

[ Upward Trend ]

# Metro patronage sees upward curve

Number of passengers availing the service has increased by nearly 15,000 to 20,000 a day

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In tune with the increasing frequency of Hyderabad Metro Rail services, patronage too has started to take an upward curve, for the service. In the last fortnight, patronage increased by nearly 15,000 to 20,000 a day in the Metro services.

Hyderabad Metro Rail authorities increased the train frequency on April 21 and now for every 6.5 minutes, a train is being operated during peak hours and in eight minutes there is a train during the non-peak hours.

Accordingly, the patronage which was around 50,000 passengers a day has now shot up to nearly 70,000 a day.

On holidays, the patronage is slightly higher than the regular days.

There have been requests from passengers, especially on the Nagole - Ameerpet stretch, to increase the frequency of Metro services. On this stretch, trains were operated at a frequency of 15 minutes.

As the trains were being operated manually on Met-



Photo: Surya Snidkar

## Gaining speed

- Metro train frequency increased on April 21
- Non-peak hours, it is every 8 minutes
- Increase in passengers from 50,000 to over 70,000 a day
- Of this, nearly 30% are women
- Communications Based Train Control put in place

During peak hours, a train operates every 6.5 minutes

tuguda-Ameerpet stretch, the speed was relatively low compared to Miyapur-Ameerpet stretch.

After the Commission of Metro Rail Safety gave its nod, the Communications

Based Train Control was put in place and the train frequency was increased.

Earlier, nearly 400 trips were operated a day on both Miyapur-Ameerpet and Ameerpet-Nagole stretches

which now have been increased to 540 trips a day.

The patronage for Metro Rail services among women too has started to increase. According to senior officials, the number of women pas-

sengers has been going up. "Of the 70,000 passengers travelling in Metro trains, nearly 30 per cent are women," said a senior official.

Given the comfort, secu-

rity and safety, women have started to prefer Metro for their daily commuting, he said. The HMRL recently launched exclusive women coaches which may further increase the patronage.