## Metro trains to run from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

## Masks must for all passengers

STAFF REPORTER

CHENNAL

Chennai Metro Rail will begin services between Washermenpet and Chennai Airport stations on September 7, and then from Chennai Central to St. Thomas Mount on September 9, with the first train departing at 8 a.m. and the last one at 8 p.m.

In what may pose difficulty for air passengers, there



Getting ready: With services set to start on Monday, Chennai Metro conducted trial runs on Thursday. \*B. VELANKANNI RAJ

will be no direct trains connecting Chennai Central to Chennai Airport via Koyambedu, and passengers have to switch trains at Alandur.

Chennai Metro will run with a frequency of five minutes during peak hours (8.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. and 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.) and 10 minutes in

non-peak hours. Earlier, trains would stop for 20 seconds at each station, but now the time has been increased to 50 seconds to give passengers time to board and ensure physical distancing is maintained, and also for more fresh air to enter the train.

Only smart cards and the QR code-based ticket will be accepted.

There will be thermal scanning at the entrance, and passengers have to wear masks during travel.