

# Metro Rail flags off first train sets for Phase 1 extension



**First train set being flagged-off by Pankaj Kumar Bansal, Managing Director, CMRL, along with Godin Bruno, on Saturday**

**CHENNAI:** The Chennai Metro Rail flagged off its first of the 10 train sets manufactured by Alstom Transport India for the Phase 1 extension from Washermanpet to Wimco Nagar, on Saturday. The Phase 1 extension project, which is being implemented at an estimated completion cost of Rs 3,770 crore, is expected to commence its operation from mid next year.

In March 2018, Chennai Metro Rail (CMRL) had awarded contract for 10 train sets manufacturing to the consortium of Alstom Transport France and Alstom Trans-

port India Limited with the same configuration and specifications as supplied to Phase 1 project. "The train sets are being manufactured at the Alstom's factory at Sri City, near Tada, Andhra Pradesh. The cost of the supply is about Rs 200 crore, with loan assistance from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)," said a statement from CMRL.

Pointing out that the manufacturing of the train sets commenced in February 2019, it said that the trains have undergone various tests and inspections such as car body dimensional checks, water tightness check, static routine traction

and brake tests which was approved by CMRL. The first train set was flagged-off by CMRL Managing Director Pankaj Kumar Bansal, along with Godin Bruno, Alstom Managing Director for rolling stock and components, at the Alstom Sri City facility on Saturday.

On arrival of train sets, further tests such as slow speed and high-speed routine tests at the Koyambedu depot and mainline would be performed before deploying them for ferrying passengers. The remaining nine train sets are under various stages of manufacturing and are expected to be delivered by the end of February 2020.