Metro floats tenders for lines linking west, south suburbs

Porur-OMR IT Hub Ride To Take Less Than 90 Min

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: Three years from now it will take less than 90 minutes to reach the IT corridor on OMR from Madhavaram or Porur as CMRL hasfloated tenders to construct a 22km elevated corridor for metro lines connecting the southern and western suburbs, which otherwise have poor public transport, with the core city.

This is part of the 118.9km phase-2 metro project. It includes construction of a 10.13km line from Sholinganal-lur to Siruseri SIPCOT and a 12km line from CMBT to Puzhuthivakkam. With this, the CMRL has floated a total of 13 tenders to construct the phase. The stretch between Porur and Poonamallee is likely to be taken up for construction first this year. The three-corridor phase is expected to be ready by 2026.



On Saturday, CMRL invited bid for the construction of the line between Sholinganallur and Siruseri SIPCOT with nine elevated stations terminating insideSIPCOTlinkingapartof the IT hub at OMR. The contractor will have to build stabling lines at SIPCOT for parking metro trains after daily operations. The stretch, funded by Asian Development Bank, is part of the 45.8km corridor 3 from Madhavaram to SIPCOT. While CMRL has split corridor 3 into smaller stretches and

floated seven separate tenders, but tenders for the line between Taramani Link Road and Sholinganallur are pending.

Earlier, bids were invited for the line connecting CMBT with Puzhuthivakkam, which also included IT landmarks like DLF IT SEZ. The stretch, which includes 12 stations, also has three interchange stations at CMBT, Alandur and St Thomas Mount, where phase-2 stations will be linked with existing phase-1 stations.

When both these stretches

are ready it will link several central localities either through a direct train service or through interchange stations. For instance, commuters at Navalur could take a direct train to localities like Adyar, Radhakrishnan Salai, Thousand Lights, Nungambakkam, Kellys and Perumbur. They may have to switch corridors at either Thousand Lights metro or KMC to proceed towards Central Metro or switch corridors at Thirumavilai to reach T Nagar in corridor-4.