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Road works pose challenge to Metro Rail

Experts advise the civic officials to finish blasting operation and rock cutting in the stretch at Raidurgam before Metro works begin

OUR BUREAU

Hyderabad: Experts in the construction field have advised the municipal officials to complete the blasting operation and rock cutting in the stretch of Mindspace and Metro Rail station at Raidurgam for laying road before the Metro Rail authorities start construction activity.

A meeting was held between the Metro Rail and Municipal Administration and Urban Development officials on the proposed works of GHMC flyover and underpass at Mindspace junction

overlapping with Metro Rail station at Raidurgam.

The HMR MD N V S Reddy requested all the stakeholders to examine each other's proposals and arrive at a technically feasible solution so that both the works of Metro Rail and GHMC could be executed in a time bound manner. The MD also requested GHMC to prepare the storm water drain plan for the VUP (Vehicular Under Pass) since the area does not have regular storm water drain system and the underpass would get flooded and affect the Metro Rail

pillar foundations during rains, if proper drain system is not developed simultaneously.

IIT Kanpur retired professor M S Madhav, who was invited specially for giving his technical opinion stated that blasting of the rock for the underpass should be completed before taking up Metro rail pillar foundations. He further said that the Metro Rail pillar foundations are very sensitive to vibrations and any settlement would have cascading effect on rail track and operations of trains. The bearing capacity of soil should be properly apporportioned and shared

wherever integrated construction of the underpass and Metro Rail is taken up. Special care needs to be given to the underpass box proportion, he advised.

IIT Hyderabad Professor and special invitee K V L Subramaniam, said that the Metro Rail structure on single pillar was very sensitive to vibrations and as such it requires a lot of care during construction of the underpass, so as to see that the structure is not affected due to any external effects. He advised the blasting operation and rock cutting should be completed before

taking up any Metro Rail construction activity.

Earlier, LTMRHL project director M P Naidu, made a detailed presentation on different steps involved in construction of Metro Rail station at Raidurgam and the time required for each activity. Special chief secretary and MAUD principal secretary M G Gopal, directed that a joint working group comprising of representatives of LTMRHL, GHMC and HMRL should meet regularly under the guidance of the technical experts for completing the works on time.