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Press Release

CMRL Addresses Concerns over Okkiyam Maduvu Waterways Expansion works

Chennai Metro Rail Limited wishes to clarify recent reports and social media discussions regarding the impact of the work on the Okkiyam Maduvu waterway.

The devastating floods caused by Cyclone Michaung in December 2023 highlighted a critical issue: the inadequate capacity of the existing Okkiyam Maduvu bridge to handle heavy rainfall. The vent way is presently about 80m and the height of the vent way is also less. Hence, to address this, a meeting was held in the Secretariat, and it was decided to increase the vent way to 200 m with an addition of 1.5 m vertical clearance.

CMRL has been entrusted with this crucial work at the request of the Water Resources Department. The work involves demolishing the existing bridge after building a new one with a wider waterway to prevent flooding in the Pallikaranai marsh area.

CMRL understand the public's concern about this vital waterway and assure everyone that the current work is focused solely on improving its capacity. The present work being carried out by CMRL is road work across Okkiyam Maduvu to increase the waterway to 200 m so that in the next monsoon (not the upcoming monsoon), the bridge will be ready with increased waterway.

We are committed to completing this work before the next monsoon (after the upcoming monsoon) and ensuring that the Okkiyam Maduvu is better equipped to handle future heavy rainfall. The present work will be closed before the upcoming monsoon and the existing vent way will be cleared up to the bed level of the Maduvu.

Issued By: Joint Director / Public Relations Officer

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