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Battery-run vehicles to carry mail bags

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The next time you visit Chennai Central Station, you may be spared from listening to the screech of trolleys being dragged along the floor, as the iron-wheeled ones will be replaced with those with pneumatic wheels. Two battery-operated vehicles will be used to move mail bags to avoid inconvenience to passengers.

Launching the vehicles at a function organised by the Department of Posts on Saturday, P.K. Mishra, divisional railway manager, Chennai Division, Southern Railway, said nearly 2.5 lakh passengers used the Central station daily and handling mail bags in iron trolleys was unsafe for them and also damaged the surface of platforms.

Of the total annual revenue of Rs.4,000 crore, mails and parcels contributed nearly Rs. 75 crore. Steps are being taken to handle parcels without hindrance to passengers, he said.

Mr. Mishra also highlighted the measures taken by the Southern Railway to improve security in railway stations and reduce deaths due to trespassing of railway tracks. In the Chennai division, 2-3 persons die daily due while trespassing tracks.

T. Murthy, Chief Postmaster General, Tamil Nadu circle, said more battery-operated vehicles will be introduced to replace trolleys at Central and Egmore stations. Several such measures are being taken as part of the postal week commemorated till October 15.

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