. The Botanical Garden station will also serve as an interchange station, linking commuters to Blue Line and the Janakpuri West-Botanical Garden corridor. This interchange station currently bears a load of 1 lakh passengers daily, said officials.

"The Botanical Garden to Sector 142 Metro Link will provide additional connectivity between Delhi and Greater Noida. The existing connectivity via Aqua

Delhi comes closer to Gr Noida

The 14km link will run parallel to Noida-Greater Noida Expressway, once it branches out from Botanical Garden



➤ The Botanical Garden to Sector 142 Metro Link will provide additional connectivity between Delhi and Greater Noida... once this new link becomes operational, reaching Delhi from Greater Noida will be easier.

ANUP CHANDRA PANDEY, chief secretary of Uttar Pradesh

Line connects the central part of Noida and takes longer to reach Delhi. But once this new link becomes operational, reaching Delhi from Greater Noida will be easier as it will cut travel time," Pandey said. The board has authorised the Noida Metro Rail Corporation to prepare a detailed project report for the link. The NMRC owns 29.707km Aqua Line.

"The NMRC will prepare the detailed project report and economic feasibility report for this

link. As per the estimate, we would need ₹1,500-2,000 crore to build this project," Pandey said.

The Greater Noida owes ₹5,000 crore to various government agencies, including the Noida authority and banks. "We do not have funds to build this project and we would request the Noida authority to fund this project as falls in its jurisdiction," Narender Bhooshan, chief executive officer, Greater Noida authority said.