

AC vans link Alandur metro station to Porur

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Four air-conditioned vans will now serve metro rail passengers heading out of Alandur station towards Porur, with CMRL launching the service on Monday to provide last mile connectivity.

Officials said a van will be available for commuters every 15 minutes from 6.30pm to 9.30pm at the station and at DLF Porur. Passengers can board and de-board anywhere between the two points for a fare of ₹20. "We introduced the service following requests from DLF employees but other commuters can also use it. Based on the feedback, we may extend the service to other metro stations," an official said.

An elevated hub linking the two corridors of phase-1, Alandur metro station did not have adequate last-mile connectivity after it was

SEAMLESS COMMUTE



CMRL has launched air-conditioned vans from Alandur metro station

HOW IT WORKS

- Four air-conditioned tempo travellers will ply from Alandur metro station to DLF Porur
- A vehicle will be available every 15 minutes from 6.30am to 9.30pm
- Commuters can board and exit the vehicle at a fee of ₹20 anywhere between the two destinations

opened along with the first elevated line between Koyambedu and Alandur in June 2015. Few buses connect the neighbourhood, as most of the regular buses that halt at bus stops are those that link localities like Tambaram to the centre.

For other commuters, CMRL had earlier launched a bicycle on rent service where they can cycle to their destination from the station free of charge after paying ₹3,000 as a refundable deposit. "MTC is also operating mini buses to neighbour-

hoods beyond Alandur," a metro rail official said.

In other stations like Airport, Koyambedu, Thirumangalam and Vadapalani that attract larger crowds, CMRL has also been providing bikes on rent, besides bicycles. "There is still a lot that needs to be done. All stations should have small buses linking neighbourhoods. The schedule has to be synced with the train timetable," said R Srinivasan, a techie working with a firm in Ekkattuthangal.