

Inauguration of Wi-Fi at Chennai Central (upgradation), Tiruchchirappalli & Tirupati Railway Stations by Hon'ble Minister of Railways

The Wi Fi service at Chennai Central, Tiruchchirappalli & Tirupati Railway Station was dedicated to the nation today, 24th July 2016, by Sh. Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu, Hon'ble Minister of Railways, Govt of India. In a function held at Chennai, he inaugurated upgraded Wi-Fi services at Chennai Central & also inaugurated Wi-Fi services at Tiruchchirappalli Railway Station through RailTel's Telepresence service. Five more stations of Tamilnadu (Chennai Egmore, Tambaram, Madurai Jn., Arakkonam Jn. & Coimbatore Jn.) will become Wi Fi hotspot by the end of the year.



Later, in a function held at Nellore Jn., Hon'ble Minister of Railways inaugurated Wi-Fi services at Tirupati Railway Station through RailTel's Telepresence service. In Vijayawada & Vishakhapatnam stations, Wi-Fi services have already been inaugurated earlier. One more station in Andhra Pradesh (Guntur Jn.) will become Wi Fi hotspot by the end of December 2016.

The Wi-Fi facility for the visitors & rail users of these Railway Stations has been commissioned by RailTel in association with Google for providing high speed state of the art world class internet experience to the commuters. While the Wi-Fi facility was upgraded at Chennai Central in partnership with Google, the Wi-Fi facility was newly launched at Tiruchchirappalli & Tirupati Railway Stations. The service built over the fiber network of RailTel is designed to offer high-speed broadband like experience to users. Travelers passing through these stations will now be able to easily stream a high definition video while they're waiting, research their destination, download a book or a new game for their journey.

For the state of the art Wi Fi facility at Chennai Central total 99 access points and 36 access switches has been installed. At Tiruchchirappalli railway station the facility comprises of 18 Access switches and 44 access points while at Tirupati it includes 41 Access points and 19 access switches to provide seamless fast Wi Fi service to passengers. Both Chennai Central & Tirupati has high passenger traffic with average daily footfall of 50000 (2 crore yearly) and 30000 (yearly 1 crore) respectively.

RailTel Corporation of India Ltd., a Mini-Ratna PSU under Ministry of Railways, has taken a lead in providing fast Wi-Fi for the use of passengers at A1 & A category Railway stations. RailTel roped in Google as the technology partner for setting up fast Wi-Fi network initially covering 100 A1 & A category stations for providing fast Wi Fi to around 10 million Indians a day, by the end of the year 2016. Wi-Fi services to passengers are being provided under 'Railwire', the retail Broadband distribution model of RailTel.

Designed to offer users the best Internet experience, Railwire Wi-Fi will be available to any user who has a working mobile connection on a smartphone. With today's event, Wi-Fi services have now been formally inaugurated at 19 stations viz. Mumbai Central, Jaipur, Bhopal, Ujjain, Patna, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar, Raipur, Guwahati, Vijayawada, Kacheguda, Ernakulam Jn., Lucknow, Lucknow Jn., Gorakhpur, Vishakhapatnam, Chennai Central, Tiruchchirappalli and Tirupati Railway Stations.

Moreover, Wi-Fi services have been commissioned and soft launched at 8 more stations (Allahabad, Pune, Dadar CR, Dadar WR, Sealdah, Kalyan, Puri) across the country and will be formally launched soon.

Approx. 1.5 million users are using these services.

The work at 10 more stations (Mughalsarai, Chandigarh, H. Nizamuddin, Jhansi, Chennai Egmore, Tambaram, Bandra Terminus, Lokmanya Tilak, Panvel & Thane) is in progress.