

# L&T gets first contract for Metro phase II

It submitted lowest bid of ₹1,035 crore

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In a big step before starting construction for the phase II project, Chennai Metro Rail Ltd. (CMRL) has issued the first major contract for building of stations from Power House till Porur.

Larsen and Toubro bagged the contract for this work after emerging as the lowest bidder, quoting

₹1,035 crore for building nine stations and the viaduct, sources said.

The 8 km Power House-Porur stretch will have nine stations that include Power House, Saligramam, Avichi School, Alwarthirunagar, Valasaravakkam, Karambakam, Alapakkam Junction and Porur Junction.

According to CMRL officials, the letter of acceptance will be issued in a week or two, after which the contractor will be expected to commence construction sometime next year.

The contractor will have to finish building this section within three years, officials said.

## Traffic congestion

It will be a major challenge to build an elevated stretch along this line as severe traffic congestion persists here on a daily basis.

“The police should make traffic diversions and take spaces in such a way so as to cause as much less inconvenience as they can. Otherwise, commuting through this stretch will become even

more tough,” an official said.

Sources said the tender for construction of the elevated stretch from Poona-mallee to Porur Junction, a distance of nearly 4 km, will be awarded this week. This whole 12-km stretch will be the first one to get operational in the 118.9-km phase II project with two other corridors – Madhavaram to Sholinganallur and Madhavaram to SIPCOT as well. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank will be extending loan for the Light House to Poona-mallee corridor.