

PM opens Chennai Metro's final leg

DC CORRESPONDENT
CHENNAI, FEB. 10

Visiting Tamil Nadu as the middle leg of his 3-southern states visit on Sunday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the crucial last leg link of the Chennai metro, from AG-DMS to Washermenpet. The state capital gets a complete Metro Phase-1 from Sunday with the airport to Central Station line via Anna Salai.

The Prime Minister also flagged off an ESI hospital in the hosiery and weaver town of Tiruppur, besides mega schemes for the State.

The Prime Minister also laid a foundation stone for modernisation of Chennai International Airport, (Phase-II) besides a new integrated terminal building at Tiruchy airport. More importantly for Chennai commuters, the opening of the last leg 10 km stretch of phase-1 of Chennai Metro linking eight underground stations, including the underground transit hub at Central Metro, facilitated true Metro connectivity for the whole city.

Commuters will be charged ₹60 for the airport

PROJECTS AT A GLANCE

1 The Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for a 100-bedded ESIC hospital, besides inaugurating a 470-bedded modern ESIC hospital in Chennai.

2 The hospital in Tirupur will cater to the needs of over 1,00,000 workers and their family members in the hosiery town and nearby areas

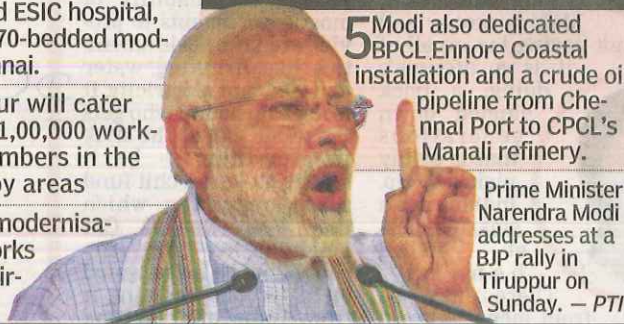
3 He also launched the modernisation and expansion works of Chennai and Tiruchy airport terminals

to Central ride while currently they can reach most of the stations with ticket fare of ₹40 including stations like Thousand Lights, AG-DMS, Teynampet and Nandanam from Central Metro and Airport. Phase-1 connects a portion of North Chennai including Washermenpet and Mannadi via the High Court.

The PM launched the last leg of the Chennai metro rail Phase I and declared open six underground metro stations through video-conferencing from Tiruppur in the presence of Chief Minister Edappadi K. Palaniswami, Deputy Chief Minister O. Panneerselvam and Governor Banwarilal Purohit. ■ P4

4 Modi commissioned the 10-km stretch of the Chennai Metro rail through video-conferencing.

5 Modi also dedicated BPCL Ennore Coastal installation and a crude oil pipeline from Chennai Port to CPCL's Manali refinery.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses at a BJP rally in Tiruppur on Sunday. — PTI

For Cong, defence is only about brokering deals: PM

Tiruppur, Feb. 10: Prime Minister Narendra Modi Sunday attacked the Congress, saying for the opposition party the defence sector was only about brokering deals. Modi's comments came after party president Rahul Gandhi recently upped the ante on the Rafale row by quoting a media report saying the PMO conducted "parallel" negotiations on the deal.

"From the seas to the skies, the Congress has several scams associated with the defence and in the process the party did not allow the modernisation of defence forces for long years that they were in power," Modi said.

Addressing a party rally at Perumanallur about 13 km from here, he said the NDA's work culture was different from that of the previous governments. Targeting the Congress, he said "those who had got opportunity to rule the nation for years did not bother about India's defence sector. — PTI