

CMRL to hold marathon to encourage metro use

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Chennai: After urging people through online posters to use metro trains for their daily commute amid rising pollution, Chennai Metro Rail Limited (CMRL) is making another attempt to popularise its services among the city's health-conscious residents.

CMRL has joined hands with Chennai Runners to organise Skechers Performance Chennai Marathon on January 5, 2020. It will begin train operations as early as 3am on that day to encourage participants to use its services.

A metro rail official said many employees too will participate in the marathon along with others in a bid to engage with its commuters. "Last year, some of our staff volunteered to participate. This time, we will be more in number," an official said.

Participants will have four categories – 10km, 21km, 31km and 42km. The starting point for all the races will be near the YMCA grounds close to Nandanam metro station. While the end for the 10km race would be near the Central Polytechnic College, Taramani, other categories will have end points on East Coast Road. The races would begin one after the other from 4am.

To urge people to participate as well as to promote the use of metro trains, CMRL will also open its parking lots free of cost for all marathon runners.

Earlier in November, when there was a buzz over rising pollution and haze in the city, CMRL hosted posters on its social media account promoting metro rail as a pollution free and comfortable option.