

|            |  |             |                     |
|------------|--|-------------|---------------------|
| Headline   | Public mobility key to economic growth, says Najib |             |                     |
| MediaTitle | Malay Mail   |             |                     |
| Date       | 25 Aug 2016  | Color       | Full Color          |
| Section    | Top News   | Circulation | 100,000             |
| Page No    | 9  | Readership  | 300,000             |
| Language   | English  | ArticleSize | 842 cm <sup>2</sup> |
| Journalist | Jonathan Edward and Murali Arumugam                | AdValue     | RM 9,621            |
| Frequency  | Daily  | PR Value    | RM 28,863           |



# Public mobility key to economic growth, says Najib

By Jonathan Edward and Murali Arumugam

[mmnews@mmail.com.my](mailto:mmnews@mmail.com.my)

**SHAH ALAM** — Completing an efficient public transport grid is key to pushing Malaysia to the next level of economic development, said Datuk Seri Najib Razak.

Launching the construction of the Light Rail Transit 3 (LRT3) line, the prime minister said greater public mobility was a key catalyst in driving growth.

“LRT3 is a key component of the Urban Rail Development Plan and is designed to provide an integrated and sustainable mass transit system,” he said.

“This will facilitate improved socio-economic conditions for the average citizen in areas where the plan is implemented.”

Najib said it was especially important to focus on the Klang Valley as the population of the area would grow substantially.

“Over 10 million people are expected to be living here and in the Greater Kuala Lumpur area by 2020 and the region is responsible for 37 per cent of the country’s income,” he said.

“There is a pressing need to improve the liveability of the area and the government has rightly pursued its strategy of improving the country’s rail links and other channels of public transport.”

Najib said the public’s perception of public transport services had dramatically improved under his watch and an ever increasing number of Malaysians had come to depend on such services.

“Customer satisfaction studies undertaken by the Land Public Transport Commission found a huge increase in the customer satisfaction index — from 48 per cent in 2010 to 74 per cent last year,” he said.

“This increase is not without basis as the Urban Public Transport Plan had seen the completion of the LRT Line Extension Project which has benefitted an additional 300,000 commuters.”

He thanked Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Mohamed Azmin Ali for supporting the project, saying political

differences were not an excuse to ensure the people were taken care off.

“I would like to thank the Selangor government for their cooperation in this project. Despite our differences we can agree that the people’s interests and needs must come first,” he said.

Najib also announced a 50 per cent discount for commuters using the Rapid KL, Monorail and LRT networks between 6am and 7am from Sept 16.

Present at the event yesterday were Urban Wellbeing, Housing and Local Government Minister Tan Sri Noh Omar, Transport Minister Datuk Seri Liow Tiong Lai, MRCB Group Managing Director Tan Sri Mohamad Salim Fateh Din, Prasarana Group chairman Tan Sri Ismail Adam and chief executive officer Datuk Azmi Aziz.

LRT3, which cost RM9 billion, is a major undertaking and is expected to be completed by Aug 31, 2020. It will span 37km with 26 stations between Klang and Bandar Utama.

Joint venture company, MRCB George Kent Sdn Bhd, was appointed as the Project Delivery Partner for the LRT3 alignment by Prasarana.

With the stated goals of reducing traffic congestion, it is estimated to benefit two million people from the coast to the Klang Valley and the Greater Kuala Lumpur area.

At least 10 stations will include park and ride facilities to encourage people to leave their cars at the stations to ease the heavily stressed road network.

LRT3 will also provide employment for up to 423,300 workers especially from the logistics and construction sectors and will see the use of advanced construction technology.

Part of the new innovations will include the “U-Through” which will allow for segments of the elevated track used in the LRT3 to be prefabricated in diverse range of construction yards, allowing for reduced construction time.

|            |  |             |                     |
|------------|--|-------------|---------------------|
| Headline   | Public mobility key to economic growth, says Najib |             |                     |
| MediaTitle | Malay Mail   |             |                     |
| Date       | 25 Aug 2016  | Color       | Full Color          |
| Section    | Top News   | Circulation | 100,000             |
| Page No    | 9  | Readership  | 300,000             |
| Language   | English  | ArticleSize | 842 cm <sup>2</sup> |
| Journalist | Jonathan Edward and Murali Arumugam                | AdValue     | RM 9,621            |
| Frequency  | Daily  | PR Value    | RM 28,863           |



The new 37km line between Klang and Bandar Utama will have 26 stations.



Najib gets a bird's-eye view of the LRT3 line with (from left) Salim, Liow, Azmi and Ismail. — Picture by Bernama