

Kathipara square to go live in May

Project Will Have Food Courts, Bus Bays & Parks

U.Tejonmayam@timesgroup.com

Chennai: In another two months, commuters entering the city through Guindy in an outstation bus can relax and even grab a bite at food bays beneath the Kathipara flyover before they walk through an exclusive pathway to board a train at Alandur metro station.

Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) is completing construction of the intermodal urban square project under the Kathipara cloverleaf intersection to provide commuters with a seamless integration of various modes of transport. Besides facilities

FUTURISTIC MODEL

Intermodal urban square under Kathipara intersection will link Alandur and Guindy Metro stations, Guindy suburban rail station, Guindy and Alandur bus stops

Total area
5.9 lakh sqft

Construction began
August 2018

To be ready by **May 2021** | Cost **₹14**cr

FACILITIES | Bus bay, Parking area, Kids play area, seating, food stalls and kiosks, ATMs, toilets and landscaping bay



Pic: C Suresh Kumar

like bus bays, parking lots and food stalls, the urban square built at an estimated ₹14 crore is also expected to provide last mile connectivity for commuters alighting at Alandur metro station, as it will link areas around the metro station through local buses.

“The purpose of the pro-

ject is to develop the area beneath the intersection and attract commuters to the Alandur metro station,” a metro rail official said. The station is an interchange linking two corridors of phase-1, crossing Poonamallee High Road and Anna Salai, connecting major transit hubs like Egmore and Cen-

tral Station.

According to metro rail officials, the urban square spread over a 5.9 lakh sqft space will have a number of facilities for passengers entering or leaving the city. It includes bus bays for MTC buses, parking lots for both bikes and cars, food stalls and kiosks, ATMs, kids play

area, seating area and a landscaping bay. As a result, commuters entering the city could board an MTC bus at the bus bay, while those arriving in their own vehicle could park it under the flyover and could simply hop onto a metro train at Alandur. Recently, a foot overbridge was opened with escalators and elevators to link Alandur metro station with the air-conditioned bus stop at Asarkhana, where both MTC and outstations buses entering the city stops.

“Alandur metro station would be the closest, so the urban square would be linked with a pathway. With the opening of the urban square, we hope to see more footfall in the station,” officials said.

With Alandur metro station being a transit point for many passengers travelling to the Porur IT hub, the urban square will also provide them with last mile connectivity through local buses.