Drunks put fear into regulars in 1st class suburban coaches

‘Commuters May Be Shifting To Faster CMRL’

Siddarth Prabhakar

Chennai: The scourge of non-bom fide commuters and those intent on creating trouble has returned to haunt first class passengers on the city’s suburban rail network, which is used by lakhs of commuters everyday.

Karthik, a regular commuter on the Chennai Beach-Tambaram-Chengalpattu section, on Monday complained that no railway official was present as he had seen a drunk man sprawled on the floor of a coach, with his vomit spread around. This was not the first such incident in the last two years, and he fears the problem will increase in the future.

This is worrying for passengers, particularly women, who are often targeted by drunk people in the train. It is not just a problem in the suburban service, but is also prevalent in the mainline trains.

When journalists raised questions with railway officials from the suburban division of Southern Railway, they were told that the problem is widespread and that steps are being taken to tackle it.

Press Clippings

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