

Hyd Metro to launch awareness drive to ensure passenger safety

Reviews monsoon preparedness

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Hyderabad Metro Rail Ltd (HMRL) Managing Director NVS Reddy led a crucial review meeting on Thursday to evaluate the Metro's preparedness for the impending monsoon season. The session, held at Metro Rail Bhavan, included L&TMRHL MD KVB Reddy and senior officials from L&TMRHL, Keolis (the Operations & Maintenance company), HMRL and Independent Engineer AECOM.

With an emphasis on uninterrupted service, passenger safety and convenience during heavy rains, Reddy called for heightened vigilance and round-the-clock monitoring of Metro operations and installations by senior engineers. He commended the pre-monsoon maintenance efforts and safety measures implemented and reiterated several key directives.

Arrangements have been made for immediate switching to alternate electric feeders in case of Transco feeder tripping, to avoid service disruptions. Thorough inspections and sealing of expansion joints, cleaning



of rainwater spouts and pipes, and removing vegetation on viaducts are prioritised. Regular pruning of trees near the Metro viaduct and removal of foreign objects from the electric traction have been advised.

Additional housekeeping staff will be deployed to prevent water stagnation on platforms due to rains. Flexible advertisements near the viaduct will be removed to avoid disruptions, and loose nuts and bolts on electrical fittings will be tightened.

To further secure the infrastructure, additional G.I. clamps will be installed on station roofs to prevent their falling due to heavy rains and gales. Measures to prevent water-logging at Metro entry and exit points, lifts

and escalators are being taken. Steps to protect against corrosion of rail tracks and steel structures are also being implemented.

Reddy also urged L&TMRHL to conduct a passenger awareness campaign on safety practices, prompted by a recent tragic incident in Delhi Metro where a passenger was fatally injured.

The campaign will educate passengers on standing behind the yellow line until the train stops, avoiding door congestion, allowing disembarking passengers to exit first, securing loose items, using handrails on escalators, and refraining from using mobile phones while boarding or exiting trains.