

Space Under Grade Separator Being Developed For ₹14Cr; To Have Bus Terminal, Parking

Urban square starts taking shape, eat, play & shop at Kathipara soon

Sindhu.Kannan@timesgroup.com

Soon you can dine, watch a movie, shop and let your children play under the busy Kathipara grade separator as work on creating an urban square has begun in a full swing.

The ₹14 crore project will be developed by Chennai Metro Rail Ltd, which has appointed Saraswathi Engineering Private Ltd as the contractor to design and construct the facility within a year.

Among facilities expected to come up on the 54,400sqm space under the clover-leaf loops are a bus terminal where MTC and outstation buses can halt to pick up and drop off passengers. The square will have a children's play area, food court, shops, office space, washrooms, footpaths, open air theatre and facilities for horticulture. Plans are on to build a waiting area for bus passengers, lay a footpath and install ATMs. The square is likely to be linked to the metro station by a foot over-bridge.

Sources in metro rail said the food court will come up opposite Le Meridien Hotel. Adjoining it will be a bus bay, shops and washrooms.

An open air theatre will come up on the other side of the clover area, diagonally opposite the Central Footwear Training Institute. A children's play area will come up under the loop leading towards Porur; shops will also be accommodated here.

On the side of GST Road, a two-wheeler parking area has been planned, while the car parking is expected to come up towards Ekkaduthangal. An office building will be built at the centre as per the plan.

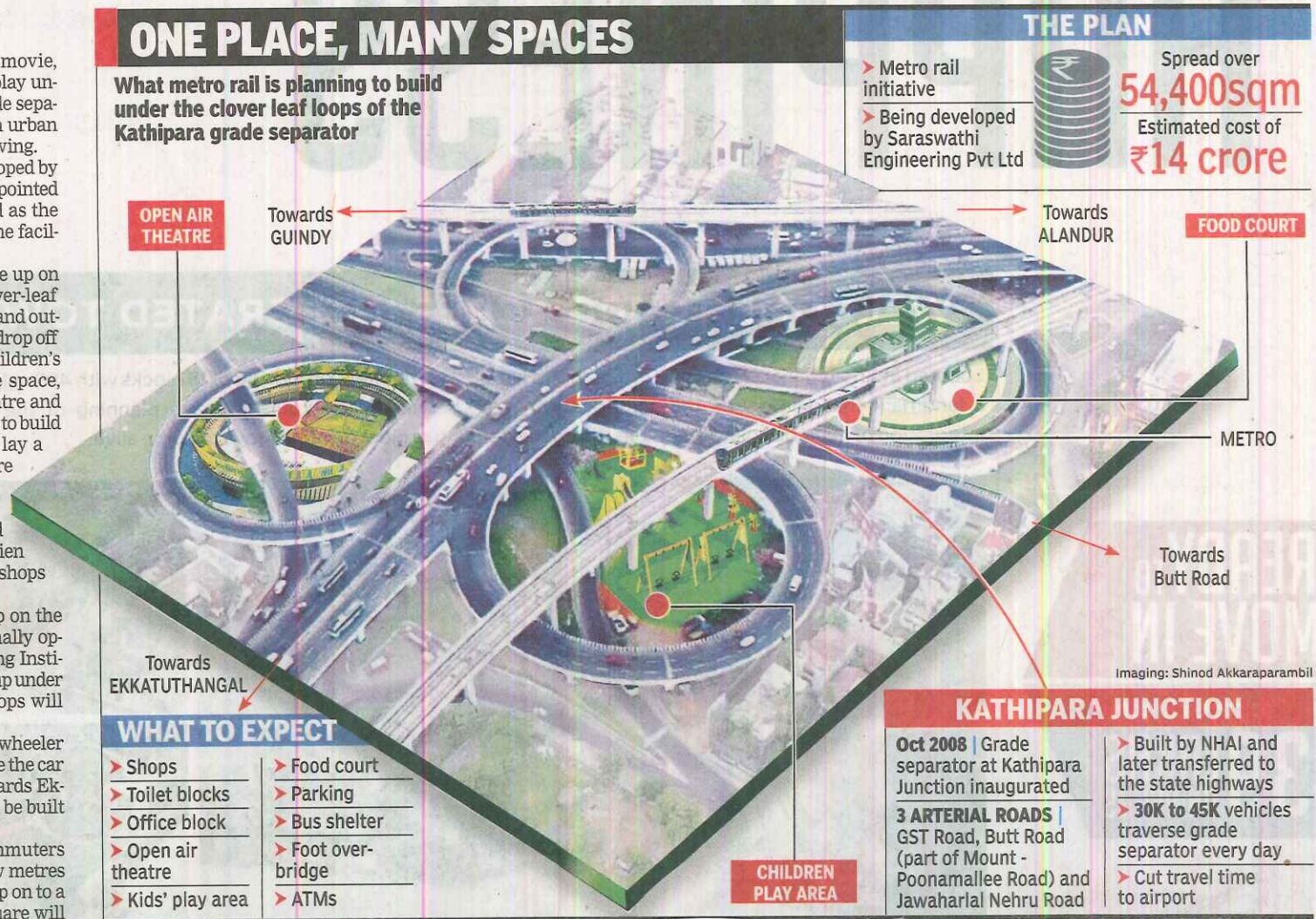
With two bus bays planned, commuters can alight from a bus and walk a few metres into the Alandur metro station to hop on to a metro train. For MTC buses, the square will provide a turn facility where those that end their trip at Guindy Industrial Estate or those heading towards CMBT can turn, pick up or drop off passengers.

The square is also expected to provide last-mile connectivity as it will link areas up to a radius of 500m around the metro station through local buses. Officials said they would work with several departments, including the highways, Greater Chennai Corporation, CMDA, traffic police and the MTC to set up the square.

THE URBAN SQUARE IS BEING DEVELOPED BY METRO RAIL WHICH HAS APPOINTED A CONTRACTOR TO BUILD THE FACILITY IN ONE YEAR

ONE PLACE, MANY SPACES

What metro rail is planning to build under the clover leaf loops of the Kathipara grade separator



THE PLAN

- > Metro rail initiative
- > Being developed by Saraswathi Engineering Pvt Ltd



Spread over **54,400sqm**
Estimated cost of **₹14 crore**

WHAT TO EXPECT

- > Shops
- > Toilet blocks
- > Office block
- > Open air theatre
- > Kids' play area
- > Food court
- > Parking
- > Bus shelter
- > Foot over-bridge
- > ATMs

KATHIPARA JUNCTION

Oct 2008 | Grade separator at Kathipara Junction inaugurated

3 ARTERIAL ROADS | GST Road, Butt Road (part of Mount - Poonamallee Road) and Jawaharlal Nehru Road

> Built by NHAI and later transferred to the state highways

> **30K to 45K** vehicles traverse grade separator every day

> Cut travel time to airport

Imaging: Shinod Akkaraparambil