

[ Shopping Needs ]

# Metro to go beyond just travel

Stations will have grocery to pharmacy and garments to electronic appliance stores

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From being the place where one starts the daily grind, travelling to work and then, back home, the Hyderabad Metro stations will be much more, with facilities being readied to enable commuters take care of their daily shopping needs at the stations themselves.

From grocery to pharmacy and garments to electronic appliance stores and eateries, the stations will be where a commuter can manage home affairs on the go.

Apart from this amalgamation of aesthetics and convenience, these stations will also be crucial for pedestrians in the city as well, by serving as vital foot over bridges to cross the road without hassles.

The stations consist of two levels, including the Concourse and Platform. The concourse level is again divided into paid and unpaid areas to ensure hassle-free movement for commuters and decongestion in the station.

The unpaid area in the station is accessible to both commuters boarding the metros and those using the stations as FOBs. The unpaid area will house retail spaces, ticketing counters, baggage scanners, metal detectors, fare media readers and excess fare office among others.

Beyond the unpaid area, only valid ticket holders will be permitted to enter the platform area and this will be done by Automatic Fare Collection (AFC) gates, which separate the unpaid area from the paid area at a station.

HMR officials said the stations have been designed to be in tune with 'Person with Disabilities Act' provisions. The platforms have been designed in a way to avoid movement of wheelchairs, prams etc., onto the tracks. Ramps have been provided right from the road/drop off areas to the walkway to aid the differently-abled. Instructions in Braille script, audio announcements and visual signage have been provided



PEOPLE-FRIENDLY INITIATIVE: The platforms have been designed in a way to avoid movement of wheelchairs, prams etc., onto the tracks.

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to guide commuters. Ticket vending machines have also been enabled to guide passengers with speech impairments and the automatic fare gates are wide enough for the convenience of commuters with wheelchairs. Tactile flooring is also provided to guide visually challenged commuters to ticketing, washroom, customer service, lifts, staircase, train door etc. Keeping the safety of commuters in mind, the stations have been designed to meet evacuation and fire separation norms as per internationally accepted standards for Fixed Guide Way Transit and Passenger Rail System of the National Fire Prevention Association.

## MAKE THE RIGHT MOVES

For enjoying a comfortable journey in Metro trains and to ensure safe and hassle-free commuting, HMR has issued some guidelines for passengers



### DO'S

- Cooperate with staff during security checks
- Vacate train premises after reaching the destination
- Use elevators to carry baby buggies and wheelchairs to the platform level
- Display valid tokens and smart card for inspection whenever requested by HMR staff. Ticketless travel is a punishable offence

### DON'TS

- Do not squat on the Metro rail premises or inside the Metro train
- Pets are not allowed inside Metro rail premises
- Do not cross the yellow line in the platform area while waiting for the train
- Hazardous and inflammable items are prohibited inside rail premises
- Do not carry excess luggage in trains
- Do not try to open the train doors forcefully or lean on them while travelling on the Metro train
- Do not get too close to the overhead wires
- Do not tread on the tactile path, which is meant for the visually challenged
- Do not attempt to use any emergency communication with the train driver unless a medical emergency or any emergency
- Do not board or alight a Metro train when the automated doors are about to close
- Do not use a ticket for more number of journeys on a train than permitted as it will be treated as ticketless travel