

RDSO conducts first test on metro rail

DC CORRESPONDENT

CHENNAI, JUNE 19

CMRL (Chennai metro rail limited) passed another milestone on Thursday when a RDSO (Research Design and Standards Organisation) team conducted its maiden test of the city's metro rail.

Accompanied by CMRL officials and their consultants, a 10-member RDSO team led by its director Prashant Kumar Singh conducted a test run of the metro from Koyambedu to Alandur Thursday afternoon. An elaborate meeting at CMRL's administrative building at Koyambedu had preceded the test run.

The RDSO team comprising six technical experts and their assistants would camp in the city for the next 10 days conducting a series of tests. The trial runs - normally conducted by CMRL from 4pm and 6am daily to make way for other electrical and civil works on the elevated corridor - were on Thursday shortly after noon, a senior CMRL officer in the know of things said. He added that the RDSO team would con-

duct more test runs in the morning for the next ten days from tomorrow.

The operation of the entire train would be minutely studied by the RDSO team with a primary focus on safety, speed of the four-car train at curves, manoeuvrability, braking capacity, efficacy of the air conditioning system and track strength.

In the extended tests, the team would operate the train at different speeds, particularly at its peak velocity of 90 kmph to thoroughly check the fitness of the train and tracks.

After the 10-day tests, RDSO team would present a report and based on their report, improvements would be made to the network. The team would be invited for subsequent tests too, the officer explained adding that the route and the system would be ready for commercial operation once the RDSO clears it as fit for public use. Similarly, another railway agency CRMS from Bengaluru would test the fitness and efficacy of the civil works after their completion.