

# HMR to start operations on 2 routes in 3 yrs

The two stretches are Nagole to Mettuguda (eight km) and Miyapur and Ameerpet (12 km)

Special Correspondent

**HYDERABAD:** Three years from now, Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR) plans to start operations on at least two stretches - Nagole to Mettuguda (eight km) and between Miyapur and Ameerpet (12 km). First section is on Line One - Nagole to Shilparamam and second section is on Line Two - L.B.Nagar to Miyapur.

"Please have patience. The entire project of 71.16 km across the three routes (Line Three - Falaknuma to JBS) will take five years to build. We have total confidence in L&T and their work," said HMR Managing Director N.V.S. Reddy here on Thursday.

He was talking to the media after participating in the massive sapling plantation programme at BITS-Pilani near

Shamirpet. HMR decided to plant 5,000 saplings in the sprawling campus and today 2,500 were planted with the students, BITS Director V.S. Rao and alumni chairperson Raju Reddy, participated.

HMR would be planting one lakh trees across the three corridors and in the universities to make up for 3,000 trees (some to be relocated) to be cleared for the project.

Besides, the extensive design work, ground levelling was on at Uppal depot (100 acres) along with shift of utilities like streetlights, laying road atop drains, remodelling drains, etc.

Around Rs.1,000 crore is to be invested here for rail and realty infrastructure. Miyapur depot (104 acres) issue was likely to be sorted out in two months since a fresh pet-

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ition was filed in the High Court. About Rs.20,000 crore would be invested in the project - Rs.14,000 crore by L&T, Rs.2,000 crore by State for relief & rehabilitation (R&R) and Rs.1,958 crore by Centre as grant. Around 1,300 properties are to be taken over and so far 200 acres of the required 269 acres was sewn up. "The project is not viable by ticket fare alone, hence the real estate component," he said.

## R&R issues

Accepting there were R&R issues, the HMR MD said the

effort was to rehabilitate most of the affected businessmen. An offer was also made to GHMC to give 50 per cent built up area if Chikkadpally market was allowed to be developed to accommodate traders on the road.

It would be akin to the upcoming Puthlibowli complex to accommodate traders in Sultan Bazar-Badichowdi.

## Heritage structures

No Mr. Reddy also reiterated that no heritage structure was being touched and at nine such sites, the overhead rail would be 50 ft away.



**ECO-CONSCIOUS:** HMR Managing Director N.V.S. Reddy and Uppal MLA Bandari Raji Reddy planting a sapling and initiating HMR green drive at Uppal Metro Rail Depot. — PHOTO BY ARRANGEMENT