

Now, book ST bus tickets on your mobile

Devraj Dasgupta | TNN

Mumbai: The Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation (MSRTC) on Tuesday launched a service to book bus tickets using cellphones.

The service was inaugurated by state transport minister Radhakrishna Vikhe-Patil at the Mumbai Central depot. Interestingly, MSRTC is the second transport body in the country to start reservation of tickets through mobiles, Karnataka's state undertaking being the first.

MSRTC MD Deepak Kapoor said the launch of the mobile booking service was a natural corollary to earlier initiatives of introducing internet booking and reservation through a toll-free call centre. These were started in January and February.

Even if a small section of 70 lakh passengers travelling daily started using mobiles to book tickets, it would reduce queues at the ticketing windows, said an official. Asked how the mobile bookings would be done, officials said users will have to first download the reservation application form from www.atomtech.in.

During any booking, a user has to open the atom application saved on his mobile and choose a travel sub-menu under the link services. After entering the journey details, payment can be made using a credit card. The system will generate a receipt and a confirmation email will be sent.

According to officials, printouts of the ticket would be sufficient for travel.