

MRT project moves into active phase, says MRT Corp

PETALING JAYA: Mass Rapid Transit Corp Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) announced yesterday the country's biggest infrastructure project, the Sungai Buloh-Kajang Mass Rapid Transit Line, is on schedule.

The project has moved from preparatory work to the active construction phase, MRT Corp director of strategic communications and public relations Amir Mahmood Razak said.

Since finalisation of the Sungai Buloh-Kajang alignment in July last year, planning, design and preparatory works for construction have been in full swing, he said.

So far, 33 packages worth RM15.5 billion have been awarded for the Sungai Buloh-Kajang Line 1 package, he said.

He said MRT Corp will announce by year-end new projects for the Sungai Buloh-Kajang Line 1, which will include train purchases, V8 viaduct and construction of stations.

"The deadline for phase one operations of the Sungai Buloh-Kajang Line 1, that runs from Sungai Buloh to Semantan, is December 2016. The package is on schedule.

"Phase two, from Semantan to Kajang, will be operational in July 2017," he told a media briefing yesterday.

Amir said three companies — two from China and one German firm — have submitted tenders for the supply of trains.

New technologies in rail transport have the capacity to neutralise noise in rail track construction, he said when responding to concerns raised by Taman Tun Dr Ismail residents.

They complained that they would have to suffer from noise pollution once the elevated MRT tracks were built.

On project financing, he said Da-nainfra Nasional Bhd recently issued an RM8 billion sukuk financing programme to partly finance the MRT project. — *Bernama*