

The Times of India 14.09.2009

MTC bus stop near airport entrance pleases many

TNN 14 September 2009, 02:52am IST

CHENNAI: The shifting of a Metropolitan Transport Corporation (MTC) bus stop on Grand Southern Trunk (GST) Road to an entrance of the Chennai airport a couple of days ago has come as relief for many. Now, visitors and employees of the airport need not walk about half-a-km to catch a bus to go towards Guindy.

The MTC, for the benefit of people returning from the airport towards St Thomas Mount and Guindy, on Friday shifted the bus stop to the entrance opposite the international departure terminal. The stop was earlier located about half-a-km away.

"There were demands on behalf of the visitors that the bus stop should be shifted near the airport. Accordingly, we have moved the bus stop by operating our buses on the service road adjacent to the flyover opposite the airport. Earlier, the buses were being run on the flyover and they had the bus stop ahead of it," a senior MTC official said.

Clarifying that the buses were not being operated through airport, the official said: "Like all other vehicles coming on the

service lane on GST Road towards Guindy, our buses too take a small diversion through the airport premises at the main entrance since they cannot go straight on GST Road a small stretch there is blocked for traffic." The official also added that there was no pickup of passengers by MTC buses from inside the airport campus.

While shifting of the bus stop has evoked a welcome response from the visitors to the airport as well as employees, many labourers going to countries like Dubai, Malaysia and [Singapore](#) for work have also appreciated the MTC's decision saying it was very useful to them.

"Earlier, autorickshaws were demanding exorbitant amounts to take us to the bus stop from the airport though it is just half-a-km away. Now we need not depend on them since the bus stop is just near an entrance," said Muniappan, a construction worker in [Malaysia](#), while coming out of the airport on Sunday.

Many visitors to the airport have urged the MTC to operate its buses through the airport so that people would have the benefit of a facility like the one available on the premises of the Chennai Central railway station. They also wanted the MTC to revive the operation of airconditioned buses to the airport. The service had been cancelled about six months ago.