

MRT Corp expects to submit Line 3 feasibility report to govt by year-end

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by R KAMALAVACINI

MASS Rapid Transit Corp Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) is expected to submit a feasibility study report to the Land Public Transport Commission (SPAD) and the Economic Planning Unit (EPU) on its proposed MRT Line 3 by the end of this year.

CEO Datuk Seri Shahril Mokhtar said the MRT Line 3, also known as the circle line, will connect all the other MRT lines, light rail transit (LRT) routes as well as the Komuter lines.



Pic by Hussein Shaharuddin

As for Line 2, Shahril says construction works are expected to start as early as next month

"We have started the feasibility study early this year. Hopefully, by the end of the year, the study can be completed so that we can submit it to SPAD and then to the EPU for the next course of action," Shahril said at a press confer-

ence after the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between MRT Corp and Credit Guarantee Corp Malaysia Bhd (CGC) in Kuala Lumpur last Friday.

Shahril, however, refrained from elaborating further on

the details of the proposed MRT Line 3 as it is still in the preliminary stage.

"What I can say is that the line will not be too big or too short, but it will connect the other railway lines to avoid congestion," he said.

As for Line 2, Shahril said that construction works are expected to start as early as September.

So far, over 20 packages worth RM24 billion have been awarded for the Line 2 project.

"At least three or four packages close to RM2 billion will be awarded by year-end and another 20 packages will be handed over next year," he said.

The 52.2-km Line 2, also known as the MRT Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya Line, will have 66 work packages compared to 84 parcels for Line 1.

The MoU with CGC will facilitate RM100 million financing for Bumiputera contractors involved in the MRT Line 2 project.

Shahril signed on behalf of MRT Corp while CGC was represented by its president cum CEO Mohd Zamree Mohd Ishak. The MoU signing was witnessed by International Trade and Industry Minister Datuk Seri Mustapa Mohamed.

The credit facility is disbursed via CGC's Bumiputera Entrepreneur Project Fund.

To date, a total of RM850 million financing facilities benefitting 1,200 Bumiputera small and medium enterprises in various sectors had been approved.

This year, CGC targets to approve RM220 million of financing through its Bumiputera financing scheme.