

Elevated metro stns in phase-2 to get platform screen doors

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: All elevated stations in the 118.9km phase-2 network will have platform screen doors (PSD) to prevent commuters from crossing or jumping on to the tracks.

Metro rail will construct 80 elevated stations to link a nearly 76km stretch in three corridors in the phase. In that, construction for a portion of the line on corridor-4 between Power House in Kodambakkam and Poonamallee may begin in 2021.

The detailed project report for

phase-2 project said while underground stations will have full platform screen doors from the platform to the ceiling, elevated stations will have half-height PSDs. "PSDs are mainly provided at metro stations to ensure safety and comfort of passengers," the report said. And one of the major reasons, metro rail, said was, "It prevents accidental falls from the platform onto the lower track area, suicide attempts and homicides by pushing." Phase-2 will have 48 underground stations covering nearly 43km.

Other advantages of installing



All underground metro stations now have platform screen doors

PSDs include preventing accidents when service trains pass through stations at high speeds, reduces the wind felt by passengers caused by

piston effect which could in some circumstances make people fall over the tracks. The doors cut power consumptions in underground stations by preventing air-conditioned air from escaping and improve sound quality of platform announcements as background noise from the tunnels and trains are reduced.

PSDs are linked to the signalling system and automatically open when the train door syncs at the station.

In phase-2, PSDs are important as metro rail will operate driverless trains and all operations will be au-

tomatic. Besides automatic doors, PSDs will have manual secondary doors for emergency evacuation of passengers from the train inside tunnels, emergency escape door when PSDs do not open automatically and fixed screens, an additional safety feature to prevent passengers from falling off on the tracks.

In the project report, metro rail said PSDs will cost approximately ₹3 crore per platform and can limit the kind of trains that may be used on a line as train doors must have exactly the same spacing as the platform doors.