

Pari Chowk and Sec 76 open as pink stations

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NOIDA: The Noida Metro Rail Corporation (NMRC) on Sunday inaugurated the Sector 76 and the Pari Chowk stations as Pink Metro Stations, in a step towards making public transport women-friendly.

Ritu Maheshwari, NMRC managing director, along with Pammi Gauba, wife of Rajiv Gauba, cabinet secretary, government of India, and Reena Tandon, wife of Alok Tandon, the infrastructure and industrial development commissioner, inaugurated the two stations. The programme was held at the Sector 76 station.

Maheshwari said the Pink Stations are equipped with a baby feeding room, a diaper changing room, a make-up/changing room and a selfie point.

"This aims to ease commuting for women passengers and empower them to balance their daily professional and personal activities," Maheshwari said.

Besides, the NMRC has installed sanitary napkin vending machines at all 21 metro stations of the Aqua Line. These machines dispense sanitary napkins free of cost.

Maheshwari said women account for 20-25% of the NMRC's workforce and they have showcased their strength, dedication and determination in

various capacities—be it in running trains, controlling stations or maintenance work, etc. The NMRC also facilitated some outstanding female employees from various departments for their work on the Noida metro.

NMRC, in association, with a private firm on Sunday also displayed a robot which guides people on services related to Aqua Line metro.

During the inauguration of Pink Stations, the robot named Neeti introduced the audience about the idea of Pink Stations. It also danced on a music tune and performed yoga.

NMRC officials said the project is in the initial stages and the two organisations may collaborate in the future to place the robot at the Aqua Line Metro stations for commuters' assistance.

Meanwhile, the NMRC in a press statement said that the Aqua Line metro service will be available only after 2 pm on Tuesday on account of Holi. The curtailed timings will also apply for parking at all metro stations. The Aqua Line covers a total length of 29.7 km with 21 metro stations from Noida to Greater Noida.

The average ridership of Aqua Line in February 2020 stands at 25,907 passengers per day. Maheshwari said the NMRC will start work on the Greater Noida west corridor in one month.



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