

Hyderabad Metro Project: First Phase To Be Ready By 2014

The Rs 16,200-crore, public-private partnership project, being implemented by concessionaire Larsen & Toubro Hyderabad Metro Rail has now reached a crucial phase with the land allocation completed for 243 acres of 269 acres promised. Rs 2,000 crore have been earmarked for relief and rehabilitation compensation, land acquisition and related support infrastructure.

Taking reporters through a tour of metro rail sites and the terminal point at Miyapur about 25 km from city centre, Mr N.V.S. Reddy, Managing Director of Hyderabad metro rail, said that the project works are now underway and the first phase of 8 km and 11 km of the 72 km project will be ready by 2014. All the three corridors would be completed by 2015.

For people who lose land, Rs 45,000 per sq yard is being provided and tenants and hawkers displaced would be relocated in a complex developed at busy business area of Sultan Bazaar.

Mr Reddy said that pedestrian related concerns

are top on the agenda of the Government and developers. The focus is on helping them have free access to footpaths without having to face hardships due to vehicular traffic.

"We have enlisted the services of IIT-Delhi to prepare a master plan for pedestrian facilities along the metro stations. It is proposed to develop necessary infrastructure to help easy movement of people, providing for pedestrian bridges and sky walks," he said.



Lafarge has a major presence in the Eastern and Central India.

The company recently enhanced capacity through new production lines in Jharkhand and West Bengal. It has four greenfield projects in Rajasthan, Karnataka, Meghalaya and Himachal Pradesh that are in different stages of completion.

The company opened its innovation centre in Mumbai. This will undertake research and development for product innovations. Lafont said, "We will be launching a new solution for mud houses with cement solution which is more sustainable and they will last five years without repair."