

MRT 'V3 viaduct' work to begin this month

THE RM816 million mass rail transit (MRT) "V3 viaduct" work package awarded to Mudajaya Corp Bhd will start this month, MRT Corp Sdn Bhd chief executive officer Datuk Azhar Abdul Hamid said last Friday.

He said the package was awarded to Mudajaya Corp in June. "The company has been entrusted with the task of building the MRT viaduct guideway and other associated works from Dataran Sunway to Section 17.

"The viaduct guideway is expected to be completed in the first-quarter of 2016 (1Q16)," he told a media briefing.

The 6.03km-long viaduct will be the alignment for three

key MRT stations, namely The Curve, 1 Utama and Taman Tun Dr Ismail.

"Of the eight viaduct work packages, MRT Corp has disbursed seven. The remaining package, V8 (Taman Mesra-Kajang), is expected to be awarded at end-August," he said. Of the total 85 work packages, MRT Corp has awarded 37 packages, 19 are being evaluated and tenders for 29 have yet to be called, he said. MRT Corp aims to disburse the 29 packages by year-end.

Azhar said the MRT project's total cost would be determined by year-end. He said building materials' cost and cement supply are left to individual contractors. "We're trying to man-



The MRT viaduct guideway from Dataran Sunway to Section 17 is expected to be completed in the 1Q16, says Azhar

age steel prices as much as possible as small contractors cannot get a good price. This

can be achieved by sourcing for materials on a centralised basis," he said.

In terms of trains supply, Azhar said there was no decision yet as to who would be the supplier. "The process is being evaluated and we'll determine which supplier can give the best offer that meets our requirement.

We expect the award to be issued by end of this month," he said. Azhar said the MRT project moved from preparatory works to active construction phase early this month.

"There's no problem in terms of land issue. We try to minimise encroaching into private property," he added. — *Bernama*