

Hyd Metro's student pass a hit, 10k sold

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Hyderabad: Within just four months of starting, the student metro pass offered by Hyderabad metro rail has received an encouraging response. About 10,000 passes have been sold so far which is indicative of growing preference for the metro as an option for daily commute among students. A majority of card users are school and intermediate students.

"The scheme is a grand success and students are very happy. The present scheme is up to March 31, 2024. We will take a call to extend it further," said HMRL managing director NVS Reddy. Students form the second biggest chunk of users for Hyderabad metro, with about 1.2 lakh of approximate 5 lakh daily passengers being students. They come right after IT professionals, 1.4 lakh of whom use the metro services.

However, the lack of carry over of additional free trips to next month is a big burden as not all can travel using the metro for 30 days a month. "Despite having paid the full ₹900 to travel from Miyapur to Prakash Nagar, I could only take 27 trips in the 30-day span. Three trips expired and did not even get carried over," said Ritesh K, an Inter student.

The high cost is also a barrier for students whose colleges and schools are right next to metro line. "I travel daily from Dilsukhnagar to JNTU. The main reason I don't opt for a metro pass is that I'll have to pay ₹1,100 for 30 trips. In RTC, I just have to pay ₹450 a month," said Mounika Reddy, a JNTU student.