

Press Release

North East Monsoon preparedness initiatives by CMRL

CMRL presently operates an entire 45 km stretch of the Phase 1 of the Chennai Metro Rail Project from Washermanpet Metro to Airport Metro and Puratchi Thalaivar Dr. M. G. Ramachandran Central Metro to St. Thomas Mount Metro with a total of 32 Metro Stations comprising 13 Elevated and 19 Underground Metro Stations. In view of the ongoing North East Monsoon Season, CMRL has taken several precautionary measures as enumerated below and is well prepared to tackle any situation which may arise during the Monsoon season;

Wind speed, Rainfall, Visibility and Cyclone formations are monitored through weather forecast at regular intervals by Operation Control Centre (OCC). Information on weather forecast is also obtained from Regional Meteorological Centre, Chennai on cyclone and other unusual weather conditions.

CMRL has installed Anemometers at all strategic locations like top of CMRL Operation Control Centre building, Alandur Metro Station, which is one of the highest locations in CMRL, Tunnel Ventilation Shafts and other strategic locations. These anemometers are high precision instruments, working on the principle of rotation of cups depending on the speed of wind, continuously measure the wind speed by generating electrical & electronic data, which is monitored and integrated in the electronic SCADA system to give audio and visual alarm on real time basis. As the Metro trains operate across the corridors at a height of 15m to 24m from the road, wind is one of the critical factors that affect movement of trains.

Wind speed monitoring is vital during cyclone and heavy windy season. If the wind speed is more than 70kmph, the speed of the train is restricted to 40 kmph and the Train Operator is given instructions to be ON ALERT. If the wind speed is beyond 90 kmph, the train operations are suspended temporarily for the safety of passengers and trains. In such situations, special attention is paid by train operator to observe any obstruction or unusual occurrence.

Train Operators and Station Controllers are instructed to check the following and be in constant touch with Operational Control Centre (OCC) through wireless communication:

- Trains are checked for working of wipers, headlights, safety lights, door closing mechanism in addition to routine checks
- Any water stagnation ingress in the tunnel and in the entry points of the Metro Stations.
- Any leakage in the Metro Station, Platform and Equipment Rooms will be attended to swiftly and cleaned promptly for passenger safety.

- Any infringement to the track or OHE in the running line especially in Elevated Stations.
- To report any poor visibility on track.
- For the safety of passengers, periodical announcements regarding wet floor are being provided at the Metro Stations.
- As per procedure, the Train Operators always follow the instructions given from Operation Control Centre located in the Admin Building at Koyambedu Depot.

Lightning Arrestors have been installed in the main OHE sub-stations and other structures. These lightning arrestors and surge protection equipment protect OHE and other critical instruments. OHE system is provided with high sensitive relays, which operates to isolate the system in milli-seconds in case of abnormalities.

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