

How about extending Metro Rail up to Sangareddy?

K CHANDRASHEKAR/HYDERABAD

There is a growing public demand for extending Metro Rail corridor up to Sangareddy in the neighbouring Medak district. Elected representatives of the district are being flooded with representations in this regard.

The Metro Rail corridor - I (Miyapur-LB Nagar) can be extended up to Sangareddy in view of large scale industrial development and the presence of several quality educational institutions, it is argued.

According to Hyderabad Metro Rail officials, the demand for extension of the Metro Corridor-I has been there for the last six to eight months. Mostly, employees from private and IT sectors have been making this demand. "There are a few real estate firms, who wanted the HMR to extend Metro up to Sangareddy since there was big scope for growth," said a senior HMR official.

The distance between Miyapur and Sangareddy would be around 38 km and



it would take Rs 200 crore for every km for the elevated Metro Rail to be realized, the official said.

Hyderabad Metro Rail (HMR) has proposed three corridors in the city and the biggest of the corridors is the 29-km Cor-

ridor-I from LB Nagar to Miyapur. The city has expanded over the past few years and many employees, both private and government, travel to the city in RTC buses. These employees often complain about the tiresome travel from San-

gareddy to the city because of the huge traffic volumes in this section.

According to a senior Metro Rail official, public representatives have also shown interest in the expansion and have been requesting HMR to extend the Metro Rail to their areas. Local Congress MLA T Jayaprakash Reddy had even assured people in his constituency that if elected again, he would bring Metro Rail to Sangareddy. Similarly, other politicians have also requested the HMR to extend the Metro.

K Satyanarayana, a local leader, said that every day 4,000 to 5,000 people from neighbouring districts of Karnataka and Maharashtra visit the State capital. The extended Metro would drastically cut down road traffic on the Mumbai highway that passes through the area, he said.

Srinivas, an engineer working for a reputed electrical firm near Rudraram, which is around 12 km from Patancheru, said he had to start at around 8.30 am to reach his office on time.

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"The traffic is huge in this section and it is very tiresome journey, especially in the evenings. Metro can solve travel problems of many people like me," said Srinivas.

A delegation of BJP leaders led by former MLA K Laxman met HMR MD NVS Reddy on Friday and urged him to extend the Corridor-I from Miyapur to Patancheru in the first phase and then to Sangareddy later. Laxman said that in view of the large scale industrial development and presence of several educational

institutions, offices and colonies in BHEL Ramchandrapuram and Patancheru areas, heavy traffic congestion is experienced every day. "Commuters are losing precious hours travelling by road," he observed.

A delegation of BJP leaders took up a 'padayatra' from Patancheru to HMRL office at Lakdikapul on Friday in support of their demand.

HMRL MD N V S Reddy assured that he would forward the representation to the State government. "The government would take up a survey and submit a report to the Centre," he said.