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A TOTAL of 300 feeder buses covering a 3km radius will be deployed in various areas for the first and second phases of the MRT, namely the Sungai Buloh-Kajang (SBK) Line and Sungai Buloh-Serdang-Putrajaya (SSP) Line.

The SBK Line, which is set to begin operations on Dec 31, will have 160 feeder buses, while the SSP Line is scheduled to start its run in July 2017 with 140 feeder buses.

Mass Rapid Transit Corp Sdn Bhd (MRT Corp) operations and assets management director Mahmood Abdul Razak said the company was collaborating closely with RapidKL bus on the feeder service and had submitted route proposals to the Land Public Transport Commission (SPAD).

“For the first six months of the feeder bus run, MRT and the bus operator will study the demand for particular routes in different areas to find the optimum number needed in each area.

“We will increase feeder buses in an area if there is demand,” he said.

He said although there might be an overlap in some areas, as far as possible if an area was already covered by RapidKL, the MRT feeder bus will cover a different location instead.

“Coordination with RapidKL will ensure the coverage is much wider than what we could have provided ourselves,” he said at MRT Corp’s Hari Raya celebration.

Mahmood also said that park-and-ride facilities would be provided at 14 multi-storey and open-air carparks with 8,000 bays that will

# 300 feeder buses for MRT commuters

## Route proposals for first two phases submitted to SPAD, says operator



Shahril (standing, in green) and MRT Corp strategic communication and stakeholder relations director Datuk Najmuddin Abdullah (standing, in orange) talking to guests at the event.

be available at stations along the 51km-long SBK Line.

“Park-and-ride facilities are a bit tricky as they involve obtaining land in Klang Valley, which is difficult and even if we can find land, if it is costly, then parking becomes expensive as well.

“But we are always talking to developers in new areas to see if they can fit in additional parking.

“In the end, if we provide feeder buses to their park and ride facilities, for example, then their properties will gain in value and our trains will also get better ridership.”

He added that this was why it was important to talk to stakeholders ranging from developers to local councils and town planners on areas for parking lots

and bus routes.

More than 1,200 people attended the festive do, including business partners as well as stakeholders.

Guests included 80 children from Chow Kit Foundation.

MRT Corp chief executive officer Datuk Seri Shahril Mokhtar handed out *duit raya* to the children, as well as presented RM5,000 to assist the foundation obtain a van.