

- Pune Metro's Underground Tunnelling Work Completed at Budhwar Peth.
- A Breakthrough: Pune Metro completes 12 Km Underground Metro Tunnelling Work by TBM.

Today, on 4th June 2022, marks the completion of the last leg of tunnelling from Swargate to Budhwar Peth underground stretch of the Pune metro project. The TBM Mula II achieved a breakthrough at Budhwar Peth metro station. It had started digging on 5th September 2021 from Swargate crossed Mandai, and completed the 2.025 km tunnel digging work at Budhwar Peth in approximately 10 months. This milestone achieved by Pune metro signifies completion of the 100% tunnelling work of the total 12km underground tunnel length.

Pune metro has two corridors with a total length of 33.2kms. One from Vanaz to Ramwadi which is an elevated line and the other from PCMC to Swargate which is elevated from PCMC to Agriculture college and thereafter underground up to Swargate. The underground section is about 6 km and this stretch has Shivaji Nagar, Civil Court, Budhwar Peth, Mandai, and Swargate underground metro stations.

The underground section comprises of two parallel tunnel for up and down metro train. For the 6 km tunnelling work three TBM were used. These Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) have been named after the rivers in Pune viz. Mula, Mutha, and Pavana. The Tunnelling done by these TBMs is:

ТВМ	From	То
Mutha	Agriculture College	Budhwar Peth
Mula- I	Agriculture College	Budhwar Peth
Pavana	Swargate	Budhwar Peth
Mula- II (Mula- I has been reused and names as Mula-II)	Swargate	Budhwar Peth

When the TBM finishes the tunnelling work and arrives at a station shaft, the event is termed as a, Breakthrough. The present event is the last breakthrough in the Pune metro. In the past, 5 breakthroughs were seen, the details are given below.

Breakthrough Details (mm/dd/yy)				
Sr.No	Location	Up Line Date	Down Line Date	
1	Civil Court	9/28/2020	11/7/2020	
2	Budhwar Peth	7/23/2021	7/14/2021	
3	Budhwar Peth		1/14/2022	

The underground stretch is a very challenging and crucial part of the Pune metro project. M/s Tata-Gulermark, the underground stretch contractor for Pune metro has done a commendable work. Due to the technical expertise and sound project management the tunnelling work is completed without any trouble. Since the tunnel work is completed, it has paved way for track, signalling and traction work.

On this final breakthough, Dr Brijesh Dixit, MD Maha Metro said, "The tunnelling work of Pune Metro was done with utmost precision and world-class technology. This final breakthrough marks the completion of the 12km tunnel line and it is a very proud moment for Maha metro. Without the active support of the citizens of Pune and administrative bodies, the work on the underground stretch of the Pune Metro project wouldn't have been achieved swiftly and successfully. MAHA Metro is committed to complete the work in time".