



Santosh lodge being razed down near Secunderabad railway station on Tuesday | EXPRESS PHOTO

## Metro Rail's 'Demolition Job' Picks Up Steam

Express News Service

**Hyderabad:** Large-scale demolitions are being carried out on the metro Rail corridors in different parts of the twin cities to speed up the works.

Several long pending critical properties, which have become major traffic bottlenecks, are now being demolished. Metro works have been fast-tracked due in large measure to the concerted efforts of the Hyderabad Metro Rail, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and collectorates of Hyderabad and Rangareddy districts. This

was informed by HMR managing director NVS Reddy to chief secretary Raviv Sharma during a review meeting on Metro Rail works here Tuesday.

The properties being demolished include eight railway properties measuring about 2 acres near Secunderabad railway station for which about ₹45 crore was paid to the South Central Railway; six properties in Yousufguda (1,550 sq yards, ₹23.67 crore) and Nandini cafe/Gowtham Reddy property at Jubilee Hills Checkpost (598 sq yards, ₹5.30 crore) besides five properties opposite Vi-

jayabhaskar Reddy stadium at Yousufguda (400 sq yards, ₹2 crore); front portion of Ashok Yadav building at Madhapur (169 sq yards); Bombay Bar and Restaurant, Nampally (88 sq.yds) and properties from Secunderabad Clock Tower to Secunderabad Station road (400 sq yards, ₹5 crore) etc.

Acquisition of some of these properties like Nandini cafe/Gowtham Reddy property at Jubilee Hills Checkpost which is required for construction of Metro Rail viaduct in a sharp curve was held up for the last four years due to extraneous factors and prolonged litigation.

Reddy also informed that demolition of Jabbar building, Chintawar building and SBH building on Begumpet road are nearing completion. The chief secretary, who conducted the Special Task Force (STF) meeting, reviewed the status of acquisition of 204 properties ie, 157 private and 47 Government Vested Municipal Properties (GVM).

Reddy told the chief secretary that there was good progress on this front as 39 properties were dismantled since the last STF meeting. GHMC special officer Somesh Kumar informed that another 13 GVM properties

will be acquired and dismantled this week and acquisition of all the GVM properties will be completed by May. Collectors of Hyderabad and RR districts informed that out of the balance 137 private properties acquisition process is nearing completion in respect of 100 properties.

While reviewing traffic permissions to L&TMRH for excavation of foundation in Metro Rail carriageway the chief secretary directed them to remove the barricading immediately after the foundation works were completed and re-carpet the road.