

# Jangpura newest link in rapid rail corridor

**Risha Chitlangia**

risha.chitlangia@htlive.com

**NEW DELHI:** Jangpura in south Delhi is set to become an important transit point in the city as the Nation Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) has decided to extend its Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor, which earlier started from Sarai Kale Khan, till Jangpura. With this, the corridor, which is expected to be completed by 2025, will have 25 stations on the approximately 84-km-long stretch.

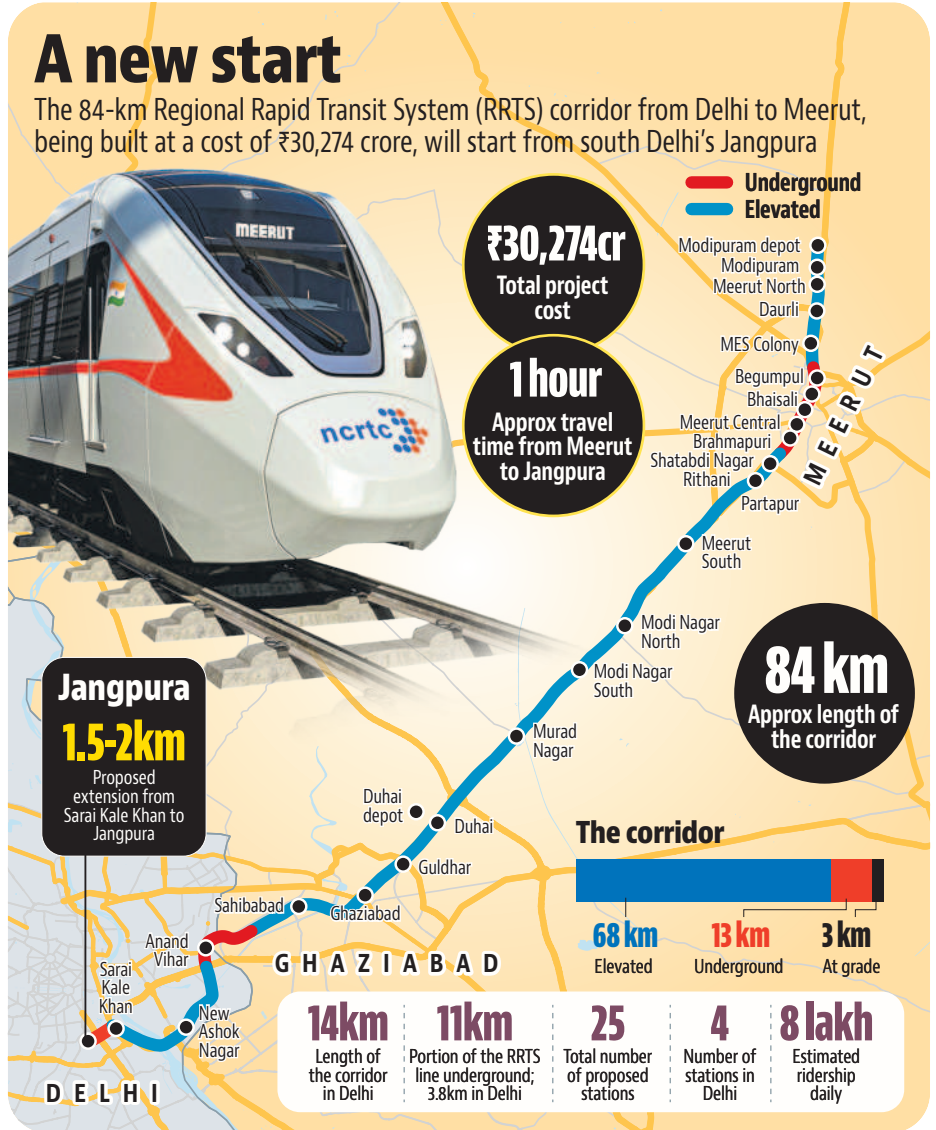
According to the initial plan, Sarai Kale Khan, New Ashok Nagar and Anand Vihar were the only three stations planned in Delhi, and Jangpura was identified only for a stabling yard-cum-maintenance facility. An operational control centre to monitor and control the time-bound operations of trains on all three RRTS corridors -- Delhi-Meerut, Delhi-Gurugram-SNB, Delhi-Panipat -- will also come up in Jangpura, said an NCRTC official.

"We will be constructing a stabling yard-cum-train maintenance facility at Jangpura for all the three corridors of Phase-I of RRTS, so it is a very strategic decision to also construct an RRTS station there to serve residents of nearby localities," said Vinay Kumar Singh, managing director, NCRTC.

With the new station, areas such as Lajpat Nagar, Nizamuddin, Ashram, and major hospitals such as AIIMS and Safdarjung, will be easily accessible to people living in Meerut and Ghaziabad. Currently, it takes around two hours to reach AIIMS from Meerut, and officials said the new corridor will cut it down to nearly an hour.

The decision to develop Jangpura as a station was taken recently by NCRTC, officials said, adding that the station-cum-stabling yard will be developed on a 12-hectare plot located between Jangpura Extension Road and Mathura Road. The NCRTC is preparing a plan to integrate the station and stabling yard.

"Jangpura is one of the nodes identified to be taken up for tran-



sit oriented development. We are working on a comprehensive plan to provide seamless access to RRTS station," said Singh.

An NCRTC spokesperson said that like any other RRTS stations, Jangpura will also be equipped with commuter-centric amenities like universal accessibility, dedicated pick-up and drop-off zones, parking and other facilities.

The Delhi-Meerut corridor is the first RRTS corridor being developed by the NCRTC and the construction began in 2019.

"Once operational, RRTS will

decongest Delhi by facilitating the stay of non-NCR residents in their home towns while comfortably travelling everyday to the Capital for work/education, like in other world class cities. Also, it will significantly reduce pollution by taking nearly a lakh vehicles off the road," said Singh.

Of the total 84km, 14km, including a 1.35-km-long bridge over Yamuna to connect New Ashok Nagar and Sarai Kale Khan stations, will be in Delhi. The construction work of the bridge, which will run parallel to the Delhi Noida Direct flyway,

started in February this year.

The spokesperson said the construction of the corridor is going on at a fast pace: "About 1,000 piers of the elevated section and 11km of viaduct have already been completed."

Transport expert S Velmurugan, the chief scientist at CSIR-Central Road Research Institute, said, "It will benefit people who commute daily to south Delhi from Ghaziabad or Meerut. While extending the section till Jangpura is a good idea, it will not make a major difference in the ridership."