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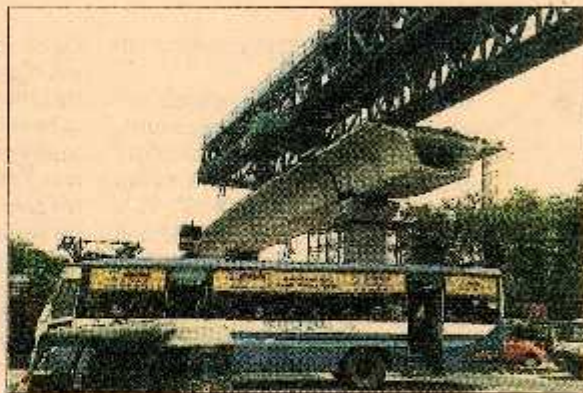
Trains getting ready for Chennai Metro

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THE production of rolling stock, commonly known as trains, for the ₹14,000-crore Chennai Metro Rail (CMRL) project is progressing well in Lapa, Sao Paulo, Brazil by Alstom. As part of indigenisation of the metro trains, Alstom had set up a factory at Sri City, near Chennai. The civil work for the car body shell shed and fitting shed has been completed at the factory. All machinery required for the factory has been ordered by Alstom. The factory will manufacture 33 trains for Chennai Metro Rail.

According to the preliminary plan, the first set of trains will be supplied to CMRL from the factory in 2014. On its part, CMRL has been carrying out audit and inspection during the process of production of the train.

CMRL had awarded the tender for the supply of rolling stock in August 2010 to Alstom Transport & Alstom Projects India consortium at a cost of ₹1,471.3



crore. The scope of work comprises design, manufacture, supply, testing and commissioning of coaches including training on operation and maintenance. The order has been placed for 42 train sets of four-car configuration i.e. 168 coaches. It also includes the supply of spares and special maintenance tools.

The cars under procurement for the project are of air-conditioned, light weight, made of stainless steel, with 3-phase AC drive and regenerative braking system. The cars will have automatic train protection and auto-

matic train operation. All the cars are provided with electrically operated biparting automatic sliding doors to ensure the safety of passengers. Besides, these cars will have electronic route map, public address system, passenger emergency intercoms, video surveillance and CCTV.

The first phase of the metro rail project is expected to get finished in 2015 fiscal.

Central and state governments together are contributing about 41% of the ₹14,000-crore. The balance is being met by a loan granted by the Japan International Cooperation Agency.