



दक्षिणरेलवे/SOUTHERN RAILWAY
चेन्नैमंडल/CHENNAI DIVISION

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प्रेसविज्ञप्ति /PRESS RELEASE

CHENNAI DIVISION'S AC EMU SERVICES WITNESSES STRONG GROWTH IN PATRONAGE AND POPULARITY

In April 2025 Air-Conditioned (AC) EMU services in the Chennai Suburban network are witnessing a consistent and notable increase in ridership. Launched in April 2025 on the Chennai Beach–Tambaram–Chengalpattu section, these trains have quickly gained popularity among office-goers, professionals, diplomats, teachers, students, and other daily commuters.

Eight AC EMU services are being operated, comprising two services each between Chennai Beach - Chengalpattu and Chengalpattu - Chennai Beach, two services between Chennai Beach and Tambaram and two services between Tambaram and Chengalpattu. Based on positive commuter feedback and growing demand, Chennai Division revised train timings to better suit passenger needs and introduced additional services.

The **revision of timings in May 2025** for AC EMU trains such as **Train No. 49002 (Chengalpattu–Chennai Beach)** and **Train No. 49007 (Chennai Beach–Chengalpattu)** has further boosted ridership. Occupancy has seen a significant increase, particularly during peak hours, at **key stations including Chennai Beach, Guindy, Tambaram, Mambalam, Perungalathur, Potheri, Guduvanchery and Chengalpattu**. The response to AC EMU is encouraging both in Chennai Beach – Tambaram section and Tambaram – Chengalpattu section especially during peak hours. These commuter-friendly schedules have greatly enhanced convenience and accessibility.

The **average daily ridership** figures clearly indicate a growing trend:

- **April 2025** – 1,488 passengers
- **May 2025** – 2,571 passengers
- **June 2025 (till date)** – 2,800 passengers

Fares for AC EMUs are marginally **higher (i.e Rs.5-10) than non-AC First Class EMUs**. **Further AC EMU fare is same as Chennai Metro Rail (CMRL) fares for the 12-15 km distance slab and is same as AC Bus fare for 26-40 kms slab**. **Therefore AC EMU service is offering climate-controlled travel at a competitive price**. Ticketing is made easy via the **UTS mobile app**, with **season tickets** also available for regular commuters.

Patronage for the AC EMU service is expected to grow further with the upcoming **Phase II extension of the St. Thomas Mount-Velachery MRTS** and its **integration with CMRL** under a unified multimodal transport framework.

The **Chennai Division of Southern Railway** remains committed to delivering **comfortable, reliable, and seamless connectivity** across the suburban rail network.

SD/-

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