

# Public transport is only way to tackle traffic congestion, says HMR chief

**The Hindu Bureau**

HYDERABAD

A robust public transport is the only sustainable solution to traffic congestion in cities and the Hyderabad Metro Rail has become one of the successful public transport systems in the country due to several innovative measures, said Hyderabad Metro Rail managing director N.V.S. Reddy on Sunday.

Speaking as chief guest at the All India Architecture Reconnect Summit held here, Mr. Reddy underlined the importance of transit-oriented development and suggested that along the metro corridors, architects should promote high-rise residential complexes, commercial hubs and educational institutions, thereby reducing dependency on car travel.



HMR managing director N.V.S. Reddy suggested architects should promote high-rises, commercial hubs and educational institutions, along metro corridors, to reduce dependency on car travel. FILE PIC

“With rapid urbanisation, transportation challenges also rise. Hyderabad Metro Rail has gained immense popularity due to its comfortable travel experience, energy efficiency and emphasis on women’s safety,” he said.

Solutions to urbanisa-

tion must be explored from both social and economic perspectives. It should not be viewed as an opportunity for national development but not a challenge, he added. “Architects should leverage their technical expertise to develop innovative ideas to tackle

population growth, environmental degradation, pollution control and fast-paced urbanisation,” he pointed out.

Drawing a parallel with China, Mr. Reddy observed that by prioritising the industrial sector and shifting a significant portion of the workforce from agriculture to industry, the process of urbanisation can be utilised to accelerate India’s growth trajectory.

The MD called upon architects to combine modern technologies with traditional Indian design principles and the use of eco-friendly materials to make urban life simpler and more livable. The Singapore’s rainwater harvesting initiatives should be followed where integration of rainwater storage systems is an essential part of urban projects, he advised.