

DMS-Washermanpet Metro to be launched

CHENNAI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the DMS - Washermanpet stretch, last leg of the 45km first phase of the Metro Rail, via video conferencing from Tirupur on Sunday evening.

With this, the seven-year wait of Chennaiites to have a circular Metro Rail network connecting both Anna Salai and EVR Periyar Salai to the city airport will become a reality.

With the opening of the 10km stretch from DMS to Washermanpet, the entire first phase of Chennai metro rail (CMRL) constructed at a cost of Rs 14,600 crore would be fully operational. The stretch comprising

seven stations, Washermanpet, Mannadi, Madras High Court, Chennai Central, Government Estate, LIC, Thousand Lights would be fully underground.

CMRL would also fulfil the long pending request of commuters to slash prices by marginally reducing the tariff from Sunday. The maximum fare on the entire phase would only be Rs 60, against the earlier Rs 70.

Started in 2011, phase I was opened in gradual stages with the latest being the Nehru Park - Central and Little Mount - DMS opening in May 2018. The stretch from Koyambedu to Alandur was the first to be opened in June 2015, followed by Little Mount - Chennai Airport in September 2016.