

Relief for commuters as foot overbridge at Alandur metro stn nears completion

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Commuters using the Alandur metro rail station will soon be able to cross the busy Grand Southern Trunk Road (GST Road) without a hassle as a foot overbridge with escalators will be opened in a couple of weeks.

The work to build the foot overbridge started in May 2018. It will connect one of the biggest elevated metro rail hubs at Alandur to Asarghana bus stop on the other side of the GST Road and also an intermodal urban square being planned in the space under Kathipara flyover.

The foot overbridge was planned because there were complaints from commuters that they would need an easy access to station from across the GST Road. People now use the Alandur subway, which is more than 50 metres away from



A Prathap

SAFER MEANS: Many commuters cross the busy GST Road to gain access to the station now

the station, built several years ago.

The subway is poorly lit and is deserted, making it difficult for use. But that is the only option currently left for commuters because traffic volume and speed of

vehicles is high on the road and highways department has built medians which prevents jaywalking. A few commuters, nevertheless, try to jump over the median to cross the road.

Officials also felt that a zebra crossing and a signal for pedestrian crossing will slowdown the traffic from Kathipara flyover and from the airport side.

Most part of the structure was ready by early October. "Finishing touches were going on and the FoB is almost completed," said an official.

Alandur metro station, opened in 2015, is used by more than 3,500 commuters everyday as it is a transit hub between two lines — Central to St Thomas Mount and Washermenpet to airport. The number of commuters who switch between the two lines at Alandur is also increasing.