The Hindu 11.05.2017

GHMC forms 29 emergency teams

'Whatsapp' group to be formed to share information in emergencies

A day after intense winds and heavy rains lashed the city, it was proposed to allocate one officer from every department for emergency operations.

At a review meeting held on Wednesday, GHMC (Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation) Commissioner B Janardhan Reddy interacted with the heads of various departments like Hyderabad Water Board, Metrological, Electricity and Traffic.

He suggested that one special officer from the departments concerned should be able to tackle any emergency situation and ensure that the equipments are utilised properly for quick restoration of services. The Commissioner further said that a group should be formed on the mobile app 'Whatsapp' to share information. Dana Kishore, MD, Hyderabad Water Board said that 29 emergency teams have been formed and they will work from June 1. He said that necessary steps have been taken for the teams to perform their duties efficiently.

The CMD of Telangana State Power Generation Corporation Ltd (TS-Genco), Raghuma Reddy said that during heavy rains, they are taking preventive action by seeing to it that damaged hoardings and unipoles do not disrupt the power supply and snap the cables. It was also conveyed that the GHMC was planning to suspend permission to hoardings for the coming one month.

The Fire department officials said that the staff from the 23 fire stations across the city could be used in emergency situations.

In the coming two days also heavy winds and rains are likely to be expected and all the line departments must be on an alert to tackle the issues on priority, said GHMC Commissioner informing that that all the 206 water stagnation points have been identified and cleared. He also appealed to the people to not open manhole covers during rains as it can lead to deaths.