

Soon, Metro mall to come up at Shenoy Nagar station

■ K KARTHIKEYAN

CHENNAI: Traffic-hating shoppers may soon avoid busy thoroughfares like T Nagar and Velachery and make a beeline for Shenoy Nagar as CMRL (Chennai Metro Rail Limited) has commenced upon the construction of a shopping mall at Shenoy Nagar Metro Station.

A senior CMRL officer told *DTNext* that the work has been awarded to M/s B L Kashyap and Co, which has been assigned to complete the Rs 175 crore shopping complex cum parking facility project in two years. The complex would be designed in such a manner that even non-metro users would be able to access the shopping centre with ease.

The complex measuring approxi-

mately around 4 lakh sqft was being developed right under Thiru Vi Ka Park which was taken over for metro construction in the beginning of this decade. CMRL has set a two-year deadline for the project. "We want to

STOP, SHOP AND GRAB A BITE

■ **Rs 175 crore- estimated cost of shopping complex cum parking facility project**

■ **2 years- approximate time to complete work**

■ **4 lakh sqft - area of the shopping complex**

■ **The shopping complex could accommodate leading retail chains and eateries**

■ **The two-tier parking facility can accommodate nearly 1,500 vehicles, including 600 cars**

■ **CMRL had proposed similar mini-mall projects at Eekatuthangal and Arumbakkam stations**

■ **Shenoy Nagar accorded top priority for being a predominantly upmarket area more conducive to business promotion than other stations**

do business beyond operating trains. Hence the complex. The shopping complex could accommodate leading retail chains and some eateries so that visitors would be able to shop and grab a quick bite. To cater to

the visitors parking requirement, we have planned a two-tier parking facility, which would be able to accommodate nearly 1,500 vehicles, including 600 cars," a senior CMRL officer said.

The park would be restored after completing the shopping complex project. CMRL had also proposed similar mini-mall projects at Eekatuthangal and Arumbakkam stations. Shenoy Nagar was accorded top priority because it was a predominantly upmarket area more conducive to business promotion than other stations. Enormity of space and availability of two crossover facilities for trains at each end of the station (trains running towards and from Central can change tracks at the station) has also made Shenoy Nagar conducive to the business development initiative.