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BELONG TO VALPARAI, AND HAVE SEEN SEVERAL WILD ANIMALS IN My Youth, so I know a leopard when I see one.

> CALEB GILBERT, man who spotted the 'leopar

## CM will open 29.7km Metro route to G Noida on Jan 25

FLAG-OFF Project received safety clearances on Dec 21; inauguration delayed because of PM's unavailability

## Vinod Rajput

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GREATER NOIDA: The Noida Metro Rail Corporation (NMRC) Thursday said Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will inaugurate the Noida-Greater Noida Metro Link on January 25.

The 29.7-km Noida-Greater Noida Metro link was given its requisite safety clearances on December 21, paving the way for operations.

The state government, and other local leaders, had urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to inaugurate the project. However, this did not come fruition, and the chief minister is now scheduled to open the project for public use, officials said.

"The CM will inaugurate the Metro Link on January 25, from Depot Metro station. After that, he will travel to Noida's Sector 142 station," PD Upadhyaya, executive director, NMRC, said.

The Greater Noida authority chief executive officer Narendra Bhooshan said a manufacturing unit in Greater Noida has invited the chief minister to its campus, which Adityanath may also visit.

The inauguration of the longest Metro corridor outside Delhi was on hold because neither Modi nor Adityanath was able to commit to a date for the inauguration

The Metro link has 21 stations including sectors 52, 51, 50, 78, 81, Dadri Road, sectors 83, 137, 142, 143, 144, 147, 153, 149, Knowledge Park 2, Knowledge Park 1, Pari Chowk, Alpha 1, Alpha 2, Delta 1 and Depot. Around 20km of the line is located in Noida and the rest in Greater Noida.

The NMRC, formed on November 14, 2014, owns the ₹5,503 crore project (including the cost of the land), and, in 2015, roped in the DMRC, which started work on the project on May 25, 2015.

