

# Bengaluru Metro commuters can use QR code-based tickets at Phase 2 stations

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BENGALURU: Travelling in Bengaluru's Namma Metro Phase 2 is likely to be hassle-free. Now, the passengers need not carry smartcards and wait in long queues for single-return tokens and top-ups.

The Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) is working on a plan to introduce QR code-based tickets, which will allow Metro users to buy tickets through a mobile app.

The app will display the QR code which could be tapped at the automatic fare collection (AFC) gates at Metro stations. AGS Transact Technologies Limited (AGSTTL), which provides digital payment solutions and automation technology, on Friday announced that it will manage end-to-end AFC system across Namma Metro's 61 new stations in the phase II over three years. The firm will manage supply, installation and maintenance at these Metro stations.

A report, 'Soon, use your smartphone to book QR-based Metro tickets', in these columns on October 10, 2018.

The contract is won by the consortium of AGSTTL, along with MSI Global, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Land Transport Authority (LTA) of Singapore, as the technology partner.

“QR code-based tickets will be introduced for smartphone users and plans are also to introduce national common mobility card (NCMC) in the phase II,” said a statement.

Chairman and managing director of AGSTTL Ravi B Goyal said, “We’ll be able to help in the transition from token and paper tickets to QR code-based tickets. By offering an integrated structure of collection, compilation and computing for AFC system, we want to ensure that the commuter has an efficient and hassle-free experience.”

The AGS-MSI consortium AFC-based ticketing system will use a combination of open-loop smartcards, radio frequency identification devices and QR codes to collect fares from the users, minimising the need for cash transactions.

BMRCL managing director Ajay Seth said, “We’re committed to provide convenient and modern smart ticketing to Metro commuters. The AFC system being procured through AGSTTL for 61 stations of phase II of the project will enable BMRCL to implement NCMC. It will also facilitate QR code and NFC-based mobile ticketing options.”

The 72km Phase 2 lines like Yelachenahalli-Anjanapura, Mysuru Road-Kengeri, RV Road-Electronics City, Byappanahalli-Whitefield and Nagasandra-BIEC section is progressing.