TN allocates ₹2,681 cr for Chennai metro

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The State Budget for 2019-2020 fiscal allocated Rs. 2,681 crore for the Chennai metro rail project as shares of capital and debt.

Presenting the budget to the Assembly on Friday, Debt, Chief Minister K Palaniswami said the Phase-I of Chennai metro rail project covering two corridors stretching 43.51 km will be fully commissioned during February 2019. The Phase-I extension covering a length of 9 km up to Thiruvanmiyur / Winnur Nagar is expected to be commissioned by June 2020. During 2018-2019, an amount of Rs.1,900 crore was allocated for the project. As announced already, feasibility study is also being taken up for the extension of metro rail line from Kembhikkam Airport to Kilambakkam metro bus terminus, he said.

So far, the approved 179.5 km of three metro rail corridors, JCA has approved funding of Rs.25,106 crore for implementing the priority stretches totaling 53.8 km from Madhavaram to Sholinganallur and Madhavaram to Chennai Mahasani Bus Terminal (CMBT) and the state government has also accorded administrative sanction for a total cost of Rs.6,343 crore to commence the work shortly. The funding arrangements for other stretches are also in progress. By implementing the Phase-II of Chennai metro rail project, the metro rail network in the Chennai Metropolitan Area would increase to 172.91 km, which would increase its share of public transport considerably.