

# 1.7L use metro feeder services in last 6 mths

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** More than 1.78 lakh metro rail commuters have used share autos and share taxis, launched as feeder service to provide last mile connectivity, to reach their destinations in the last six months. Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) launched the service in August 2018 in 13 metro stations to attract greater footfall. The service, which was introduced on pilot basis, is likely to be extended to other stations after the last leg of phase-1 from Washermenpet to AG-DMS is opened on February 10.

CMRL officials said in January, 31,530 passengers used the feeder service — 3,713 passengers used share taxis and more than 27,817

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**Chennai Metro Rail official**

used share autos.

A metro rail official said the share service, launched among other modes of transport to take passengers from metro stations to neigh-

bourhoods, also helped in increase patronage at the stations. The average footfall has jumped by nearly 50% to around 57,000 - 60,000 people after more lines, including Central and Anna Salai lines, were opened in addition to the launch of feeder services.

“We have been receiving good response for the share service in the 13 stations. Our service also benefits non-metro rail commuters. We hope to extend the service to other stations soon,” an official said.

CMRL first launched share taxi services operating from AG-DMS, Anna Nagar East, Koymabedu, Alandur and Vadapalani stations. Share auto services were introduced in Guindy, Thiru-

mangalam, Alandur; Little Mount, Ekkattuthangal, Koyambedu, St Thomas Mount and Ashok Nagar.

Over the last six months, the number of passengers using the service has seen a steady increase from around 18,527 passengers in August, 2018, to more than 36,148 people in December last year.

In January, more than 1,261 passengers used share taxis from Koyambedu metro, followed by 813 commuters from Alandur. Around 8,180 passengers used share auto services from Guindy and nearly 7,896 passengers from Thirumangalam.

Apart from share service, CMRL also operates rental bicycles, bikes, e-bikes and self-driving cars for last mile connectivity.