

# Metro rail to build foot over-bridge near MMC

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** Commuters from suburban railway stations of Park and Moore Market Complex (MMC) will soon have to climb a foot over-bridge to cross Poonamallee High Road as Chennai Metro Rail plans to close the subway under the main road to build an underground station at Central.

Metrorail officials said this foot over-bridge near Victoria Jubilee Hall is part of the traffic plan devised to facilitate construction work without too much inconvenience to road users.

"The subway will be closed only after the foot over-bridge is completed," said a senior official of metrorail. Metrorail will soon speed up the station and allied work near Chennai Central as land acquisition has been completed. Half of the roof of the station box has been completed at Central. Diaphragm wall work is on for inside the station as well as the entry and exit.

"We have already built a foot over-bridge inside Central for passengers to cross the busbays and reach the subway on the main road. This was done because traffic from Poonamallee High Road towards Parry's is diverted via the Central railway station

**Commuters from Park station and MMC station will have to use the new foot over-bridge near Victoria Jubilee Hall to cross Poonamallee High Road**

campus. Now, buses are being routed like this. More vehicles will be routed through the railway campus when more of the main road is closed for underground station work," he added.

The subway in front of Park railway station is popular because it is estimated that more than 1 lakh commuters switch from Beach-Tambaram suburban line and Tiruvallur-MMC suburban line and vice-versa everyday. The foot overbridge that is being planned will be wide enough to handle the crowd, officials said.

"The new foot over-bridge should be designed for the convenience of commuters. The one that is built over bus bays in front of Central railway station would have been popular if it was built across the main road with a landing near the gate of the government general hospital," said P Jayaprakash, a frequent traveler. The foot over-bridge would have supplemented the narrow subway, he added.