



P.R.No.85/2025

Date: 18.10.2025

Press Release

TBM Vaigai breakthrough at Mandaveli Station

Chennai Metro Rail Phase II, Corridor-3 tunnelling works between Greenways Station and Mandaveli Station commenced in February 2024. Two TBMs, named “Noyyal” and “Vaigai,” were deployed for this stretch. The Upline TBM “Vaigai” began tunnelling operations in February 2024 and successfully achieved breakthrough at the Mandaveli shaft today 18th October 2025. The TBM breakthrough at Mandaveli station was witnessed by Thiru. T. Archunan, Director (Projects), CMRL, in the presence of CMRL officials Thiru. Livingstone Eliazer, CGM (PP&D), Thiru. Anto Jos Menachery (GM Underground), Thiru. C. Selvam (GM Tracks), Consultant CRE Thiru. Sanjeev Mandal, Thiru. Jayarama (Project Director-L&T), Thiru. Ahmet (Project Manager-L&T) and other officials and staff of CMRL, Consultant and L&T Ltd were present during the event.

The tunnel construction is being executed by M/s Larsen & Toubro Ltd. The total length of the tunnel is 775 metres. The tunnelling was beneath densely built-up areas and the TBM passed below 75 buildings with an overburden ranging from 9 to 12 metres. There were several existing major utilities-sewer, water, electricity lines were present in Mandaveli shaft area and that taken more time for the shaft construction.

The TBMs encountered predominantly silty sand /sand ground conditions and were operated mainly in closed-face mode. A total of 13 cutterhead interventions were carried out on TBM Vaigai, and the tunnel drive was completed in 610 days. The 2nd TBM Noyyal also reached Mandaveli and target breakthrough in next month. CMRL has completed their 3rd TBM breakthrough in this month, first at RK Salai, then at Kodambakkam and today at Mandaveli. Many breakthroughs will happen in coming months.

**Issued By: Public Relations Department,
CMRL, Chennai – 600 035.**