



दक्षिण रेलवे/SOUTHERN RAILWAY

चेन्नै मंडल/CHENNAI DIVISION

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प्रेस विज्ञप्ति /PRESS RELEASE

EXTENDED MRTS SERVICES BETWEEN ST. THOMAS MOUNT AND VELACHERY
WITNESS STRONG PUBLIC PATRONAGE

Chennai Division of Southern Railway has successfully commissioned the extended MRTS services between St. Thomas Mount and Velachery on 14th March 2026. The newly introduced section has garnered a strong and encouraging response from the public, reflecting its growing importance in Chennai's urban transport network.

A significant increase in passenger patronage has been observed within days of commissioning. St. Thomas Mount Railway Station, a key interchange hub, recorded a sharp rise in footfall from **35,270** passengers on 14.03.2026 to **49013** passengers on 16.03.2026 while Velachery railway station has recorded **37993** passengers on 14.03.2026 to **69247** passengers on 16.03.2026. This substantial growth highlights the increasing public preference for the MRTS as a **reliable** and **congestion-free** mode of travel.

To cater to the growing demand, Chennai Division is currently operating 43 pairs of extended EMU services between Chennai Beach and St. Thomas Mount. Additionally, 05 pairs of shuttle services-02 pairs between Chennai Beach and Velachery and 03 pairs between Velachery and St. Thomas Mount - are being run to ensure **enhanced frequency** and last-mile connectivity.

The extension has significantly improved access to major employment and residential hubs such as Tiruvanmiyur, Perungudi and Velachery. Passengers now benefit from seamless, direct rail connectivity, **reducing travel time** and dependence on road-based transport, particularly during peak hours.

The St. Thomas Mount interchange further strengthens **multimodal** integration by connecting Suburban Rail, MRTS and Metro services at a single point, enabling smooth and efficient passenger transfers across the city.

The marked increase in patronage and positive commuter feedback underline the success of this extension in providing a fast, economical, and **environmentally** sustainable mode of transport. The initiative is also contributing to easing road congestion in the southern parts of Chennai.

Chennai Division remains committed to enhancing passenger convenience and continuously improving urban mobility through efficient and integrated rail services.

Sd/-

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