Chennai Metro Rail

Metro Digest

SEP - OCT - 2026

VOL - 9

A New Chapter in Urban Mobility: Phase-II Opens Its First Stretch to Passenger Service



Phase-II marked a defining milestone on October 11, 2026, with the inauguration of its first stretch, the Yellow Line, a 14.64 km elevated section with 11 stations connecting Poonamallee Bypass to Vadapalani via Porur Junction. The **Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Thiru. Narendra Modi,** and the **Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. C. Joseph Vijay,** flagged off the passenger services in the presence of the **Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu, Thiru. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar,** and also travelled on the metro train. Passenger service commenced on the same day.

The 11 elevated metro stations on this stretch are Poonamallee Bypass, Poonamallee Bus Stand, Poonamallee Government Hospital, Karayanchavadi, Kumananchavadi, Kattupakkam, Iyappanthangal, Thelliyaragaram, Porur Bypass, Porur Junction and Vadapalani.

The Yellow Line received a warm public welcome, with commuters experiencing the new service with keen interest and enthusiasm from the very first day. Within five hours of the opening of passenger service on October 11, 2026, it recorded a ridership of 25,474 passengers, reflecting strong acceptance among the public.













A Landmark Week for Phase-II: Hat-trick of TBM Breakthroughs in Three Consecutive Days



29th SEPTEMBER 2026
Corridor 3 Downline TBM "Kaveri" achieved breakthrough at KMC Station



30th SEPTEMBER 2026
Corridor 5 Downline TBM "Marutham" achieved breakthrough at Villivakkam Station



1st OCTOBER 2026
Corridor 3 Downline TBM "Adyar" achieved breakthrough at RK Salai Station

Phase-II construction reached a significant milestone as three Tunnel Boring Machines achieved breakthroughs in a week.

Each tunnelling drive was executed under challenging conditions. TBM **"Kaveri"** passed beneath five live Southern Railway tracks near Chetpet Station, with an approximate overburden of 18 metres and a minimum clearance of 6.1 metres from the existing Phase-I tunnels. TBM **"Marutham"** bored a 601-metre tunnel, passing below five tracks at Villivakkam Railway Station and protecting the ground in a heavily residential area. TBM **"Adyar"** negotiated several critical structures along Royapettah High Road, including Peters Bridge, the EPFO building, Andhra School and several shop lots. All three breakthroughs were completed without disruption to the public or ongoing traffic.

The breakthroughs were witnessed by the officials of CMRL: Thiru. Ashish Chatterjee, I.A.S., Managing Director; Thiru. T. Archunan, Director (Projects); Thiru. S. Ashok Kumar, Chief General Manager (T&EC); Thiru. T. Livingstone Eliazer, Chief General Manager (PP&D); Tmt. Rekha Prakash, Chief General Manager (P&D); Thiru. K. Gurusamy, Chief General Manager (EC / UGC); Thiru. Anto Jos Menachery, General Manager (Underground), along with senior officials from CMRL, General Consultants, L&T and Tata Projects Ltd were present during the occasion.

Award of Excellence in Urban Transport Presented to CMRL at UMI Conference 2026



During the Urban Mobility India (UMI) Conference 2026, CMRL was honoured with the **"Award of Excellence in Urban Transport"** by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India, under the category **"Metro Rail with the Best Passenger Services and Satisfaction".** The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), Government of India, presented the award during the Valedictory Session of the conference on October 24, 2026, at Mayfair Sanctuary, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

The award recognises inclusive and accessible travel facilities, trained staff, upgraded passenger amenities and enhanced women's safety through the Pink Squad. The highest NCMC usage among Indian metros, integration with city bus services, 80% cashless ticketing and high commuter satisfaction in the COMET survey, across reliability, information, comfort and security, further reflect a continued commitment to safe, efficient and passenger-centric urban mobility.

The award was conferred by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Thiru. Manohar Lal Khattar, and Dr. Krushna Chandra Mahapatra, Minister for Housing and Urban Development and Public Enterprises, Government of Odisha. It was received by Thiru. Ashish Chatterjee, I.A.S., Managing Director, CMRL. The recognition reflects CMRL's continued commitment to safe, efficient and passenger-centric urban mobility.

Consultancy Agreement signed for Phase-I Network Capacity Enhancement Project



A consultancy agreement was signed for the selection of a Project Management Company (PMC) for the Phase-I Network Capacity Enhancement Project, which aims to increase the capacity of the existing network to meet growing ridership demand through upgrades to systems, infrastructure and rolling stock, while keeping services uninterrupted, safe and reliable. The contract was awarded to AECOM India Private Limited in Joint Venture with Nippon Koei India Private Limited (AECOM-Nippon Koei JV), at a total value of Rs. 35.97 crore, inclusive of all applicable taxes and duties.

The agreement was signed at MetroS, Nandanam, by Thiru. Manoj Goyal, Director (Systems & Operations), CMRL; Thiru. Sunil Kumar Reddy Kasa, Regional Director; and Thiru. Satish Lal Suneja, Associate Director, AECOM-Nippon Koei JV. Thiru. K. Mani Venkata Kumar, Chief General Manager (S&T); Thiru. S. Ramasubbu, Advisor (O&RS); Thiru. C. Balamurugan, Additional General Manager (Rolling Stock); and senior officials from both organisations were present on the occasion.

Precast Construction Milestone Achieved for Phase-II Corridor-5 ECV-03 (Ullagaram - Sholinganallur)



Phase-II Corridor-5 ECV-03, from Ullagaram to Sholinganallur, achieved a significant milestone with the final U-Girder casting and 100% completion of its precast elements. In all, 3,126 elements were cast: 1,041 I-Girders, 892 U-Girders, 871 Pier Arm Segments, 303 Pier Caps and 19 Portal Shells. The 892 U-Girders are the highest production among the Phase-II packages. The works used 98,052 cum of concrete, 18,550 MT of reinforcement steel and 3,010 MT of HT strands.

The milestone reflects the collective efforts of the General Consultant, AEON Consortium, and the Contractor, HCC-KEC Consortium. It was attended by Thiru. T. Archunan, Director (Projects), CMRL; Thiru. R. Srinivasan, Additional General Manager, CMRL, along with other senior officials and staff.

Vigilance Awareness Week 2026





Vigilance Awareness Week 2026 was observed under the theme **"Probity for Prosperity".** On this occasion, the Vigilance Pledge was taken at MetroS on 26 October 2026. The pledge was administered by Thiru. Ashish Chatterjee, I.A.S., Managing Director, CMRL. Thiru. T. Archunan, Director (Projects), Thiru. Manoj Goyal, Director (Systems & Operations) and Thiru. S. Krishnamoorthy, Director (Finance), along with senior officials and staff of CMRL, were present during the event.

As part of the Vigilance Awareness Week, a quiz and debate session were held, and prizes for the competitions were distributed by Thiru. G. Rajarathinam, CGM (HR & Legal), Thiru. R. Murali, CGM (F&A), and Thiru. T. P. Vinod Kumar, CVO & AGM (HR).


























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Ridership Highlights: September and October 2026



October 2026 ridership includes the Yellow Line, which opened for passenger service on October 11, 2026.

A total of 9,87,54,426 passengers travelled on the Chennai Metro from January 1, 2026, to October 31, 2026.

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Published by:
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