

**The New Indian Express**  
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## Metro cards that can be used as debit cards

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU**  
@ Chennai

A Metro Rail Access Card that doubles as a debit/credit card! The State Bank of India has brought this out for the metropolitan's Metro Rail customers.

Launched by Arundhati Bhattacharya, SBI chairman and managing director, on Monday, it allows card holders to use the Combo card for regular trips on the Chennai Metro and also use it outside as a shopping debit or credit card.

"The card is linked to the bank account of the customer and by tapping the card at the entrance, he or she is allowed inside the station. On completion of the journey, the fare is deducted from the bank account when the card is used to exit the station," said a statement from the bank.

The Chennai Metro SBI Card offers other benefits including a 2.5 per cent fuel surcharge waiver across all petrol pumps and reversal of annual fees on spends of ₹ 1,00,000, said the bank.

Customers could apply for the access cards online through the E-apply platform on the SBI Card portal or through the sales teams present at metro stations. The annual fee for the card is ₹499.

Bhattacharya also launched an e-hundi at the Srirangam temple through which devotees could donate in denominations of ₹100, ₹500 and ₹2,000.

The SBI would also provide 15 hemodialysis machines and a water treatment plant costing ₹1.31 crore for the benefit of patients at the Christian Medical College, Vellore.