

311 properties acquired for Old City Metro, ₹283 cr. spent

Several challenges involved in carrying out work in Old City because of buildings almost touching each other; officials working at night to avoid disruption of traffic, says HAML MD NVS Reddy

The Hindu Bureau

HYDERABAD

Hyderabad Airport Metro Limited (HAML) has informed that 311 properties have been acquired and ₹283 crore disbursed so far even as there has been a good progress in the demolition of properties and debris clearance in Old City stretch of 7.5 kilometres from MGBS to Chandrayanagutta as part of the proposed Phase-II project.

Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase-II project that is covering 76.4 km spread across five corridors, including extending the existing first phase lines of 69.2 km in the capital region, at an estimated cost



Demolitions in Old City for the Metro Rail expansion project.

of ₹24,269 crore is currently undergoing appraisal at various ministries at the Centre for the proposed joint venture project.

HAML Managing Director N.V.S. Reddy said there has been total cooperation from the property owners for the work with the go-

vernment paying an attractive compensation package to them, mostly as consent awards. The officials involved in the demolitions of non-heritage structures have been working day-and-night carefully by undertaking major tasks during the night avoiding any

disruption of traffic, he explained. There are several challenges involved in carrying out work in Old City because of close proximity of buildings almost touching each other and presence of intertwined electrical, telecom and other cables, he said.

He was appreciative of the work put in by HAML women staff for being patient with the affected owners explaining about the consent awards and supervising the road expansion job after dark. He reiterated that appropriate engineering solutions are being adopted to protect the heritage structures and that as assured to the HC, no heritage structure will be touched or demolished.