

# More of Anna Salai is one-way

## Plan For Nandanam-Gemini Flyover Diversion From March 23

A Selvaraj | TNN

**Chennai:** Prepare for another one-way stretch, and much more traffic chaos, on Anna Salai. The traffic police plan to make the section between Nandanam and Gemini flyover one-way from March 23 for work on three metro rail stations, after causing much stress to motorists by allowing traffic in only one direction from Tarapore Towers to Thousand Lights.

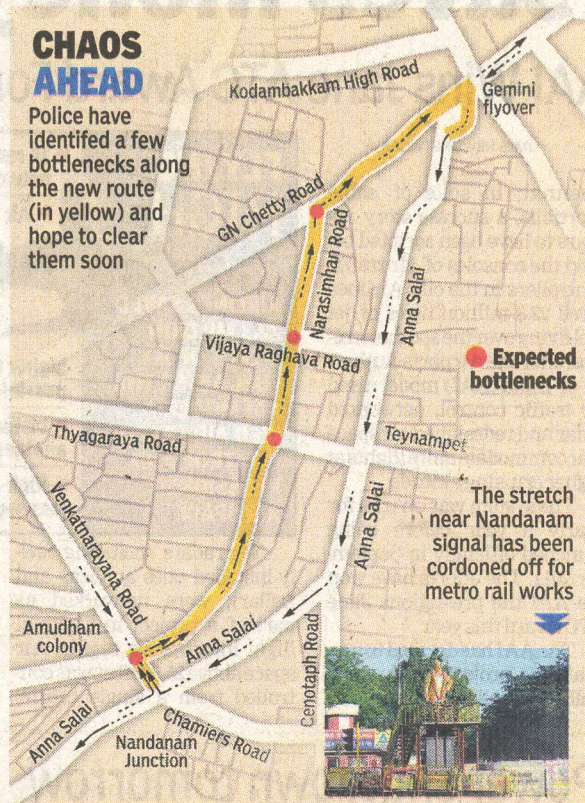
According to the plan, vehicles heading north from Saidapet will have to turn left to Venkatnarayana Road at the Nandanam signal and take South Boag Road and North Boag Road via Anna Colony and Gopathi Narayanaswami Chetty Road (GN Chetty Road) to Gemini flyover. Police are working on removing bottlenecks on the new route which will be stretched by heavy traffic.

Chennai Metro Rail Ltd managing director K Rajaraman conducted several meetings with additional commissioner of police (traffic) Sanjay Arora before the traffic rerouting was finalized.

But some officers have reservations about the plan.

### CHAOS AHEAD

Police have identified a few bottlenecks along the new route (in yellow) and hope to clear them soon



The stretch near Nandanam signal has been cordoned off for metro rail works

"This will cause havoc for motorists," a police officer said.

Another senior traffic po-

lice officer said bottlenecks had been identified near Anna Colony and on North and South Boag roads. "The one-

way introduced earlier has worked well. We will clear bottlenecks and encroachments on the new diversion to make this plan successful too," he said. "Motorists will have to bear with a few hassles but metro rail is in the interest of the people."

When informed about the proposed one-way, many commuters said they expect the worst. Madhumitha S, who works in an advertising agency, said, "The police should at least not disrupt public transport."

However, some motorists are happy that sections of Anna Salai are being made one-way. Malarvannan P, an engineer, said, "It used to take me up to 30 minutes to get to my office on Cathedral Road. After Anna Salai was made one-way from Tarapore Towers to Thousand Lights and the direction of traffic on General Patters Road was reversed, I reach office in 15 minutes."

Three metro stations will come up between Saidapet and Gemini Flyover, at Nandanam, Teynampet and Gemini flyover. Metro officials said work on Anna Salai will be completed by 2014.