

# Feasibility study for two metro lines linking city, suburbs on

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** If all goes according to plan, in a few years, residents of Chennai's neighbourhoods and beyond could reach the heart of the city without traffic snarls. On Tuesday, deputy chief minister O Paneerselvam announced in the state budget that the detailed project report and the detailed feasibility report for two metro lines – Airport to Kilambakkam and Tambaram to Velachery — are under preparation.

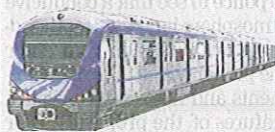
The deputy CM added that 54.1km of metro rail line is now operational and work to construct another 118.9km under phase-2, at an estimated cost of ₹61,843 crore, has commenced. "I am happy to note that the Union finance minister in her Budget speech, made a commitment for partial funding of phase-2. With this, the entire financing of the project is tied up," he added.

In January 2020, governor Banwarilal Purohit had said in his customary ad-

## IN THE PIPELINE

### Budget announcement

➤ Detailed project report for metrorail extension from **Airport to Kilambakkam** via Tambaram and the detailed feasibility report for a line from **Tambaram to Velachery** are under preparation



### Tambaram to Velachery | 15.5km

➤ Localities likely to be linked | Velachery, Madipakkam, Pallikaranai, Medavakkam, Selaiyur and Tambaram

➤ The route was earlier proposed for monorail network

### Airport to Kilambakkam | 15.3km

➤ Localities likely to be linked | Pallavaram, Tambaram, Chromepet, MEPZ, Irumbuliyur, Perungalathur, Vandalur and Kilambakkam

dress on the assembly floor, that the government will establish a rail-based transit system to ease traffic on Tambaram-Velachery corridor and extension of airport metro till Kilambakkam.

Sources said the line may come up along Velachery main road, which was one of the routes proposed to be linked by monorail between Velachery and Vandalur. Feasibility report will have extensive data on public transport users and private vehicles on the route.

The line from Chennai Airport to Kilambakkam,

where the proposed new monofossil bus terminus could open soon, may be an elevated line over GST Road with 13 stations linking Pallavaram, Chromepet, Tambaram, Perungalathur, Vandalur and Kilambakkam.

Dayanand Krishnan, a Chitlapakkam resident said both the lines are crucial for IT employees residing in localities beyond Airport to reach their workplace in OMR. "Our wish is that these two lines should also be completed within the six years phase-2 completion will take," he said.