

14 underground metro rail stations get green rating

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Chennai: Fourteen underground metro stations, including those that were part of the last leg of the 45km phase-1 opened in February, were awarded Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) platinum rating, a certification awarded for adopting green and user-friendly measures in a public facility. With this, all 32 metro stations of phase-1 have been awarded the IGBC platinum rating.

On Monday, IGBC chairman, Chennai Chapter CN Raghavendran handed over the plaques and certificates for 14 underground metro stations to Pankaj Kumar Bansal, managing director of CMRL. The stations include Washermenpet, Mannadi, High Court, Central Metro Government Estate, LIC, Thousand Lights and AG-DMS, which were thrown open to public on February 10. Earlier, 13 elevated stations and five underground metro stations received the same certification.

Officials said several features have been incorporated to make stations commuter-friendly, energy efficient and sport an aesthetic appeal. The features, include rainwater harvesting, harnessing solar energy, easy access for the disabled commuters, facilities for visually impaired and hearing impaired commuters and staff assistance. Around 32.5% of regenerative energy from the operation of trains is being fed back to the grid to cut down on carbon footprint generated through production of electricity.