## Chennai Metro slashes maximum fare by ₹20

New rates effective from tomorrow

STAFF REPORTER

Chennai Metro Rail Ltd. has revised the maximum fare from ₹70 to ₹50, while the minimum fare continues to be ₹10.

The State government announced that the new fares would come into force from February 22.

Early this month, *The Hindu* had reported that CMRL planned to cut fares to attract more commuters.

With a 20% discount, those buying QR code tickets or using smartcards will pay a maximum fare of ₹40 and the minimum fare of ₹8.

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The ridership for Metro stood at nearly 1.2 lakh a day and owing to the pandemicinduced lockdown, it slumped to 10,000 a day last year after train services began.

Now, it has spiked to nearly 75,000 after the reopening of the new phase I extension stretch from Washermenpet to Wimco Nagar.

According to the CMRL officials, this will significantly help improve the number of persons who will take the Metro.

"In the newly-opened stretch, about 10,000 passengers are travelling. We expect it to get better in the coming weeks.

"Also, we have introduced last mile connectivity like share autos too this week which also will encourage more persons to use Chennai Metro Rail," an official said.

For years, commuters had been expressing the view that the fares were high.

## **Unlimited rides**

This apart, if a commuter buys a ₹100 ticket, the person can take unlimited number of rides in Chennai Metro in a day.

Similarly, a ₹2,500 ticket would allow commuters to take unlimited number of rides throughout the month.