

On day 1 of curtailed MRTS services, few buses to clear rush at Central stn

Massive crowd as people take bus to Chitandripet from central instead of taking it from beach

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

THE Government General Hospital bus stop on EVR Periyar Salai, opposite Central station, witnessed a spike in commuters on Monday, marking the first day of termination of MRTS services at Chintadripet.



Commuters wait for bus service at Central station in Chennai on Monday | P JAWAHAR

The heavy inflow was the result of commuters from the north-West (Chennai - Arakonam) and north-east (Chennai - Gummidipundi) suburban areas opting to reach Chintadripet via Chennai Central instead of taking buses from Beach.

"I prefer to take the Central local train to Chintadripet instead of going via Chennai Beach as the travel time is shorter and the availability of buses from Chennai Beach is limited. The government should introduce shuttle service from Central Station to Chintadripet," said R Ramchandran, a commuter from Perambur.

train passengers, MTC had announced adding 140 additional bus services to Vallalar Nagar via Chintadripet, Central and Chennai Beach. However, commuters complain that the bus services from Central to Chintadripet are not sufficient, especially during peak hours.

"In addition to 140 services, we will be adding more buses from Central to Chintadripet from Tuesday onwards," said A Anbu Abraham, Managing Director, MTC.

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A few days back, the southern railway had announced suspension of MRTS services between beach and Chintadripet to facilitate construc-

tion of a fourth line on the Chennai Beach - Egmore section.

The daily footfall on the Beach - Velachery MRTS service was 1.2 lakh passengers, with 60-70% of them originating from Chennai - Arakonam and Chennai - Gummidipundi suburban sections. These commuters switch to Velachery-bound MRTS trains at Chennai Beach. On Monday, all these passengers opted to board suburban trains bound to Central instead of Chennai Beach.

"Traveling directly from Perambur to Velachery by bus would take more than 90 minutes during peak traffic. The number of train services from Chintadripet has been reduced from 124 to 80. The railways should increase the frequency of services," said another commuter S Mukesh from Aynavaram. The spokesperson of Chennai railway division said they will look into the demand to increase the service. Meanwhile, the railway commenced dismantling of tracks between Chennai Port and Park Town stations marking the commencement of work on the section.



WHEN COPS CALL FOR 'EMERGENCY'

The public lend their hand to push-start the police patrol vehicle after it failed to start. They visited a private institution at Kothawal Chavadi area in Chennai on Monday as a regular check, but the vehicle failed to start | P JAWAHAR

Member of TNIE's digital team dies

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

SNEHA Belcin, a dynamic member of The New Indian Express digital and video team, tragically passed away in the city on Monday. She was 26.

Sneha joined TNIE in March this year, writing articles and producing videos on issues related to caste and gender, which were close to her heart. Among her most popular articles was a critique of the Vetrimaaran

movie Viduthalaai Part I, which provoked a discussion within the film community.

Sneha grew up in Coimbatore. She completed her degree in journalism and filmmaking from Mumbai University and subsequently joined the Covai Post. She later worked with Neelam Productions, a Tamil production company launched by noted filmmaker Pa Ranjith, where

she was a creative producer. At Neelam, she hosted a video series explaining gender-related terms like gaslighting and mansplaining in Tamil.

She also did a weekly satire show for Neelam's YouTube channel. Pa Ranjith was among the mourners on Monday. She was also a translator and a filmmaker, writing and directing documentary shorts.



Six arrested for armed robbery after five days

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Chennai

FIVE days after a group of men were robbed by a gang at Kodungaiyur, the city police arrested six people on Monday. S Ajai Buddha (28), G Prem Kumar (37), S Bhaskar (22), E Yuvraj (35), Y Naveen (18) and R Naresh Kumar (30), were arrested and remanded in judicial custody. The police said that on August 23, K Ravi, from Erunkanjeri in Kodungaiyur, was talking with his friends near his house. Around 6 pm, a

gang of ten men in an autorickshaw and two motorbikes reached the spot.

"They held the group of men at knifepoint and robbed them of ₹20,000 cash, five mobile phones and 2.5 sovereigns of gold," said a police officer. Based on their complaint, the Kodungaiyur police registered a case and launched a hunt for the suspects. The police are on the lookout for four more suspects. The police seized two sovereigns of gold, one autorickshaw and three machetes.

Collector declares Onam holiday in Chennai

Chennai: Chennai Collector M Aruna has declared a holiday on Tuesday for government offices and educational institutions which are functioning in the Chennai district on account of Onam festival. In lieu of the local holiday, September 2 (Saturday) will be a working day for government offices and educational institutions in Chennai District. However, district treasury and sub-treasury offices in Chennai district will function on Tuesday.

Migrant worker dies after falling into boiler

Chennai: A 20-year-old migrant worker died after he fell into a boiler of a private oil company where he was working. The deceased was identified as Raju Ram, a native of Bihar and was working at the private oil company at Ulundai in Tiruvallur since five months. In this situation, on Saturday, as Raju was getting down from a ladder, he allegedly slipped and fell into the boiler. Hearing his screams, the fellow workers pulled him out and rushed him to a hospital. The body has been sent for autopsy and a case has been registered.

17-yr-old boy held for slashing man with blade

Chennai: A 17-year-old boy was arrested by the police for slashing a man with a blade in retaliation for attacking his elder brother with a knife a month ago. After an inquiry, the boy was sent to a juvenile home. The Royapuram police said that Akash (21) had attacked the boy's brother Dinesh with a knife over an argument a month back. Akash was arrested and released on bail recently. On Saturday, the boy saw Akash walking alone and slashed his neck with a blade. Based on a complaint, the police arrested the boy on Sunday.

15 held with 240 kg ganja in Thoothukudi

Thoothukudi: Prohibition Enforcement Wing (PEW) sleuths on Monday arrested 15 persons and allegedly seized 240 kg of ganja during a vehicle inspection at Pudur Pandiayapuram toll plaza. Sources said, PEW sleuths, based on a tip-off, conducted a vehicle check on Ettayapuram road. While inspecting two vehicles at the Pudur Pandiayapuram toll plaza late on Sunday, two persons jumped and escaped, which seemed suspicious to the police. The sleuths managed to seize around 240 kg of ganja from the vehicle.

Apollo Hospitals on Monday announced pan-India expansion of its connected care programme - Apollo Connect. Founder and chairman of Apollo Hospitals Group Dr Prathap C Reddy was present at the event | EXPRESS

Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited advertisement regarding a possession notice for immovable property.

Aditya Birla Capital advertisement regarding an auction for immovable properties.

S. E. RAILWAY TENDER advertisement regarding a tender for doubling of track in Mid Section between Bhujoddi and Talgaria.

Union Bank advertisement regarding a stressed asset management branch and a corrigendum for an E-auction.

Bank of Baroda advertisement regarding a notice to safe deposit locker hirers and a public notice for land acquisition.

Hinduja Housing Finance Limited advertisement regarding a possession notice for immovable property.

Union Bank advertisement regarding a possession notice for immovable property.

Public Notice advertisement regarding a notice from Mr. Thirumalraj regarding land purchase.

Public Notice advertisement regarding a notice from G.P. Road Branch regarding land acquisition.