

Chennaiites prefer to pedal last mile from metro stations

Amirtha Varshini R V | TNN

Chennai: For 28-year-old Chandru, who lives near the Anna Nagar roundtana and works in Egmore, it was a conscious decision when he chose a bicycle over a motorcycle for his last-mile commute along a bustling part of the city. Apart from being a great workout, he feels cycling helps him save a

lot of time and money. With Chennai Metro Rail (CMRL) opening more metro stations, more people seem to be looking at bicycles as a last mile connectivity option from the stations to their workplace or homes.

In an attempt to popularise bicycle sharing at metro rail stations and to mark World Bicycle Day, PEDL, a dock-less bicycle company, and CMRL or-

ganized a 'treasure hunt' at Thirumangalam metro station on Sunday. The company is one

WORLD BICYCLE DAY

of the firms that has tied up with CMRL to offer bicycle sharing at stations.

The programme drew a lot of attention with 16-year-old P

Gokulapriya saying, "This is the first time I am seeing my father cycle."

Narasim Prasad, director, systems and operations, CMRL said the service would be extended to more stations based on the response at Anna Nagar East, Anna Nagar Tower and Thirumanagalam. Arun Gajendran, assistant marketing manager, Zoomcar, said, "By

engaging people in small-scale neighbourhood activities, we make them understand why cycling is good for health. Since our partnership with CMRL in December, we have seen 9,000 uses on our app."

M S R Manoj, senior business manager, PEDL, said, "Cycle sharing services have proven to be an alternative to reduce congestion."