CMRL plans multi-level car park at Vadapalani station

Officials say demand for space has grown manifold

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With the demand for parking space going up, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) plans to build a huge multi-level car park at Vadapalani Metro.

According to officials of CMRL, they have been scouting out for space at the station to set up the facility. "We are thinking of constructing the parking lot with a capacity of about 100 vehicles, mainly for cars. It will be very beneficial for commuters as the demand for parking has grown manifold. We are looking at an arrangement that will get us more revenue," an official said.

At present, the station can accommodate only two-wheelers. But it has to provide space for the highest number of vehicles — 1,800 — everyday and it gets maximum revenue from parking, about Rs 4 lakhs, he said.

The demand was high primarily because of the mall located close to the station. "The footfall at the station is quite high. A significant number of people who park their vehicles here go to the mall. So, we decided it would be a good idea to construct a multi-level car park," another official said.

The parking fee at the station is lower than that of the mall, prompting visitors to the mall to park their vehicles at the station, officials said.

Chennai Metro Rail has also been planning to build parking lots at a few other stations in the 45-km network of Phase I. "We will look at those stations where the footfall is prominent and the need for parking is high. But this plan will take sometime to finalize," the official said.