

■ French firm Alstom sets up factory at Sri City complex in Andhra Pradesh town

Tada to roll out metro train units

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It is official now. Tada, an upcoming industrial town in Andhra Pradesh, 80 km from Chennai, has joined the elite league of centres that manufacture metro rails in the world. Senior CMRL (Chennai metro rail limited) officials have confirmed the production of the first train for the city's metro rail network at the factory in Sri City in the nondescript Andhra Pradesh border.

Alstom India Limited, the French firm that won the CMRL contract for manufacturing and delivering metro trains, has set up the factory. The TADA factory has completed two car body shells and have kept them ready for customer hold point inspection, officials told *Deccan Chronicle*. Works have begun for the next outer shell of the four-car train too.

A shipment carrying piece and parts of two train sets was sent to Sri City from Alstom's factory overseas. Other vital components of the first four-car train will be shipped to Sri City in the months to come, officials added.

CMRL PRODUCTION IN FULL SWING



Tada factory has completed two car body shells and kept them ready for customer hold point inspection. Works had begun for next outer shell of the four-car train too. New shipment awaited.

- CMRL officials witness mechanical tests of the first completed four-car train in Brazil.
- After static tests, the first train will be shipped to Chennai after CMRL consultants' approval
- Brazil factory has gone ahead with completion of car shells for three more trains

Back in the Alstom factory at Lapa in Brazil, the general consultants of CMRL have witnessed the mechanical and static type tests of the first completed four-car train. On completion of the static type tests, which are expected to be over any time now, the first train will be packed and shipped to Chennai following the general consultants approval, officials pointed out. The Lapa factory has gone full steam with the completion of car

shells for three more trains with electrical wiring progressing on the second train and piping related works on the third.

Of the 42 trains required for the two corridors of the 45 km long Chennai metro network, only nine will be produced and shipped from Brazil and the rest will be produced at the Tada factory and moved to Chennai. A mock up of driver's cabin was brought to the city as early as August last year and taken to the factory.