

# Metro rail scouts for expert for phase 2

## Invites Bids To Give General Consultancy Services

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Chennai:** As groundwork for metro rail's Phase 2 picks up pace, the agency has begun looking for a general consultant who can bring in the expertise required and oversee construction. Chennai Metro Rail Ltd (CMRL) has invited bids to provide general consultancy services for the second phase.

"To execute such a massive project, CMRL will require

more than 30,000 people. A general consultant will bring in the experts required from across the world during various stages of construction, as CMRL being a government agency will not be able to do it on its own," a former metro rail official said.

Phase 2, planned at an estimated Rs 85,047 crore, will cover a distance of 107.55km across three corridors and is expected to be completed in 10 years.

CMRL has begun work for getting a detailed design ready and for conducting soil tests for corridors 3 and 5. The general consultants will assist in reviewing detailed designs submitted by contractors, monitoring construction through all the stages - from foundation laying to installation of signalling and electrical systems



**WHEELS ARE TURNING**

as well as suppliers and manufacturers, quality control, safety, contract management for the project, planning operation and maintenance and training personnel.

For the 45km Phase 1, CMRL

had appointed a five-member consortium led by Egis Rail S A, France in February 2009. Besides experts and workers from across the country, officials said at least 100 experts from 35 different countries worked on

the project. "Once it is implemented and reaches the operation stage, the role of general consultants will be almost nil," an official said.

The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) played an advisory role as principal consultant when CMRL began work for Phase 1. But a few months before commencement of the first line in 2014, CMRL terminated the contract with DMRC. Officials then said prime consultants would be paid about 0.3% to 0.5% of the project cost.

In Phase 2, CMRL plan to build parts of corridors 3 and 5, which will link northern suburbs with the IT hub in the south. Land acquisition has begun in certain localities and nearly 800 property owners have been identified.