

Electric vehicle charging infra to come up at Metro stns in phases

Miyapur Stn To Get First Unit In 15 Days

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: In sync with the electric vehicle (EV) push of the Union government, Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) along with its partners announced that it will be setting up EV charging infrastructure at Metro stations in the city. The tripartite agreement to carry out the task was inked between infra giant Larsen & Toubro (L&T), HMRL and Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) on Saturday.

HMRL managing director NVS Reddy said the first EV charging infrastructure will be up and running at Miyapur Metro station in the next 15 days, following which the other 23 stations will be covered phase-wise. To start with, Miyapur Metro station will have three charging units set up by PGCIL in the parking lot.

Reddy claimed that HMRL has parking facilities in all the 24 Metro stations and more than half of the total parking area is lying vacant. "It will take about 45 minutes to charge an EV car. Once we have the facility, we hope more people will be encouraged to switch over to EVs. As demand picks up, we will scale up the charging infrastructure," he said, adding that in the next few months it will also offer battery swapping facilities.

While the exact cost of the usage of this facility has not yet been worked out, Reddy said people will be spending a "fraction" of what they shell out on diesel or petrol. A senior PGCIL official pointed out that it is the first time an EV charging infrastructure is being put up at a Metro station and if the company receives encouraging response from Hyderabad, it will replicate it in other citi-

24 METRO STATIONS TO BE COVERED PHASE-WISE

TO ENCOURAGE ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY CARS SO THAT INDIA IS ABLE TO BRING ITS VEHICULAR CARBON FOOTPRINT TO ZERO, SEVERAL STATE GOVERNMENTS ARE OFFERING VARIOUS BENEFITS TO POTENTIAL BUYERS AND MANUFACTURERS

Tripartite pact to set up EV charging infrastructure inked between L&T, HMRL and PGCIL in Hyderabad on Saturday

Miyapur Metro station parking lot will have three charging units set up by PGCIL

It will take 45 minutes to charge an EV car

HMRL MD NVS Reddy said people will be spending a 'fraction' of what they cough up on diesel or petrol

Telangana will unveil EV policy on June 29

Policy will be based on framework of - the Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of (Hybrid) & Electric Vehicles in India - FAME India - provided by Union government

EV PUSH

THE DEAL

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- NVS Reddy | HMRL MANAGING DIRECTOR

ENVY THY NEIGHBOUR?

Andhra Pradesh has recently come up with EV policy where it has set a target of 10 lakh EVs by 2023

AP eyeing investment of ₹30,000 crore in next five years by offering incentives to electric car makers, battery manufacturers & companies setting up charging infrastructure, among others

In February this year, Maharashtra unveiled EV policy to generate investment worth ₹25,000 crore and to generate employment for 1 lakh people

STATS



According to industry estimates, EV market in India stood at around 25,000 units in 2016-17. Of these, nearly 92% were two-wheelers



es having Metro connectivity. "We are talking to Chennai as well as Delhi Metro," a PGCIL official said.

Telangana IT and industries department principal secretary Jayesh Ranjan said the state government will be unveiling its EV policy on June 29. The policy will be based on the framework of - the Faster Adoption and Ma-

nufacturing of (Hybrid) & Electric Vehicles in India - FAME India - provided by the Union government.

In April this year, the Union government had extended the FAME India Scheme for an additional six months as it is yet to finalise and allocate resources to implement the phase two of the scheme.

Under this scheme, about 99,000 hybrid/electric vehicles have been given direct support by way of demand incentives since the launch on April 1, 2015. The government has also approved pilot projects, charging infrastructure projects and technological development projects aggregating to nearly ₹155 crore.

Govt seeks innovative solutions for connectivity

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: To boost innovation in the area of 'smart mobility' and provide solutions for first and last mile connectivity, WRI India Ross Center for Sustainable Cities and Toyota Mobility Foundation (TMF) in collaboration with the Telangana government and Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) announced the launch of 'Station Access and Mobility Program' (STAMP) Challenge on Saturday.

The competition calls for innovative solutions from budding entrepreneurs to solve the problem of first and last mile connectivity to Metro stations. The STAMP Challenge will offer the top three business solutions a \$50,000 financial assistance along with mentorship and support to collaborate to design and implement last mile solutions.

Telangana IT and industries principal secretary Jayesh Ranjan said the government will provide all necessary support to entrepreneurs to scale up their ideas. "The Metro system can be more effective if an efficient first and last mile connectivity is established, providing access to a larger population. If there is safe, efficient and seamless connectivity to and from the Metro stations, it will not only be used, but will also boost the ridership of these high capacity systems," WRI India OP Agarwal said.

TMF CEO Shin Aoyama said they intend to improve accessibility to Metro transit and increase its usage through research, multi-stakeholder partnership and capacity building.

In April, HMRL had inked a pact with Uber to improve connectivity from stations. Uber has set up kiosks at stations to help people book cabs. In December 2017, HMRL had partnered with Ola, wherein the latter agreed to set up kiosks at station premises.