

From tomorrow, an Aqua Line train every 7.5 minutes during rush hours

Ridership Expected To Increase, Trains To Make More Trips On Weekdays

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Noida: The Noida Metro Rail Corporation (NMRC) has decided to increase the frequency of metro trains on the Aqua Line on weekdays from Monday. Trains will now run at a frequency of seven minutes and 30 seconds during peak hours and 10 minutes during non-peak hours on weekdays.

The increased frequency will also mean that the trains will make more trips. As against 163 trips now, trains will make 221 trips from Monday. Aqua Line currently has a frequency of 10 minutes during peak hours and 15 minutes during non-peak hours and Saturday and Sunday.

"We received feedback from passengers that there was need for better frequency on the Aqua Line. We did not have enough trains initially, but the situation improved by April-end. We now have 13 trains running that can cater to the increased frequency," said PD Upadhyay, executive director of NMRC.

Aqua Line currently has 13 trains running, and one more kept on standby. Upadhyay

THAT WAIT IS SET TO GET SHORTER

CHANGE IN FREQUENCY		
	Current	New
	Frequency	
Weekdays peak hours (8 am-11 am & 5pm-8pm)	10 mins	7 mins 30 secs
Weekdays non-peak hours	15 min	10 mins
Weekends (Saturday and Sunday)	15 mins	15 mins



Number of trips daily
163

From Monday
221

Number of trains running daily
13

Metro timings on weekdays
6am to 10pm

Metro timings on Sundays
8am to 10pm

said that a total of 19 trains would be ready after a trial run of 4,000 kilometres. The demand for increasing the frequency

of trains was necessitated by a rise in ridership recently. As of now, Aqua Line has a daily ridership of 17,000.

"For the past one week, the ridership has been over 19,000. This could be because of the hot weather condition as well

as increased awareness regarding the connectivity between Aqua Line and Blue Line of Delhi Metro. We are expecting that with the higher frequency, more people will start using the metro," Upadhyay said.

The frequency of Delhi Metro is about three minutes on most of its corridors. However, officials said the frequency in Delhi is based on the ridership and demand from commuters. In Noida, the ridership is still not enough to increase its frequency, officials pointed out.

NMRC on Saturday also called for applicants for co-branding of more Aqua Line stations as well as for exclusive advertisement rights in trains.

Aqua Line is almost 30km in length and has 21 stations on the route. NMRC operates its trains from 6am to 10pm from Monday to Saturday. On Sundays, operation begins from 8am and services are available till 10pm. The minimum and maximum fares on the Aqua Line are Rs 10 and Rs 50, respectively, with slabs of 15, 20, 30 and 40 in between.