

# Metro stations to have food kiosks by end of July

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** In a few more days, metro stations on Poonamallee High Road will have kiosks serving tasty food to help commuters beat hunger pangs. Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) is set to open food units in at least six stations.

A metro rail official said kiosks measuring 10-35 sqmt each are being set up on the street level of stations such as Koyambedu, Thirumangalam, Anna Nagar East, Shenoy Nagar, KMC and Nehru Park. "They will be ready by end of July or early August. These kiosks are apart from the automatic vending machines installed in stations to sell snacks and cold beverages," the official said.

Efforts are also under way to set up similar kiosks in underground stations on Anna Salai, including Nandanam, Saidapet and Teynampet, which, according to officials, may take three to six months. Work is also under way to get space at Central Metro, one of the largest in the city, allotted for commercial development.

These kiosks will sell food



## ADDED AMENITIES

and beverages of popular brands and both commuters as well as others could stop by to have a bite, as they will be set up near the entrances. However, commuters heading to board a train won't be allowed to carry the food they purchased beyond the paid area in the stations.

At present, elevated stations like Alandur, Vadapalani, Ashok Nagar and Airport have kiosks put up by popular food brands. For instance, at Alandur, commuters and others can stop at one of the two entry points to have a cup of coffee and snacks, as kiosks have been set up near the road. Koyambedu too has a coffee kiosk close to the entry gate and a confectionery.

Stations such as Shenoy Nagar had eateries in the non-paid area but they were later closed.