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Delhi PWD team visits Metro Rail facilities

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

HYDERABAD: A team of senior officers of Public Works Department (PWD) of Delhi government led by Secretary (PWD) Sarvagya Srivastava visited the office of Hyderabad Metro Rail Ltd (HMRL) and met its Managing Director N.V.S. Reddy on Saturday, to understand various chal-

lenges faced in the execution of mega projects in urban areas.

The visiting team spent the day learning some intricacies of public private partnership (PPP) mode as the Delhi government was planning to take up major works such as inter-State bus terminal, transit-oriented development (TOD) projects, flyovers and others

in PPP mode in New Delhi.

Explaining the challenges of projects taken up in PPP mode, the HMRL MD advised the visitors to develop passion and commitment towards work as implementation of urban projects in PPP mode would require enormous patience, tact, grit and determination to succeed.

He highlighted the innu-

merable challenges faced by HMRL in handling religious/sensitive structures, acquisition of properties to create the right of way, handling agitations and vested interests and shifting of utilities such as water, sewer and electrical lines without disrupting day-to-day life in the city. He also informed them how HMRL had won 190 of over 200 legal

suits filed against it in the High Court.

On the plantation drive and translocation of trees taken up by HMRL, Mr. Reddy explained them how a project that was once "written-off" by critics was now winning prestigious international awards. The team also visited some Metro Rail stations and Uppal Metro Rail depot.