

# Helping SMEs get MyMRT jobs via offset programme

MAKING sure local small and medium enterprises (SMEs) get a fair share of the contracts awarded for the MyMRT project spanning Sungai Buloh-Kajang is a government initiative now being driven by the SME Corp Malaysia.

As the bulk of the 80 work packages have been given to large firms, including foreign entities, the challenge now is to ensure some of the smaller portions of these packages do actually trickle down to local players.

The key factors to be identified are what por-



**OPPORTUNITY:** Mohd Yusoff (left) and Mohamed Al Amin at the MyMRT briefing session yesterday — Pic: RAZAK GHAZALI

tions of these packages can be farmed out to smaller local SMEs, and also what

the latter is capable of in return.

For this identification

process, SME Corp has organised a series of briefings and matchmaking sessions for the local SMEs — together with the Malaysian Industry Group High Technology (Might) and MRT Corporation Bhd.

These sessions — called the “Offset Awareness” programme — kicked off yesterday at the SME Corp headquarters yesterday.

The full day programme involved a briefing on the opportunities and potential collaborations, followed by business networking sessions with major companies already involved in the

MyMRT project.

SME Corp Malaysia chairman Datuk Mohamed Al Amin Abdul Majid said: “We have arranged 55 business matching sessions between SMEs and original equipment manufacturers and main contractors with MRT Corp.”

If successful, this initiative — gazetted under the “Policy and Guidelines for Offset Programme for Government Procurement” on March 18 — is expected to translate into an inflow of approximately RM213 billion into the economy until 2020.

Might president and chief operating officer Mohd Yusoff Sulaiman said the offset programme, involving government procurement valued at RM50 million and above, is potentially a powerful platform to accelerate Malaysia’s efforts towards achieving high income economy status by 2020 through local capacity development in high technology.

For more details, go to [www.smecorp.gov.my](http://www.smecorp.gov.my) and [www.might.org.my](http://www.might.org.my). Interested firms can also call SME Corp at 1300-306000 and Might at 03-83157888.