Multi-level parking work to begin next week

Jeeva | TNN

Chennai: The Corporation is likely to begin construction of a multi-level car parking facility at Wallace Garden in Nungambakkam next week.

The civic body has already issued work order to the consortium of Marg Group and Apollo Hospitals for the parking lot which will have the capacity to park 200 cars and 290 two-wheelers. It will hand over the land on Thursday to the contractors to commence the project.

Corporation commissioner Rajesh Lakhoni said the civic body had also received bids for another multi-level car parking facility which was going to come up on Broadway, with a capacity to park 500 cars and 660 two-wheelers. The bids would be placed before the council soon for approval, Lakhoni said.

With regard to the Madras high court's order rejecting the corporation's decision to construct a multi-level parking facility in T Nagar, the commissioner said the civic body had filed an appeal in the Supreme Court.

The fees in the multi-level parking facility will be Rs 15 for the first hour for cars and Rs 10 for every additional hour. For two-wheelers, it will be Rs 10 for the first hour and Rs 5 for every additional hour.

Corporation officials said they were studying possibilities to build multi-level parking lots in places like Adyar, Anna Nagar, Purasawakkam and Vadapalani. Presently, there are about 150 parking lots in the city which are maintained by Tamil Nadu Ex-Servicemen's Corporation.

As Chennai roads see at least 700 new vehicles every day, many road safety campaigners say that the civic body should come out with more multi-level and underground parking lots. The Chennai Metropolitan Development Authority (CMDA) has already built a two-level underground parking facility in Koyambedu.

According to a study 'Parking Requirements of the Chennai Metropolitan Area' done by the CMDA, vehicle ownership in Chennai saw an increase from from vehicles per 100 persons in 1981 to 14 per 100 persons in 1991 and, to 30 per 100 persons in 2001.