

## Take up Old City Metro project: CM

STATE BUREAU

Hyderabad

Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao directed the Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) Department to take up the Hyderabad Metro project in the Old City.

This was informed by MA&UD Minister KT Rama Rao, who shared a post stating that the Chief Minister has instructed the Municipal Administration Department to take forward the Metro project in Old City. The Chief Minister also spoke to the chairman of L&T, which is the agency executing the Metro Rail Project, to expeditiously take up the project and promised all needed support from the State government, he added.

The State government had earlier made it clear that the Metro service

**Directs Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department to go ahead with the project**

would be extended till the Old City. To this effect, it also allocated Rs 500 crore in the Budget this financial year. At present, the Metro covers 70 km on three corridors, including Jubilee Bus Station - Falaknuma.

However, the 5.5 km stretch from MGBS to Falaknuma could not be taken up due to different reasons, including land and property acquisition issues and legal hassles. With increasing traffic, there has been a constant demand for extending Metro services to the Old City to ensure better public transport connectivity. (SEE PAGE 2)

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This issue has now been addressed with the Chief Minister directing the MA&UD Department to take up the project. Rama Rao, at the release of the MA&UD's 10-year report recently, also reiterated that the State government would take up and complete the Old City Metro Rail project.

The Hyderabad Metro's extension into the Old City could not be completed owing to financial losses incurred by L&T during the Covid-19 pandemic. This apart, there were several religious and heritage structures along the proposed route in the Old City, making land and property acquisition a challenging task for officials.