

NEWS CLIPPING

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RM9.7bil spent on MRT Line 1 so far, says CEO

PETALING JAYA: Mass Rapid Transit Corp (MRT Corp) has to date spent RM9.7bil on the MRT Sungai Buloh-Kajang Line (Line 1) project, says chief executive Datuk Wira Azhar Abdul Hamid.

He said the RM23bil allocation for the Line 1 project was given by the Government in stages and not a lump sum payment.

"The government-funded project,

which is expected to be completed by July 2017, is running progressively, and given the timeline for the completion, the allocation will be fully used," he said at a briefing on the progress of the MRT project.

To date, he said 78 work packages worth RM21.02bil had been awarded to the contractors with another seven yet to be awarded.

"Five out of the seven projects are

valued at RM250mil. The companies for the packages have been short-listed," he said.

He said the construction of Line 1 project was 55.21% complete as at Oct 31, 2014. "At this pace, we are confident of achieving our target for the entire line to become operational by July 2017," he said, adding that 53% of the elevated guideway spans were completed.

He said the underground works package, which covered tunnelling and underground station construction, had reached 70% completion.

Azhar said the company was in the midst of assembling three trains at its contractor's train assembly in Hulu Selangor. "We will soon send these trains to the Sungai Buloh depot, being built on 73ha, for dynamic testing," he said. — Bernama