

Metro to start trial runs soon

HYDERABAD: Hyderabad Metro Rail is gearing up to commence trial runs for obtaining clearances from Commissioner of Metro Rail Safety (CMRS) to launch operations from November-end. CMRS clearances are mandatory for operations on the Miyapur-Nagole stretch covering 29 km.

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The CMRS had already issued safety clearances for the Miyapur - SR Nagar and Nagole - Mettuguda stretches covering nearly 20 km. "It is almost like a formality and all the works are being taken up at brisk pace. The test runs will commence shortly and the CMRS will issue clearance in about 10 days after witnessing the test runs," HMR Managing Director NVS Reddy said. There are 25 stations, including the interchange station at Mythrivanam in Ameerpet, along the 29-km stretch. HMRL has completed construction of the stations and at present electrical and other works are under way. More importantly, three bottlenecks at Oliphant Bridge in Secunderabad, at Begum-

pet and at Ameerpet interchange stations on the stretch from Nagole-Miyapur have been cleared. HMRL is now taking up works pertaining to electrification and others.

Though the CMRS will be inspecting the entire stretch, emphasis will be on the S.R.Nagar to Mettuguda stretch since this portion was not completed earlier.

Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister K T Rama Rao had recently declared that the Hyderabad Metro would be ready for inauguration between November 15 and 20. The Minister said confirmation from Prime Minister Narendra Modi's office was awaited for his participation in the inaugural ceremony. HMR is planning to

arrange the ceremony at the Miyapur station.

Meanwhile, Reddy along City Police Commissioner M. Mahendar Reddy and Cyberabad Police Commissioner Sandeep Shandilya inspected facilities at the Miyapur metro station on Friday. During the inspection, the police officials were told as to how Metro stations would serve as Foot Over Bridges (FOBs) for the convenience of pedestrians to cross the road. HMRL authorities also briefed the police officials on traffic related developmental works like service roads and public amenities being taken up at the station. CMRS clearances are mandatory before commencement of operations.