

# CMRL to launch scooter rental service at its stations

## Commuters Can Rent And Ride Scooters

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**Chennai:** As train services have begun in the entire 45-km phase-1 network, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) has stepped up efforts to provide last-mile connectivity between its stations and neighbourhoods.

After tying up with share-autos, cab companies, car rental companies and IT companies for several feeder services to offer rides to and from metro stations, the latest will be Vogo, a Bengaluru-based scooter rental services, which will be launched in the city on Monday. The company, which operates in Bengaluru and Hyderabad, provides IoT-enabled scooters that commuters can rent, ride and return. Commuters can rent a scooter for ₹1.20 per minute.

Commuters have to download the scooter rental app, attach their driving licence and their origin and destination locations after logging in. They



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**PROMISING A JOLLY GOOD RIDE:** Vogo, a Bengaluru-based scooter rental services, will be launched in the city today

should enter an OTP sent to them in a key box in the scooter they select at a pickup point. The same would also work with a QR code, according to the company website. The scooter could be dropped at another point before paying the rent. In Chennai, CMRL may provide pickup and drop points, for commuters to rent a scooter, in their stations.

After introducing bicycle rental services at its stations, CMRL hopes that two-wheeler rental will be the best bet to help people to reach their homes or offices from metro stations without bothering about traffic congestion.

“Given the traffic in our city, scooter may be one of the best options. The weather may not

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be favourable for us to use bicycles to reach our office. Cars are never an option and share taxis or autos could be used if you want to get dropped somewhere on the route they operate,” said Shiva Chandran, an IT employ-

ee, who works in Ekattuthangal.

After several complaints of a lack of first- and last-mile connectivity when services started for the first time on Koyambedu – Alandur stretch, CMRL began introducing a few modes of transport to help last mile connectivity. This was expanded to include bicycles on rent, bikes and electric scooters on rent, share auto and share taxi services, tie-ups with cab aggregators, air-conditioned vans and self-driving cars.

Though commuters have welcomed the efforts by CMRL to provide the missing link from and to their stations, they feel the options given to them are not enough, as not all stations have all the share services. “We operated share-auto and taxis services on trial basis. We will soon be extending them to all the stations,” an official said. Share-auto and share-taxi service was launched in August 2018 across 13 stations and more than 1.7 lakh people had used these feeder services in the first six months. Officials said tenders have been floated to extend the service to other stations including the newly opened 10-km stretch from Washermenpet to AG-DMS.