

80th Independence Day Celebrated at MetroS



On August 15, 2026, CMRL celebrated the 80th Independence Day of India at MetroS, Anna Salai, Nandanam. Thiru. M.A. Siddique, I.A.S., Managing Director, CMRL, hoisted the National Flag and accepted the parade salute.

As part of the celebration, six (6) employees were honoured with Certificates of Appreciation and Mementos for completing a decade of service; 112 officials and staff were recognised for excellence in sports, and 13 children of employees who excelled in academics were felicitated with certificates and prizes.

Thiru. T. Archunan, Director (Projects), Thiru. S. Krishnamoorthy, Director (Finance), Thiru. Manoj Goyal, Director (Systems & Operations), Senior Officials and Staff of CMRL, GC were also present during the occasion.



Chief Minister's Good Governance Award for Mechanised Cleaning Services

In recognition of the high standards of cleanliness maintained through its mechanised cleaning services across Chennai Metro Rail stations, the Chief Minister's Good Governance Award was presented to Thiru. S. Satheesh Prabhu, General Manager (Operations & Maintenance), along with the Operations team of CMRL, during the Independence Day celebrations held on August 15, 2026, at the Fort St. George premises, Secretariat, Chennai.



The award was presented to Thiru. M.A. Siddique, I.A.S., Managing Director, CMRL, during the Independence Day celebrations held at the CMRL Admin Building, MetroS, Nandanam. This recognition reflects CMRL's continued commitment to maintaining high standards of cleanliness and hygiene across all Metro Rail stations, further enhancing the overall passenger experience.

Prestigious Commonwealth Award for Environmental Sustainability Initiatives



In recognition for its comprehensive environmental initiatives and commitment towards sustainable urban development, CMRL was honoured with the Commonwealth Award. The award was received on its behalf by Thiru. T. Archunan, Director (Projects), CMRL, at the Commonwealth Environment & CSR Awards 2026 held in Glasgow, United Kingdom.

The award was handed over to Thiru. M.A. Siddique, I.A.S., Managing Director, CMRL, in the presence of Dr. Rajeev K. Srivastava, Chief Advisor (Environment), CMRL. The recognition emphasises its sustainability initiatives, including rooftop solar power, regenerative braking, rainwater harvesting, wastewater recycling and organic waste composting. It has also planted over 78,000 saplings, transplanted more than 1,600 mature trees, and introduced the Eco Vibrant Unit (EVU) to promote biodiversity and climate resilience.

Thiru. Ashish Chatterjee, I.A.S., assumed charges as the Principal Secretary / Managing Director of CMRL



Thiru. Ashish Chatterjee, I.A.S., assumed charges as Principal Secretary / Managing Director of Chennai Metro Rail Limited on August 27, 2026.

He belongs to the 1999 batch of the IAS, Tamil Nadu cadre, and has over 26 years of administrative experience across State and Central Government roles. An alumnus of the Indian Institute of Technology with a Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering, he has held key positions in Tamil Nadu, including as District Collector of Viluppuram, Kanchipuram, and Tiruvallur districts, and has also worked in Urban Development and City Governance at the Corporation of Chennai.

Thiru. Ashish Chatterjee, I.A.S., had also served as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, and as Government Nominee Director on the Board of GAIL (India) Ltd. In April 2025, he assumed the position of Additional Secretary & Financial Advisor in the Ministry of Steel, Government of India, besides serving on the Boards of SAIL and NMDC, before assuming charge as Principal Secretary / Managing Director, CMRL.

TBM “Nilagiri” Breakthrough at Moolakadai Metro (North) shaft



A significant milestone had been achieved in Phase II construction with the breakthrough of TBM Nilagiri (S96) at the Moolakadai North Shaft. The tunnel boring machine completed an 819-metre tunnel drive from Madhavaram High Road Station to Moolakadai Station (Up line), marking the 11th TBM breakthrough.

With this achievement, CMRL completed its 24th TBM breakthrough in the Phase II project. The tunnelling work was executed under challenging

conditions, including passage beneath the Buckingham Canal and under a live traffic road, addressing more than 14 bore wells along the alignment by providing alternative water sources without any issues for the public. Officials from CMRL, the General Consultant, and Tata Projects were present during the breakthrough event. Thiru. Kolli Venkata Ramana, AGM (UG)/CMRL, Thiru. PSS Naidu, CRE/GC1, Thiru. Vijaya Kumar, Project Manager/Tata Projects, other officials of CMRL, General Consultant and Tata Projects witnessed the milestone.

Ministry of Railways Approved Handover of MRTS to Government of Tamil Nadu and CMRL

The Ministry of Railways had conveyed its approval for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Southern Railway and the Government of Tamil Nadu, for handing over the assets, operation, and maintenance of the Mass Rapid Transit System (MRTS) suburban services to the State Government. The agreement had been signed by Southern Railway, the Government of Tamil Nadu, and Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL), with a separate MoU planned for the subsequent handover of MRTS to CMRL, coordinated by the Chennai Unified Metropolitan Transport Authority (CUMTA).

Under the proposed MoU, the handover was to take place within 90 days of execution, with Southern Railway continuing train operations and maintenance during a 24-month transition period. The MRTS network, comprising 20 stations from Chennai Beach to St. Thomas Mount, would be integrated into the city's public transport infrastructure to enable improved connectivity and seamless multimodal travel.

Final Pier Cast for Phase II Corridor-5, Marking a Landmark Moment for Chennai Metro

The casting of the final pier (Pier P814), with a height of 25 metres, located adjacent to Medavakkam-1 Metro Station was completed, marking a landmark moment for Chennai Metro.

The 11.3 km package, extending from Ullagaram Metro Station to Elcot Metro Station, comprises 513 piers, with testing conducted on 2,351 piles. Construction of these complex structures in

densely populated, high-traffic market areas has posed significant challenges, including managing traffic diversions and executing works in proximity to and above the existing flyover. Thiru. T. Archunan, Director (Projects), CMRL, along with Thiru. R. Srinivasan, Joint General Manager (C&M), CMRL; Thiru. C. Murugamoorthy, Team Leader, AEON Consortium; Thiru. G. Suresh Kannan, Resident Engineer, AEON Consortium; Thiru. Lalichan Antony, Project Manager, HCC-KEC Consortium; and senior officials and staff from CMRL, AEON, and HCC-KEC were present on the occasion.



"Safety First" Awareness Programme Conducted for Phase II Construction Personnel



An exclusive Safety Awareness Programme was conducted for personnel engaged in Chennai Metro Phase II construction activities on August 28, 2026, at the CMRL MetroS Auditorium, Nandanam. The programme focused on accident prevention, identification and prevention of unsafe acts and conditions, safe systems of work, statutory safety requirements, and effective supervision at construction sites, and was attended by around 200 participants, including frontline engineers, supervisors, and foremen from CMRL, General Consultants (GC), and Phase II contractors. It emphasised strengthening safety practices and fostering a strong "Safety First" culture across all Phase II construction sites.

The programme was conducted by Thiru. P. Rajkumar, Joint Director (BOCW), along with Thiru. D. Manishankar and Tmt. K. Suvedha, Deputy Director (BOCW), Directorate of Industrial Safety and Health (DISH),

Government of Tamil Nadu. The session was organised by CMRL and GC safety teams. Thiru. P. Kowndinya Bose, Joint General Manager (Safety & Quality), CMRL; Thiru. C. Murugamoorthy, Team Leader, General Consultant; and other senior officials were present during the occasion.

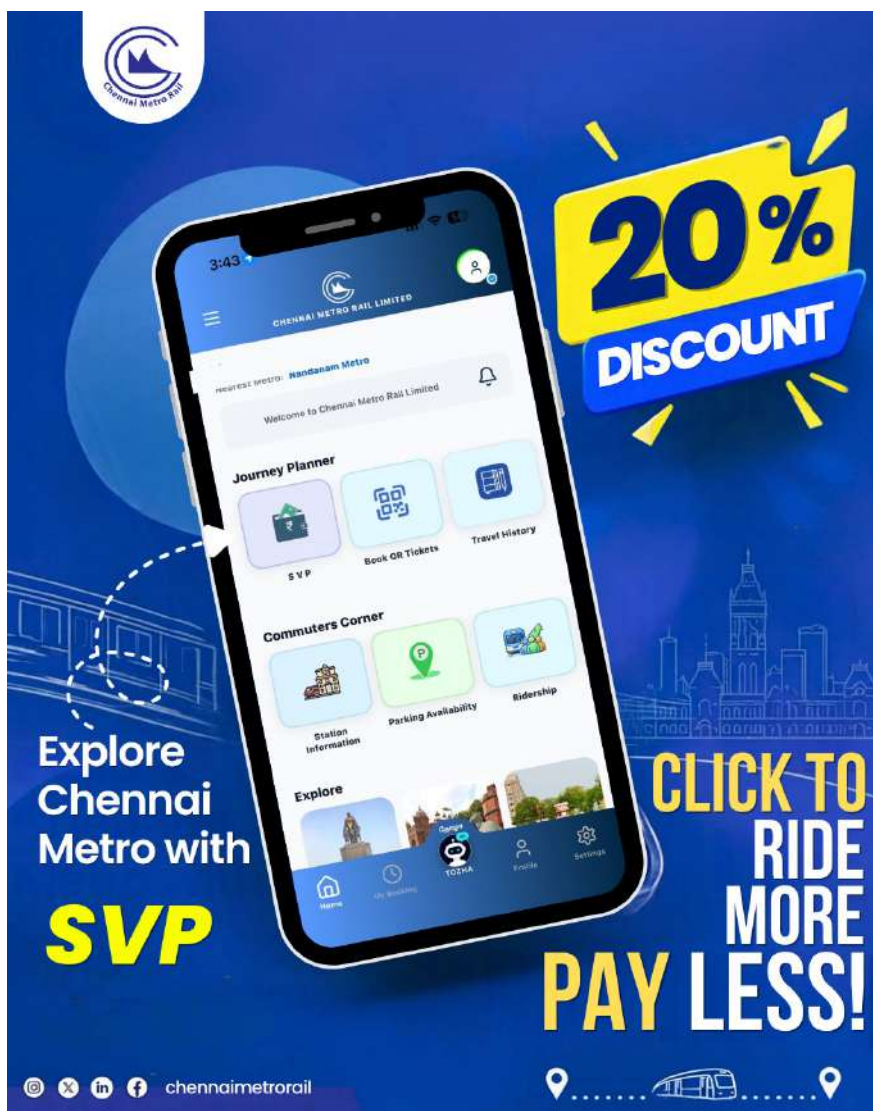
CMRL recorded 1,04,04,098 passengers in August

A total of 1,04,04,098 passengers are recorded to have travelled in August, 2026. August 14, 2026 recorded the highest passenger flow per day of August, 2026 with 4,01,607 passengers. A total of 7,79,18,300 passengers travelled in Chennai Metro from January 1, 2026 to August 31, 2026.

Moments of Recognition During the 80th Independence Day Celebrations at Metros







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