

RM10b worth of MRT jobs in next six months

> Sg Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya Line deals to be awarded, starting with four in a fortnight's time

KUALA LUMPUR: Mass Rapid Transit Corporation Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) expects to award MRT Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya (SSP) Line contracts worth RM10 billion within six months, CEO Datuk Seri Shahril Mokhtar said.

Of the contracts, two civil works packages and two system packages cumulatively valued at between RM2.5 billion and RM3 billion will be announced in two weeks' time.

"Package 210 under the SSP Line involving works for a 2.6km stretch from Putrajaya to Cyberjaya city centre will be awarded within one to two weeks. So with the addition of Package 203 and Package 210,

we have awarded four contracts out of 10 packages," he said.

Shahril was speaking to reporters after signing a memorandum of understanding on the MRT Young Entrepreneurs Programme (MYEP) with Perbadanan Usahawan Nasional Bhd (PUNB) and Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) here yesterday.

Under the programme, MRT Corp, PUNB and CIDB will collaborate to train 60 young bumiputra graduates and assist them to form companies to vie for MRT contracts.

MRT recently announced that it had appointed TSR Capital Bhd to carry out the earthworks and other associated works for the Serdang depot under Package DPT 203 worth RM90 million.

Meanwhile, Shahril said MRT plans to give out all of the main contracts under the SSP

Line or MRT Line 2 within six months.

To date, almost RM18 billion worth of contracts have been awarded under MRT Line 2, Shahril said, adding that the estimated construction cost for Line 2, at RM32 billion, is higher than Line 1 which cost RM23 billion.

"For MRT Line 1, we are at 84% completion and I'm confident that phase one from Sungai Buloh to Semantan station will start operations in December this year," he said.

On bumiputra

participation in the project, Shahril said MRT Line 2 contracts worth at least RM25 million have been allocated to bumiputra contractors classified under Class G1 to Class G4.

He said the government has set up a minimum 43% bumiputra involvement in the Line 1 project, but MRT Corp has surpassed the target.

Bumiputra participation in the Line 1 project stood at 48%, accounting for RM10.5 billion out of a total of RM21 billion, Shahril added. - Bernama