

## Street-level work below metro stations picks up pace

Will ensure quality and aesthetic design: MD N.V.S. Reddy

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The Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR) officials, taking advantage of the prevailing dry weather, are confident of completing the street-level work right below the 24 elevated metro stations across the 30-km corridor, Nagole-Ameerpet-Miyapur, in the next couple of weeks. The 30-km metro stretch is scheduled for inauguration on November-end.

'Zone B', the main station area of 230 metres each, has four entries and exits, and staircases, escalators and elevators.

The focus there is on improving footpaths, service lanes, street furniture, green spaces etc. 'Zone A & C', which are on both ends of the station bringing a total of 700 metres into this urban rejuvenation work, would also witness similar transformation, said MD N.V.S. Reddy.

After inspecting the ongoing work at several places on Sunday, he said the average metro station covered 1.2 km underneath. He added that commuter and pedestrian-friendly measures would be taken up, and completed in stages.

Several encroachments have been removed, electricity and telephone equipment, cables shifted along with relaying of storm water drains and sewer lines in the last few weeks, allowing work to pick up pace.

Five to ten-feet digging was being done on both



Street-level work in progress under a metro station in the city on Sunday. • BY ARRANGEMENT

sides of the roads for layer by layer consolidation. If the road was between 150-200 ft, two service lanes were being provided on each side, with footpaths ranging from 10 ft - 25 ft, with quality tiling and aesthetic design, he explained.

The MD said safety railing would be provided at the main station area (Zone 'B') on the edge of the footpath at a minimum length of 250 metres so that the metro commuters do not spill onto the main road, thereby ensuring better flow of road traffic, pedestrian safety and

preventing overcrowding of station areas.

Marking for bus bays, auto bays, e-vehicle bays and parking areas were being created in consultation with the TSRTC, traffic police and GHMC officials.

Modern and eco-friendly toilets would be provided on both sides of all the metro stations.

Shady and ornamental plants would be interspersed with good street furniture of different designs together with planter boxes as additional seating arrangement, he added.