

# Metro's average ridership touches one lakh mark

## Commuter numbers see sharp increase at the end of June

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For the first time since Chennai Metro began its services, the average number of commuters has touched one lakh now.

According to Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) officials, from an average of nearly 95,000 people in May, it has grown to one lakh by the end of June.

"Initially, in the first week of June we saw a gradual increase with one lakh people travelling during weekdays and it would dip to 90,000-92,000 on Saturdays and even to 50,000-60,000 on Sundays. But this has improved and we have been witnessing an average of one lakh now. We now understand that thousands of working professionals have been using our system. On Mondays and Fridays, we see about 1,10,000 to 1,12,000 travelling and it shows that apart from the



**Catching on:** A crowded coach on the Thirumangalam-Airport stretch of the Metro. ■ K. PICHUMANI

regular office-goers, the ones leaving town on Friday for the weekend and getting back on Monday morning are also using the Metro," an official said.

Airport Metro station is the favourite amongst pas-

sengers and nearly 9,000 people travel through it every day, followed by Chennai Central station used by about 8,000-8,500 passengers and Thirumangalam used by 7,300-7,500 commuters on a daily basis.