THE HINDU

Union Cabinet clears ₹30,274-cr Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS

Regional Rapid Transit System to cover a distance of 82.15 km

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The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Tuesday approved construction of rail-based high-speed transit system for the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut corridor to be build at a cost of ₹30,274 crore.

The Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) will cover a distance of 82.15 km, of which 68.03 km will be elevated and 14.12 km will be underground, an official statement said.

"Central financial assistance of ₹5,634 crore will be in the form of grant and subordinate debt," it added.

The project is likely to be completed in six years time, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley said. "Implementation of the RRTS would provide the

> **Implementation of the RRTS would provide the much-needed additional public transport infrastructure to the National Capital Region to address issues of congestion, air pollution**
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> ARUN JAITLEY
> Union Finance Minister

much-needed additional public transport infrastructure to the National Capital Region to address issues of congestion, air pollution and catalyse balances and substantial regional development," the Minister added.

The project is proposed to be undertaken by a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) – National Capital Region Transport Corporation.

The RRTS will be a first-of-its-kind, rail-based, high-speed regional transit system to be implemented in India, the government said, adding that once operational, it will be the fastest and the safest mode of commuter transport in the National Capital Region.

"The RRTS aims to streamline the urban transportation system, which is stressed due to intensive developments, and increase in the number of private vehicles, thus, putting stress on travel infrastructure and industrial activities, and by providing the people a safe, secure, reliable, fast and comfortable public transport," it added.