

# Saidapet poised to get new bus shelter by end of Feb

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

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**Chennai:** Getting to the bus shelter at Saidapet to hop onto a south-bound MTC bus from the metro station may soon be child's play.

Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) has begun constructing a new modern bus shelter right in front of the station. While it will replace a part of the bus shelter demolished during metro rail construction in 2012, the new bus stand will be integrated with the metro station as part of a multimodal integration project.

"The bus shelter will be ready by February end. It will be a modern shelter. We will also retain the old one," a metro rail official said.

CMRL has also requested the corporation to shift bus stops closer to metro stations at Government estate, LIC, Airport, Pachaiyappa's College, Vadapalani, Ekattuthangal, Meenambakkam and Guindy.

The bus shelter in Saidapet is also a halt for all MTC buses plying to southern parts of the city and its suburbs. Buses proceed-



**WAY AHEAD:** Buses proceeding to Guduvanchery, ECR, Mahabalipuram, Thiruporur, Poonamallee, Kundrathur, Sunguvarchatram and Vellore either stop or originate from Saidapet bus stand

ding to Guduvanchery, East Coast Road, Mahabalipuram, Thiruporur, Poonamallee, Kundrathur, Sunguvarchatram and Vellore either stop or originate from Saidapet bus stand.

Local residents said a new shelter is being built after almost 20 years. The last time the shelter was built was in late 1990s.

At present, commuters have to walk about 100m from the metro station entrance to board an MTC bus. Officials said the modern bus shelter will have

lights powered by a 400kW capacity solar panels.

Unlike other metro stations, which have two entry/exit points on either side of the road, Saidapet metro has three entry points on the side of the road leading to Guindy and one on the other side to cater to the influx of passengers travelling to suburbs.

Earlier, when construction began for Saidapet metro in 2012, a part of the bus shelter and another small shelter closer to the Maraimalai Adigal Bridge were demolished.